



BLACKDUCK CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

MONDAY JUNE 18TH, 2018 6:00PM

WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The City Council of the City of Blackduck met in a scheduled work session at the City Hall at 6:04 p.m. on June 18th, 2018.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Patch, Councilors Sellon, Kolb,

Councilors Absent: Molnar

Staff Present: City Administrator, Christina Regas, Public Works Supervisor, Bob Klug, and Chief of Police, Jace Grangruth

Others Present: none

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm the Pledge of Allegiance was not recited.

Topics covered in the work session were as follows:

OLD BUSINESS –

1. City of Blackduck Council Seat – 2018 General Election Filing Period – 7/31/18 – 8/14/2018 – Regas reported the filing period begins on July 31st and Councilor Molnar's seat will be vacant as well.
2. Capital Improvement Plan & city Sales Tax Proposal -
 1. Resolution 2018-12 – Regas discussed a draft of the Resolution for council approval for the City Sales Tax proposal for the ballot in November. Mayor Patch asked what the amount was that the department of revenue reported the City could receive if the .5% was approved. Regas reported the 2015 amount could be \$30,000 annually. Councilor Sellon confirmed the request on the ballot would be for a .5% sales tax increase for 20 years. Regas stated yes, however, the time of 20 years could be longer based on the duration of the street projects.
 2. Adoption of Plan – revisions in the works
3. Deputy Clerk Vacancy – Regas reported the position is posted for the deputy clerk position. Regas requested the interview process be done by herself and another supervisor and report to council the top two recommendations to hire. Regas stated the proposed plan is to have a candidate begin within a month's time pending qualified applicants. Mayor Patch stated Regas could report back to Council with her recommendation. Councilor Kolb asked if Regas will hold candidates to the two-year degree in accounting. Regas stated yes or the equivalent of experience in book keeping. Regas concluded she will look at the overall experience of the candidates.
4. 2019 Budget Planning Process – Nothing discussed

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Northern Irrigation Proposal – Klug reported that an irrigator #1 (+25 years) is in need of converting 4 tower pivots to new controls. Klug stated he is having major issues with the irrigator due to being hit by lightning more than once and not having any insurance claims made. Klug stated the electrical panel has been rigged up to work for several times. Klug reported the cost to replace the panel and switches would cost \$6500. Klug reported the farm lease agreement signed in 2018 will allow to assist



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in paying for the service plus the funds coming in for the sewer discharge tickets. Regas would confidant the cost could be offset in 2018 with the additional revenues. Mayor Patch confirmed the revenue for the farm lease and sewer discharge goes to the Sewer fund. Klug would like to repair #1 irrigator in 2018 and then budget in 2019 and 2020 for the other two that need updating. Klug will be requesting the funding at the July council meeting. Nothing further.

2. New Police Squad quotes – Chief Grangruth presented to council quotes for a replacement squad. Options include a Dodge Ram 1500; a F150 Pursuit; a Chevy 1500; or a Chevy Yukon. Grangruth is in favor of the Dodge Ram 1500 or the F150 Pursuit. Based on fleet pricing and experience speaking with Beltrami County Grangruth believes the Dodge Ram 1500 would be the vehicle to pursue. Grangruth further reported the department could keep the existing squad and still afford to fund the purchase of a new squad. Regas suggested Grangruth pursue the Dodge Ram and get a final quote for all the necessary options with the equipment installed from Roger’s Two Way and report back to the Council. Grangruth continued to discuss the need to decide the fate of the old Crown Victoria squad. Grangruth suggested either donating or doing a sealed bid and sell it. Regas suggested the Council discuss the fate of the Crown Victoria separately. Grangruth asked for feedback on the dealer to work with for state bid pricing either Hibbing or Burnsville. The Council requested Hibbing as it was the same dealer that worked with Public Works and the new City Vehicle.
3. Drone Policy – Grangruth requested the council consider approving in the future a drone policy for the Grangruth to use his personal drone for police reasons. Grangruth stated he would work with Regas on the policy and bring the recommended document to council at a future work session. Nothing further.
4. Donation Requests for July Meeting – Regas reported two donation requests that will need approval on at the July meeting. Regas stated the requests are from the Blackduck Chamber for the Liability Insurance, and the Backwoods Bash. Regas will have a history of donation amounts for council to review at the July meeting. Nothing further.
5. Rehab Housing Funds convert to Acquisition & Demolition for New Housing – Regas reported to council the request of HRDC to use the rehab funding for another use. Mary Thompson and Tim Flathers are looking into if DEED will allow the acquisition and demolition of old residential property and then rebuilding new single-family homes. The council was in favor of looking into the options of using the funding for demolition and rebuilding new single-family homes. Nothing further at this time.

5. **ADJOURN** – Council adjourned their work session at 7:20pm.

Christina Regas, City Administrator

Rudy Patch, Mayor