

## Regular Meeting – December 9, 2019

### Members Present

Jason Casey  
Chad Neitzel  
Michael Shurson  
Sarah Sundve  
Jenna Pederson

### Members Absent

### Others Present

Wayne Billing  
Anthony Martens  
Jim Lutgens  
Barb Finseth

Larry Goehring  
Pam Goehring  
Brad Flor

**The meeting was called to order** by Mayor Michael Shurson at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call** - All members present.

### Pledge of Allegiance

**Agenda** – Motion made by Sarah Sundve and seconded by Jason Casey to approve agenda. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)

**Consent Agenda** – Motion made by Sarah Sundve seconded by Chad Neitzel to approve Consent Items:

1. Minutes for November 12<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Meetings
2. Accounts Payable

Carried (5 yes, 0 no)

### Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation, 2019 Budget and Levy – Opened 6:30 p.m.

Hearing opened by Mayor Shurson at 6:30 p.m.

Statement made that the hearing was to discuss City budget and 2020-tax levy. The budget increase was compared to the levy increase.

Brad Flor stated he hoped the budget would allow all the things to be fixed that haven't been taken care of such as streetlights out, storm sewers not cleaned out and the civil defense siren that doesn't work. He stated he hopes that the money will be well spent. He also stated that the City needs to tighten up and that the property taxes are too high and the cost of living in New Richland will start driving people out.

No one else wished to speak at this time, hearing left open while other business was attended to.

### Resolutions/Ordinances

1. Motion made by Chad Neitzel seconded by Sarah Sundve to approve resolution 19-12 effecting \$32,630 loan to TIF Fund. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)
2. Motion made by Chad Neitzel and seconded by Jenna Pederson to approve resolution 19-13 Transferring \$56,754 from TIF Fund to TIF Debt Fund. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)
3. Motion made by Sarah Sundve seconded by Jason Casey to approve Resolution 19-14 make Abatement Loan payments for Water and Sewer extensions completed in 2015. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)
4. Motion made by Sarah Sundve seconded by Chad Neitzel to approve resolution 19-15 certifying delinquent property charges for collection with property taxes. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)
5. Motion made by Jason Casey seconded by Chad Neitzel to approve resolution 19-16 Designating City Hall as the polling place for 2020. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)

### **Police Department- Anthony Martens**

- November activity reported and discussed. The public is reminded to call when they see something wrong.
- A grant from the Rosenau Law Enforcement Fund has been approved for the purchase of a Centurion Scout Alarm System. Motion made by Sarah Sundve seconded by Chad Neitzel to approve purchase of the alarm system for \$3,599 fully reimbursed by the grant. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)
- A reminder that the squad car lease expires March 4, 2020.
- Motion made by Chad Neitzel seconded by Jenna Pederson to approve the Police Department report. Carried (5 yes, 0 no)

### **Fire Department**

Chad Neitzel presented a donation of \$65,000 from the New Richland Fire Relief Association. Motion made by Sarah Sundve seconded by Jenna Pederson to accept the donation and direct the Clerk to draft a resolution for the next regular meeting. Carried (5 yes, 0 no) The Relief Association is requesting an increase in the pension for the Fire Department. The Council asked for additional information and will address at the next meeting.

### **Public Hearing – Continued**

Barb Finseth asked where the money was being spent. The budget report was briefly examined showing the various departments expenses, noting the cost of personnel and the percentage of the general fund budget various departments account for. Barb thanked the Council for the information.

No one else wished to be heard.

### **Public Hearing Closed – 6:59 p.m.**

Motion made by Sarah Sundve and seconded by Jenna Pederson to approve resolution 19-11 adopting the 2020 budget and setting the tax levy to be collected in 2020 at \$516,405. Jason Casey expressed his opinion that the 20 % increase in two years was too much. Carried (4 yes, 1 no – Jason Casey)

### **Ambulance**

- Motion made by Chad Neitzel seconded by Jenna Pederson to approve Amanda Bethke as an EMT for the Ambulance Department pending background check. Carried (4 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain – Jason Casey)

**Pharmacy** – The Care Center is working with Sterling Drug to provide long term care prescriptions to the Care Center and in conjunction to provide retail pharmacy services to the residents of the greater community. Sterling will immediately provide free mail service, and shortly will provide free home delivery. The hope is to eventually move to a tele pharmacy for the community.

### **Meeting Closed for Collective Bargaining/Legal discussion – 7:15 p.m.**

### **Meeting Reopened -8:23 p.m.**

**Adjournment** – Motion made by Chad Neitzel and seconded by Jason Casey to adjourn the meeting. Carried (5 yes, 0 no) 8:24 p.m.

Wayne Billing

City Clerk/Treasurer