

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A work session was held beginning at 3:30 p.m. and the regular meeting of the Coleraine City Council was held at 4:00 p.m., Monday, March 8th, 2021, in the Council Chambers of Coleraine City Hall.

WORK SESSION

3:30 p.m.

Lloyd Anderson, Zoning Officer, volunteered his services to help get something worked out on a new plan or route for Waste Management vehicles so that they are not doing so much damage to the alleyways. Public Works Supervisor Bertram told Council he felt the City would be better off sub cutting and going back to gravel alleyways. There were many questions and different options discussed. The discussion ended with Lloyd volunteering to contact residents individually.

REGULAR MEETING

4:01 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Nielsen at 4:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was done by Clerk Anderson. Members present: Councilpersons T. Troumbly, Sobtzak, Pollard, and Mayor Mandich. Councilperson Sertich was absent with notice.

Moved by Mayor Nielsen, supported by Pollard, **to approve the consent agenda which included Council meeting minutes of 2.22.21, correspondence, and claims totaling \$14,339.68.** Roll Call: Ayes: Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons Pollard T. Troumbly and Sobtzak. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Moved by Mayor Nielsen, seconded by Pollard, **to approve the meeting agenda as presented.** Roll Call: Ayes: Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons Pollard, T. Troumbly, and Sobtzak. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident Duane Ranger, former Zoning Officer, stated his concern with the temporary classrooms for School District 316. His recollection was that in 2014 or 2015, the district was granted a temporary permit for the structures. Council directed the Clerk to look up the building permit for further information.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Police:

Interim Chief of Police Hussman was not able to attend but had provided a written report in Council packets. There were no questions.

Public Works (Street):

Public Works Supervisor Bertram had provided a written report for Council packets. Bertram briefly reiterated what was on the report. There were no questions.

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Dimich was not present at this time. Council will come back to him.

NEW BUSINESS:

Award Coleraine City Hall Masonry & Roof Repairs bid – Clerk Anderson had included a bid synopsis in Council packets and verbalized the recommendation. **Motion** by Councilperson Pollard, with support of T. Troumbly, **to award the bid to Lenci Enterprises**. Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Pollard, T. Troumbly, Sobtzak, and Mayor Nielsen. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Award Coleraine Carnegie Library Conditions Assessment bid – Library Director Mostad-Jensen had provided a written recommendation by the Library Board. **Motion** by Mayor Nielsen with support from Councilperson T. Troumbly, **to award the bid to Collaborative Design Group**. Roll Call: Ayes: Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons T. Troumbly, Pollard, and Sobtzak. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Contract renewal with Itasca County for 2021-2022 season – Clerk Anderson stated that Public Works Supervisor had reviewed the contract and had recommended no changes. Councilperson T. Troumbly **motioned to approve the contract renewal** which was seconded by Pollard. Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons T. Troumbly, Pollard, Sobtzak, and Mayor Nielsen. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Approve transfers from General Fund - Recreation \$56,794.40; Retiree Insurance \$83,537.35. Clerk Anderson informed that these are normal transfers to zero out deficit balances in both the Recreation (Fund 115) and Retiree Insurance (Fund 118) funds at the end of each year.

Approve transfer of \$1,592.12 from General Fund to CARES Fund and close fund – Clerk Anderson advised the transfer was necessary to satisfy the deficit and close the 203 fund. Clerk Anderson went on to briefly explain the history of the CARES fund.

Motion by Mayor Nielsen, with the support of Pollard, **to approve and make the three fund transfers and to close the CARES fund**. Roll Call: Ayes: Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons Pollard, T. Troumbly, and Sobtzak. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Attorney Dimich arrived at 4:47 p.m.

Blight discussion – There was a lengthy discussion on blight in both the urban and rural areas with specific concerns addressing a number of locations. Details on what constituted blight ensued, especially as it pertained to vehicles. Council was also informed that the property owner should receive a notification, not a renter. There was also discussion on non-compliant septic systems. Attorney Dimich was asked to contact the state regarding a particular property.

The ordinance, process, and how this gets handled in the courts was explained by Attorney Dimich. Basically, once a ticket is given there is nothing that the City can do. The consensus of the council was to form a committee to look into blight, review the ordinance with the zoning officer and

planning commission to see if any changes could be made. Councilpersons Pollard and T. Troumbly volunteered to be a part of this committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

New pickup—Capital Equipment purchase replacement or addition to fleet – Clerk Anderson reiterated why this was on the agenda and what needed to be documented. **Motion** by Councilperson T. Troumbly with the support of Mayor Nielsen **to consider the pickup as an addition to the current fleet and direct Public Works Supervisor Bertram to work on returning the Blazer that has been idle to its right full owner.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson T. Troumbly, Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons Pollard and Soltzak. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Old fire hall – There was a lot of dialogue on what to do with the old fire hall and what the next steps would be. **Motion** by Councilperson T. Troumbly, with the support of Pollard, **to send out a request for proposal (RFP) to realtors outlining what they could do for the City (an appraisal? and potential listing?) and what their fees would be due to the City by April 15th, 2021 to be reviewed at a special closed meeting on that date.** Roll Call: Ayes: Council persons T. Troumbly, Pollard, Soltzak, and Mayor Nielsen. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Clerk was instructed to send a letter out to J&R Property Rentals notifying them of the City's position.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Pollard: None

T. Troumbly: None

Soltzak: None

Sertich: Absent

Nielsen: Concerned with the speed of golfers going up and returning from the golf course. They either ignore the 15 mile per hour speed limit or they do not see the sign. Inquired as to what needs to be done to get temporary speed bumps placed on One Green Way. Public Works Supervisor Bertram was directed to provide prices on speed bumps and signage for that area for the next Council meeting.

Inquiring on whether unofficial committees can be formed to get information on issues that come up and there would be council members willing to do it. Concern that he is being contacted so much that it is impossible to do it all. Councilmembers were agreeable to being called upon.

Motion by Councilperson Pollard with the support of Mayor Nielsen **to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilperson Pollard, Mayor Nielsen, Councilpersons T. Troumbly and Soltzak. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Thomas Nielsen, Mayor

Briana Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer