

City of Gem Lake
City Council Meeting – December 17, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Mayor Uzpen called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Councilmembers Artig-Swomley, Cacioppo and Lindner were present. Councilmember Kuny was out sick. Others in attendance: City Attorney Patrick Kelly, City Finance Director Tom Kelly, residents – Paul Emeott.

December 17, 2019, Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the agenda with a change to the agenda changing the minutes stated on the agenda to November, 2019. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, motion passes. Agenda approved.

Minutes

A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Lindner to approve the November 19, 2019, City Council minutes. Voice vote taken, all voted yes, Motion passes, minutes approved.

Committee Reports – Planning Commission

Planning Commission chair not available to present (excused).

Newsletter

December issue – Water Gremlin, Mayor 2019 Accomplishments, 2020 Budget, Liquor, Tobacco and Charitable Gambling license renewals, New City Electrical Inspector , Outlot A (Gem Lake Villas).

Public Hearing – 2020 Final Budget

The reading of the 2020 final budget public notice reading was waived with a motion from Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes.

Finance Director Tom Kelly presented an overview of the 2020 budget. The 2020 General Fund Operating Budget was approved at \$519,138, up from \$464,873, increases from 2019 were in elections, police and fire budgets, road maintenance, part-time inspector and a decrease of \$5,000 for permits and \$4,000 for the completion of the Comprehensive Plan. Fiscal disparities revenue is project to increase by 29.56%. The budget will be balanced without using reserves. The average residential home value for Gem Lake property increased by 9.4%. A motion was made Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Artig-Swomley to open the public hearing at 7:43 p.m. Paul Emeott, 4XXX Scheuneman Road, inquired about the tax rate and reserves. Councilmember Lindner made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Artig-Swomley to close the public hearing at 7:50 p.m.

Councilmember Artig-Swomley made a motion to approve 2019-11, reducing tax levy pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 475.16, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-11 approved.

Councilmember Artig-Swomley made a motion to approve 2019-12, approving the transfer of certain funds, Councilmember Cacioppo seconded that motion, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-12 approved.

Councilmember Lindner made a motion to approve 2019-16, adopting the final general fund budget and final amount to be raised by property taxation for the year 2020, Councilmember Artig-Swomley seconded the motion, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-16 approved.

New Business

Resolution 2019-13 – Country Lounge, liquor charitable gambling and tobacco licenses.

A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve Resolution 2019-13, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-13 approved.

Resolution 2019-14, Black Sea Restaurant – Wine License.

A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve Resolution 2019-14, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-14 approved.

Resolution 2019-15, Gem Lake Hills, LLCs, liquor license.

A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve Resolution 2019-15, voice vote taken, all voted yes. Motion passes, Resolution 2019-15 approved.

Approve new electrical inspector for 2020, Peter Togle, Togle Inspections, Inc.

The current electrical inspector will be retiring at of 12/31/2019, the City needs a replacement. A motion was made by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, seconded by Councilmember Lindner to approve Peter Togle, Togle Inspections, Inc. as the City of Gem Lake's electrical inspector effective 1/1/2020. Voice vote taken, all voted yes. Togle Inspections, Inc. approved at the City of Gem Lake's electrical inspector.

Contract Discussion – Municipal Services Agreement with White Bear Township

Councilmember Artig-Swomley and Cacioppo met with White Bear Township for a brief discussion on the municipal service agreement. City of Gem Lake occupies about 4 – 7% of White Bear Township's time in a calendar year. Good discussion was had, but no agreement was reached. The group agreed that White Bear Township will continue to charge their current rate until a final agreement can be reached. (see 2020 fee schedule for staff rates).

Claims

A motion was made by Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Cacioppo to approve the claims for December, 2019. Motion passes, claims approved.

Presentations from the Public

Paul Emeott – Gem Lake population.

Open Items from the Council Members to Bring Up

Councilmember Artig-Swomley looked at the signs on Outlot A, signs could be smaller and lower, signs are the standard size and hung at recommended Public Works height. Noted that the City of Gem Lake did not approve a trail in the Villas, residents at that time did not want a trail. MS4 – Linder, Cacioppo –

meeting with Tree Trust in January, trees in Outlot A, cul de sac on Scheuneman Road (residential side of Scheuneman).

Next Meetings/Workshop

City Council, Tuesday, January 21, workshop, Monday, January 13, 2020, cancelled.

Adjournment

Being there no further business, following a motion from Councilmember Lindner, seconded by Councilmember Artig-Swomley, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Gloria Tessier.