



BLACKDUCK CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

MONDAY DECEMBER 17, 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 6:00PM on December 17, 2018.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Patch, Councilors Kolb, Moore

Councilors Absent: Sellon

Staff Present: City Administrator, Christina Regas

Others Present: incoming council member Maxwell Gullette

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. Housing Rehab Return of funds – Regas reported there has been no update from HRDC on the last housing rehab application.
2. Resolution 2019-01 Schedule of fines and fees – Regas discussed remaining fines & fees to change for 2019 that did not have an agreement at the November work session.
 - a. Tap fee for water connection is \$25 – Regas reported Klug the proposed \$250 fee was recommended and a good place to start. Mayor Patch stated his concern isn't is \$250 too high but enough. Regas agreed and stated the increase to \$250 is large enough at this point given no increase has been approved in several years.
 - b. Liquor Licenses – Regas informed the Council of recent conversations with Blackduck Bowling Alley owner Patrick Tjepkes regarding another way to sell more than 3.2% beer. Tjepkes' concerns regarding 3.2% are the number of options of brands to sell in 3.2% currently and in the future. Regas after reviewing the statute with AGED informed Tjepkes that with a department of health certificate for his restaurant license the bowling alley would be able to purchase an additional wine license from the City and then be able to sell strong beer. Tjepkes is considering changing what is offered at the bowling alley in the future. Mayor Patch asked if Tjepkes could offer set-ups and if the City could offer that as a liquor license option. Regas stated currently set-ups are not offered in the City. Regas will do research and report more to council for future conversation. Nothing further.
3. Resolution 2019-02 Annual appointments and designations for 2019 –
 - a. Planning Commission Board – Regas reported speaking to the planning commissioners regarding having a councilor fill a seat on the board. Regas stated after sending an email out to the board Russel Kunkel for personal reasons turned in his resignation effective January 1, 2019, and Ernie Tindell offered to step down as well to allow for a councilor to fill a seat. Additionally, Regas reported having a visit by two other board members being cautious with have a councilor fill a planning commission seat. Regas reported the concern from the commissioners was that the council may have too much control if a councilor were to sit on both the commission and the council seat. Regas stated the concerns have merit but the by-laws still state that a councilor may hold a seat and that the decision was up to the City Council. In-coming Councilor Gullette stated it is crucial to have new faces on the board and to fill the new vacancies. Regas encouraged both the current board members and the council to find a citizen to fill the commission board. Regas stated in her opinion the current members although not citizens have the City of Blackduck in their best intentions with their decisions. Regas stated the commission is just trying to have the separation from the council when needed. Councilor



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Kolb asked if all boards are set up in the same way where a councilor holds a seat. Regas stated each by-law are different for each committee. Mayor Patch asked if Councilor Sellon can make the meeting date and time every month. Regas believed Councilor Sellon stated he could make the time. In-coming Gulette asked what the planning board votes on. Regas stated the commission votes to approve land-use permits, and recommends the council approve re-zoning applications, conditional use permits, and/or variance permits. Regas summarized to the Council there would be two open spots on the planning commission after the January appointments are approved. Nothing further.

- b. Finance Committee – Regas recommended removing Councilor Sellon and adding In-coming Councilor Gulette
 - c. HRA – Regas recommended removing Councilor Sellon and adding Councilor Moore and there are two additional vacant seats.
 - d. Safety Committee – Regas recommended removing Regas and adding Gabrielle Landowski.
 - e. Library Board – Regas did not know where the by-laws were that govern the Library board and if there is a set number of board members the Council may approve. Gulette asked if the City pays for the Library why a councilor was not on the board. Regas stated the City has a representative on the Kitchigami board but not the local board. Mayor Patch recommended Regas reach out to the board members and inform them Gulette will be attending the meetings so that Gulette knows when the meetings are held.
4. Newly Elected Official Training LMC – Regas verified which councilors would be in attendance to the conference in February and planned to register those members this week. Nothing further.

NEW BUSINESS –

1. Resolution 2019-03 – Designating polling place for 2019 elections – Regas reviewed with council a draft of a resolution designating the Blackduck polling place for 2019 and every year after. Nothing further.
2. Donation Request – Blackduck Robotics Sponsorship – Regas reviewed the donation request from the Blackduck Robotics club for discussion. Mayor Patch asked when the group needs the funds. Regas stated Kilde stated it can go in as late at January 2019 if approved on January 7. In-coming Councilor Gulette cautioned the current council informing the board the robotics club is a member of the Blackduck Boosters and that group should be funding the robotics club and the City should be cautious when donating additional City funds to clubs that receive funds from the boosters. Gulette stated in his opinion it would be construed as double-dipping. Mayor Patch stated Gulette has a valid point. Regas suggested the council discuss donating directly to the Booster Club and allow the club to disperse the funds instead. Mayor Patch stated he would like to hear from a member of the Booster Club before Council approves donating to the Boosters. Regas recommended council table the discussion until a Booster Club member can attend a council meeting for further discussion.
3. Laundromat – Mayor Patch visited with the City of Northome and reported the City owns a Laundromat. Patch stated the business nets \$7500 annually. Patch further stated the Laundromat is open 24 hours a day, operates 4 small washers and 2 larger washers and 4 dryers. Patch stated if the City of Blackduck opens a laundromat it would need to be maintained by the City. Patch further stated City maintenance monitors the change machines and the washers/dryers. Regas asked if Northome has issues with homeless living in the laundromat. Mayor Patch suggested security being needed and stated he is still researching the possibility of opening/operating this type of business. Nothing further at this time.
4. City of Blackduck Assessments – Regas recommended Council have conversations in 2019 to budget to pay off the recently approved assessments to the Liquor Store, and the Wayside Rest Park to avoid the additional interest.



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ADJOURN – Council adjourned their work session at 7:15pm.

Christina Regas, City Administrator

Rudy Patch, Mayor