

**Hazen City Commission
Special Meeting
December 30, 2016
Hazen City Hall**

Present: President Obenauer (telephonic), Commissioner Haack, Commissioner Pillar, Commissioner Stern and Commissioner Wolf.

Others Present: Auditor Erhardt

Meeting was called to order at 5:28 PM CT by President Obenauer.

Commissioner Pillar moved to approve the agenda as presented, second by Commissioner Wolf. Motion unanimously carried.

Snow Removal – Outside Contracts: President Obenauer called to special meeting to discuss snow removal concerns and the fact that many cities have contracted with outside companies to assist internal staff in addressing these matters. The city has received information of pricing to assist with snow removal from Pride Contracting and Lake View Services LLC. Proposed rates are:
Pride Contracting - \$100/hr for truck and operator - \$150/hr for loader and operator
Lake View Services - \$80/hr for truck and operator - \$85/hr for loader and operator - \$74/hr for skid-steer and operator or \$100/hr for skid-steer with industrial snow blower. President Obenauer would like to get additional trucks and a loader to help push and clean up piles. Commissioner Haack agreed that an additional loader working at the dump locations would free up the loader plow. Commissioner Wolf suggested using a loader to help pick up windrows to speed up the process. President Obenauer stated there are certain areas where the pay loader is more helpful. Commissioner Pillar feels it may make more sense to have Pride Contracting helping open dump space or keep the spaces being used ready for additional snow. There are still locations, in close proximity to the city, where additional snow can be dumped and Commissioner Haack asked how the city is going to catch up if they don't contract for assistance. Commissioner Stern suggested blowing snow onto the boulevard, where possible, so the blower isn't sitting idle waiting for trucks to haul the snow away. President Obenauer agreed that there are areas where that will work but there are concerns with blocking sidewalks that are used by the residents. Commissioner Wolf said the main effort has to be to get the streets open before we worry too much about removing the snow. Commissioner Haack would like a reverse 911 call to the residents notifying them that the city may be blowing snow into the boulevards. Commissioner Haack doesn't want to "throw money away" but suggested the city does need to put more hands-on deck. President Obenauer would like to consider doing both, contract for additional help and blow snow on boulevards, where possible. Commissioner Pillar asked how this should be accomplished, set a cap for hours or a dollar amount. Commissioner Stern suggested setting a dollar

limit of \$20,000. Commissioner Pillar moved to authorize use of Pride Contracting and Lake View Services, up to \$20,000, second by Commissioner Stern. Upon discussion, there were questions as to the size of Pride Contracting’s truck and it was determined it is similar in size to the city’s truck. On roll call vote; Pillar, “Aye”, Stern, “Aye”, Haack, “Aye”, Wolf, “Aye”, Obenauer, “Aye”, motion carried.

Commissioner Pillar would like to discuss the priority of streets to be cleaned and look at other methods of snow removal or determine if a change in philosophy is necessary. There was discussion on trying to split the crew to work later into the evening or overnight but this wasn’t an option as we are limited on staff the way it is. Commissioner Haack also stated there have been many residents willing to volunteer but there are liability concerns. Commissioner Wolf stated the main thing is to get the snow windrowed or moved to open the streets before worrying about hauling the snow away. Commissioner Pillar said there is also an issue with the wind and the windrows filling back in but the method that is being used is effective.

There being no further business, on the special meeting agenda, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM CT. The next regular meeting of the commission will be Wednesday, January, 4, 2017 at 5:30 PM CT in the Commission Room of the Hazen City Hall.

Approved: _____
Jerry Obenauer, President

Attest: _____
Monte J. Erhardt, Auditor