CITY OF MONTELLO

COUNCIL MINUTES

3-5-18

Meeting called to order at 7 PM by Mayor Doudna

Members Present: Jim Houdek, Barbara Barton, Venise Mugler, Ken Streich, Karlene Utke, Frank Breitenbach

Members Excused: Joanna Christian, Barb Jordan

Others Present: Chief Olson, Jean Sheller, Ron Knutson, Mike Kohnke, Duane Moseley

Motion by Mugler/Streich to approve the agenda. Motion carried

Motion by Mugler/Breitenbach to approve the 2-5-18 council minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Streich/Mugler to approve the February voucher list. Utke question E. 2nd St – Mike Kohnke verified all from sewer & water. Motion carried.

Motion by Houdek/Mugler to approve the 2-27-18 Personnel minutes.

* Mugler questioned procedure for hiring.
* Houdek stated ordinance states Chief picks, then council & Mayor approve.
* Discussion on personnel duties and ordinance book
* Discussion on hiring process – Utke felt personnel committee should be able to judge applicants based on answers to questions and looks. – Mayor informed Utke it is illegal to judge applicants based on looks.
* Discussion on changing ordinance book to include hiring procedure for all departments to include having personnel interview applicants. This would prolong hiring process. Mugler stated she trusts Chief’s judgement and choice, just would like to have a consistent procedure.
* Mayor feels in this case the committee made a decision which they felt was best for the city & now looking for council approval.
* Chief explained this particular time had been a little different because of circumstances. Has no problem having personnel interview candidates in the future.
* Discussion on clearing up procedure.
* Utke requested roll call vote: Breitenbach: no, Utke: no, Streich: yes, Mugler: yes, Barton: abstain, Houdek: yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Houdek/Jordan to approve the 2-21-18 Public Safety minutes. Motion carried with Utke opposing.

* Mugler stated Mayor had been out of town when officer had requested to meet with Jordan – Jordan contacted Houdek to sit in on meeting, Streich is council president & should have been contacted in Mayor’s absence.
* Streich feels committee should do exit interviews any time an employee resigns. Houdek will add that in ordinance with hiring process.
* Chief stated committee should do an exit interview.
* Discussion on how to conduct/request exit interview
* Utke questioned contract for Police Department – Chief stated contract is to cover things the City paid for: training, uniforms, etc.

Motion by Breitenbach/Jordan to approve the 2-15-18 Public Works minutes. Motion carried.

* Mayor asked about Egbert: Streich & Breitenbach stated they are good & reputable.
* Mayor asked about financial 3 way split for school zone signage – the signs that were just purchased are 3 way split, Hwy pedestrian traffic would be new signs.

MONTELLO SCHOOLS REFERENDUM INFORMATION:

* Duane Moseley gave hand out which had been mailed to Montello area & spoke about improvement plans.
* Previous referendum was operational (staff) this one is for the building. Current referendum is done after 2019.
* Mayor Doudna asked budget for maintenance in the mean time
* If referendum passes construction will mostly be done in summer of 2019 while students are out. Some things can be done during winter.
* Discussion on bus building: Lamers rents from school & helped pay for lighting.
* Mayor Doudna asked about operations budget going forward. Moseley stated looks ok, & talked about other money which may be coming in from various funding.
* Utke asked about Rural funding: not signed yet, but hopeful.

COUNTY BOARD REPORT:

NONE

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

COMMUNICATIONS AND MISC. BUSINESS

* Utke asked about timing of 2016 audit report to council members and debt service. Mayor informed that audit is this week & will have debt service answers after that.
* Barton asked for schedule of road projects. Streich said he would talk to her after the meeting.

Motion by Utke/Mugler to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:02 PM

Minutes by Marie Puterbaugh