

Amherst City Council met in a Regular Session under full compliance of State Law with President Wasilk opening the meeting at 7:00 p. m. Roll call: Mr. Cowger, Mr. Winiarski, Mr. Nahorn, Mr. Miller, Mr. Janik, Mr. Van Treuren, Mr. Dembinski. Also present were Treasurer Ramsey, Safety/Service Director Jeffreys, Mayor Costilow, Law Director Pecora, Auditor Pittak. There were no members of the Public and the Press present at the meeting.

The Prayer was invoked by Chaplain Nahorn, followed by the Pledge to the Flag led by Sergeant at Arms Dembinski

Consent Agenda: The Clerk read the Consent Agenda. Mr. Dembinski motioned to accept the Consent Agenda as read. Seconded by Mr. Van Treuren. Voice vote 7-0 to accept the Consent Agenda.

Acknowledgement of the public pertaining to items on the agenda: There was no one speaking.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FIRST READING:

- (a) An Ordinance to approve replacement pages to the Amherst Codified Ordinances; and declaring an emergency. (A-18-01)

Mayor Costilow said after discussion after the last Committee Meeting and reconsideration, thinking that Council has had plenty of time to look over the inserts, the sooner we accept these pages and get them on the web site, the better. This will get them out to the public. Mr. Pecora agreed that suspension of rules and passing on emergency is the correct thing to do. Mr. Dembinski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded Mr. Miller. Mr. Miller noted that this is a yearly formality. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Cowger motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Winiarski. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-18-01.

- (b) An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Safety/Service Director to solicit bids for infrastructure improvements including the installation of a storm sewer interceptor within the area of Lincoln Street, Sipple Avenue and North Main Street and for roadway rehabilitation of portions of Lincoln Street, Sipple Avenue and North Main Street and authorizing and directing the Safety/Service Director to award the contract for such work to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder; and authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract for professional services with Bramhall Engineering and Surveying Company relating to such work; and declaring an emergency. (A-18-02)

Mr. Van Treuren noted that this ordinance only authorizes the solicitation of bids and the Mayor will return with the actual figures. Mayor Costilow agreed and said this will follow. Mr. Van Treuren motioned to pass this on to its second reading. Seconded by Mr. Nahorn. Mr. Winiarski thanked the Mayor and administration for patiently "holding his hand" and walking him through the change order process, it was eye opening. In addition, he took some time to talk to contractors and found out about the hidden surprises that they often find. Learned something about rails being buried under the street for when a trolley used to go up and down the street. They could run into that, plus the sand issues. The list goes on. He is very comfortable with what he has learned. Mayor Costilow appreciated working with him on this. Roll call vote 7-0 to pass to second.

- (c) An Ordinance authorizing the execution of a contract to participate in the remaining Requirements Energy Supply Schedule with the American Municipal Power, INC. ("AMP"); and declaring an emergency. (A-18-03)

Mr. Winiarski asked if suspension of rules is requested on this. Mayor Costilow said the sooner this is passed, the quicker they can begin to check on pricing. Mr. Winiarski motioned to suspend all Council rules so that this may be passed in its first reading. Seconded by Cowger. Mr. Miller asked about the suspension. Mayor Costilow said the sooner we adopt this, the sooner he can begin to watch prices. He will be speaking with our rate consultant, Mr. Courtney. The sooner we do this, the sooner we have a chance of getting a better rate and more time to watch the market. We can always get into better contracts down the road. To buy energy costs at today's price will be a good deal, as energy

costs will only increase. Mr. Miller said so even though this is going out to 2024, there is an out for us. Mayor agreed and said it only says that we need to purchase the remaining requirements. Roll call vote 7-0 to suspend rules. Mr. Winiarski motioned to adopt. Seconded by Mr. Cowger. Roll call vote 7-0 to adopt. Becomes 0-18-02.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS SECOND READING: NONE

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS THIRD READING: NONE

Miscellaneous and acknowledgement of the public: There was no one speaking.

Agenda requests and committee meeting schedules:

A-18-04 Utilities Authorization to bid and award the 2018 tree trimming maintenance program

Utilities February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. A-18-04

The remaining Committee Meetings for February 5, 2018 are cancelled.

Reports of the Administration:

Auditor Pittak: No report

Treasurer Ramsey: Spoke to the form he had distributed to Council earlier. He said that residents in Amherst will have received this 2017 tax form. They are due by April 17 this year. There has been a little bit of concern going around, on the second page, all retirees who have not had to file any returns for the past years as they only receive social security or pension as income, will now have to check the appropriate boxes, sign and return the Exemption Certificate. The state has mandated that we have to do this. If any constituents are concerned, they can call their office. Mr. Miller asked how the new tax code impact our residents if they only have a defined income? Mr. Ramsey said he does not know about the state but with the City, they now have to file this exemption form. Mr. Ramsey explained and said the City is required to do this.

Law Director Pecora: No report

Safety/Service Director Jeffreys: No report

Mayor Costilow: Noted that next week is a fifth week with no committee meetings being scheduled and Council should look for more Agenda requests next week.

Mr. Dembinski motioned to accept the Reports of the Administration. Seconded by Mr. Winiarski. Voice vote 7-0 to accept the Reports of the Administration.

Mr. Miller motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Dembinski. Voice vote 7-0 to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Olga Sivinski, Clerk of Council

Jennifer Wasilk, President of Council