**City of LeRoy MN – Council Meeting Minutes, November 4, 2019**

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was called to order by Mayor Brian Thiel on Monday, November 4, 2019, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Brian Thiel, Council Members Kathleen Gottschalk, Ashley Huntley, Harold Shipman, Jan Whisler, Maintenance Supervisor John Jones, and City Clerk Patty White.   
Also attending: Tim Lewison, Nathan Frazer, and Axel Gumbel. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council reviewed the items included in the consent agenda. Motion by Huntley, second by Gottschalk to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Input Time:

* Gumbel reported that Project Momma Bear is being brought to some of the classes at LeRoy-Ostrander Schools. This program will teach students about on-line safety. The parent component of this will be done as a community event on Wednesday, November 13, at the LeRoy Community Center. The event will include food and an explanation of this program. Motion by Whisler, second by Huntley to authorize $100 for this program. Motion carried 5-0.

During Standing Committee Reports:

* Thiel reported that Crystal Wiebrand is the new custodian at the LeRoy Public Library.
* Huntley questioned about the four morning routes for LeRoy City Lines. Gumbel noted these new routes will begin December 1; a new Mayo subsidy for Mayo employees will begin on January 1, 2020. These new routes, plus three afternoon routes, will be in place from December 1, 2019, through April 30, 2020. At that time the ridership of each route will be reviewed to determine if a particular route should continue or be discontinued due to low ridership. Huntley also questioned if the Grand Meadow stops could be made at the Frankford Town Hall instead. Gumbel noted this has been considered but has not been explored.
* Huntley reported the LeRoy Area Ambulance Board will be meeting tomorrow night.
* Shipman reported the ribbon cutting has been done for the last section of the Shooting Star Trail; this connection now completes the trail from LeRoy to Austin.
* It was noted that Kate Fitzgerald will be the campground hostess next summer at Lake Louise State Park. Thiel reported the LeRoy Food Shelf received a $500 donation from Ms. Fitzgerald’s employer.

Police Report:

* Deputy Wilson was not in attendance and had not left a written report for council review.
* White noted she has received some complaints about illegal burning. She told the informants to notify law enforcement and call the Fire Department. Huntley noted that some time ago she had reported illegal burning to law enforcement after receiving some complaints about this burning activity. She was later subpoenaed in respect to this call.

Volunteer of the Month Recognition:

* Gottschalk read the submission letter in honor of Tim Lewison and Nathan Frazer. Both men were present; they graciously accepted the Volunteer Appreciation Award presented to them. Mr. Lewison and Mr. Frazer were congratulated for this recognition and for all they have done at the two school ball fields.

2020 Budget & Levy:

* Thiel noted employee reviews are being completed. He noted a big question mark in the budget is personnel and the pay system. Two components may need to be considered when addressing pay increases. These components are a cost of living increase and increases due to tenure of employment. The city has not used step increases in the past. Thiel would like to compile a list of the necessary licenses needed in the maintenance department and the jobs associated with these licenses.

LeRoy EDA-Wildwood Grove Line of Credit:

* White explained the Wildwood Grove Line of Credit is coming due. This line of credit is secured by the city’s investment savings account. Motion by Whisler, second by Shipman to continue with the Line of Credit and allowing the use of the city investment savings account as security on this loan. Motion carried 5-0.
* White reported the loan paperwork for LeRoy City Lines has been completed; this loan paperwork includes the new bus purchased for LeRoy City Lines. The first payment has been made on this loan.

Land Use Permits:

* There were no land use permits for council review.
* Thiel noted he had spoken with Commissioner Polly Glynn about the tax abatement program. This program is due to sunset on December 31, 2019. The county commissioners are considering extending this program. We will continue to monitor this.

Communications File:

* Council read a thank you from the L-O FFA thanking the maintenance department for their help with the Fall Frolic for Food campaign.
* A thank you from the family of George Dohlman was read.
* Council reviewed a retirement letter from Rick Granahan after 40 years of service to the LeRoy Volunteer Fire Department. Council accepted this retirement and commended Mr. Granahan for his many years of service.

Street Quotes for East County Road:

* One proposal was received from Heartland Asphalt. Jones and Whisler noted they made contact with two other companies. Thiel questioned about funding for this project; he questioned if the city will need to bond for this project or use available funds for this. Council will review this at the December council meeting.
* Council noted they have been pleased with the project completed by Heartland Asphalt.

Snow Removal:

* White noted MnDOT is changing their way of reimbursing for snow removal on Trunk Highway 56. An agreement between the City and MnDOT will now be needed to pay for snow and ice removal. Rental rate contracts used in the past will no longer be utilized for payment.
* White noted she had not contacted Mr. Panek or Mr. Zierden about this change. White had compiled costs associated with snow removal over the past six snow seasons. The average annual amount reimbursed was $8,314; MnDOT is recommending a reimbursement of $3,120 for the 2019-2020 snow season.
* White was directed to make contact with Mr. Panek and/or Mr. Zierden. Council consensus to have Thiel make contact with other elected officials to address this issue.

Quotes for Fire Hall Roof:

* Jones reported the Fire Hall roof has been leaking for some time. The roof has been repaired in the past, but these repairs did not last. Council reviewed a proposal from Schwickert’s Tecta America to provide and install Uni-Flex one step roof coating to the roof. This would serve as more of a ‘band-aid’ fix. The amount of this proposal is $15,675. Council reviewed a second proposal from Schwickert’s Tecta America for a flute fill rhino bond TPO roofing. This proposal comes with a 20-year manufacturer’s warranty. The amount of this proposal is $57,256.
* Shipman questioned if the MN/IA Fire Association would help with any of the costs to repair the roof. White reported when the building was completed the MN/IA Fire Association paid their portion for the construction and no longer had any responsibility for building maintenance or repairs.
* Council noted they could either authorize one of these proposals or seek a proposal from another company. Whisler noted Schwickert’s Tecta America is a reputable company and for the length of time the roof has been leaking, Whisler made the motion to accept the proposal for the complete repair in the amount of $57,256. Second by Huntley. Motion carried 5-0.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Shipman, second by Whisler at 7:49 PM.

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Brian Thiel, Mayor

Attest:

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Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer