

**MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 2, 2016 6:30 P.M.**

The MCGREGOR CITY COUNCIL met in Special Session at 6:30 p.m. on **Monday, May 2, 2016** at City Hall with Mayor Brooks presiding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members present: Hallberg, Carroll, Echard, Halvorson, and Muehlbauer.

Muehlbauer moved, seconded by Hallberg to approve the transfer of liquor license for the AMVETS Post 267 for May 28-30, 2016 for the art festival weekend. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Council reviewed the EMC Insurance renewal bill with Dan Bickel Insurance. Amounts are \$30,037 city, \$10,497 fire department, \$2,280 library. Councilman Carroll asked that other quotes be requested as a comparison for future renewals. Carroll moved, seconded by Halvorson to approve payment to Dan Bickel Insurance in the amount of \$42,814. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Hallberg moved, seconded by Echard to approve Resolution 01-05-2016 Setting Time and Date of Hearing of the Authorization of a Lease Purchase Agreement in an Amount Not to Exceed \$140,000 for the Acquisition of a Cat 926 M Loader. The hearing will be scheduled for June 15, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

A spreadsheet was provided by Carol Tomb, project coordinator for the FEMA project, showing the federal, state and local match requirements for the revised budget. The CDBG match grant is considered all local, and the state will be covering 10% of the project. The city will not need additional funds unless there is a project overrun or if the amount of local has not met the 15% requirement. If an overrun of \$100,000 were to occur the city would need to pay approximately \$11,000 of a \$3,445,107 project. Council had discussed borrowing some additional funds to complete a few smaller storm sewer projects. The Walton Storm sewer project is paid off on June 1 of this year, which would free up \$30,000 annually for debt/project payments. Council instructed the clerk to contact local banks about the potential of borrowing \$100,000 as a storm sewer revenue debt and to bring terms and interest amounts to an upcoming meeting.

Council reviewed the personnel committee's hiring recommendations for the Street Superintendent/Wastewater Operator and the Wastewater Operator/Street Maintenance positions. There were a total of five applicants for the Superintendent position with one withdrawn and two applicants for the Wastewater Operator position. The committee selected three finalists and had made preliminary contact with each of them to see if the proposed terms would be acceptable if offered the position. All were agreeable. Halvorson moved, seconded by Echard to make an offer of employment for the Street Superintendent/Wastewater Operator position to candidate C at a starting wage of \$17.50 per hour with eligibility for annual cost of living raises, \$1.00/hour wage increase for attaining Grade I Wastewater Certification, \$1.00/hour wage increase for attaining Grade II Wastewater Certification if attained prior to 07/20/2019 or .50/hour after that and given one week of vacation upon acceptance of offer. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. Halvorson moved, seconded by Muehlbauer to make an offer of employment for the Wastewater Operator/Street Maintenance to candidate B at a starting wage of \$16.50 per hour with eligibility for annual cost of living raises, \$1.00/hour wage increase for attaining Grade I

Wastewater Certification, \$1.00/hour wage increase for attaining Grade II Wastewater Certification if attained prior to 07/20/2020 or .50/hour after that and given one week of vacation upon acceptance of offer. If candidate B does not accept the offer the same offer would be made to candidate A. Both would be subject to satisfactory check of references. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. The Council discussed the vacant part time position and whether to eliminate the position and use two full time employees only with two Luster Heights men. Echard moved, seconded by Halvorson to eliminate the part time position. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried. A lengthy discussion took place regarding a review of the current policy of using comp time in lieu of payout of overtime. Comp time is calculated at time and a half also. There were mixed opinions about the best method. The clerk will contact other cities who use comp and overtime to see if there have been any problems or if there are any suggestions for implementing that into the current personnel policy.

The Build with Bags grant award was received for \$2,000 towards the purchase of nine recycled picnic tables for Turner Park. The clerk had been in touch with the park board president to inform her that if these tables were ordered the black tables for riverfront park would have to be placed on hold. Additional tables from Turner Park can be placed at the riverfront. Echard moved, seconded by Carroll to authorize ordering the tables for the grant at a cost of \$5,290.00 with \$2,000 to be reimbursed by the grant. Roll call vote: Ayes – all. Motion carried.

Charlene Palucci was present and discussed the potential for once again having the hanging baskets of flowers in downtown McGregor. She said the group would plant the baskets if the city would provide the flowers. Concern over keeping the baskets watered was expressed. Councilman Echard volunteered to help when a second watering was necessary. The Council thanked the group for their interest in keeping the community beautiful and will support the effort with purchase of flowers.

With no further business to conduct Muehlbauer moved, second by Echard to adjourn the meeting.

Harold W. Brooks, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lynette L. Sander
City Administrator