

**Hazen City Commission
Regular Meeting
June 1, 2020
Hazen City Hall**

Present: President Obenauer, Commissioner Pillar, Commissioner Stern and Commissioner Wolf.

Others Present: PW Director Brousseau, Attorney Donovan, Auditor Erhardt, Jerod Klabunde (Moore Engineering), Editor Arens, and Buster Langowski appeared in person or via teleconference call.

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 PM by President Obenauer.

President Obenauer led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Pillar said the prayer.

Minutes: Commissioner Wolf moved to suspend the reading and approve the minutes of the May 18th meeting, as presented, second by Commissioner Pillar. Motion unanimously approved.

Agenda: Commissioner Pillar moved to approve the agenda, as presented, second by Commissioner Stern. Motion unanimously approved.

CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY & ENGINEER

Engineer's Report/Agenda: Jerod Klabunde, Moore Engineering, discussed matters with the commission as follows:

1) Braun Intertec will be doing soil borings, three samples, for the proposed water storage tank project. They hope to have them done today or Tuesday at the latest. A report will then be provided to determine suitability for the site.

2) Expedition Estates matters are being reviewed by legal counsel for the various parties. President Obenauer informed the board that Tim Williams, developer will be in town for onsite review on Wednesday, June 3rd.

3) The commission discussed the ND STREET program award and the difference in the amount of funds requested and the actual awarded amount. The project is tentatively scheduled for construction in 2023. The local share as requested was \$179,600 and is \$344,135.38 as awarded for a difference of \$164,535.38. Commissioner Stern expressed concern as to this amount and that there are other projects that should be completed first. There was discussion about scaling back the scale of the project and President Obenauer said removing small sections will not make a large difference in the amount and it is still uncertain if the ratio of federal/state/local shares will change proportionately to the reduced scope of the project. Commissioner Pillar talked about designating funds, prior to construction, to a reserve for the project. President Obenauer indicated the underpass will address a safety issue for pedestrians crossing the highway and he would like to find a way to proceed.

Commissioner Wolf suggesting more input from the public as to their support and willingness to fund the project. Commissioner Stern said he has received comments not to spend the money.

Commissioner Pillar moved to proceed with the ND STREET project and to apportion funds, over the next three years, to a reserve account for the project, second by Commissioner Wolf. Upon discussion Commissioner Stern reminded the board of the large purchases and notes for equipment asking where

these reserve funds will come from. There was discussion on how to trim areas of the current budget to get the funds for the reserve and, if the funds do not accrue as intended, the project can still be halted with the city responsible for preliminary engineering/design costs. On roll call vote: Pillar, "Aye", Stern, "Nay", Wolf, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS & BUILDING PERMITS

Fireworks Sales Permit – Outlaw Endeavors LLC: The commission reviewed an application for permit to sell fireworks as submitted by Casey Stern, Outlaw Endeavors LLC, fbo Generous Jerry's Fireworks. The sales will be at Mr. Stern's building at 305 10th Ave NW. Commissioner Pillar moved to approve the fireworks sales permit, as requested, pending review and approval of the Hazen Fire Chief, second by Commissioner Wolf. On roll call vote: Pillar, "Aye", Wolf, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried. Commissioner Stern abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.

WRT – Curb/Sidewalk Renovation: The commission reviewed cost information relating to improvements of the curb/sidewalk on 1st Street SW at WRT's office location. This matter was discussed, by the commission, in 2018 and there was no objection to the changes in sidewalk, curb, and gutter, as presented. The commission is not in position to assist with funding and requirements as contained in the city ordinance. Auditor Erhardt will share this with WRT representatives and if a specific funding request is received the matter will be reviewed again.

Alternate Water Source – T & R Schwab: Pursuant to city ordinance 6.0502, the city reviewed a request for alternate water source requested by Tom & Renee Schwab. They are considering connection to SW Water and need approval from the city commission. Commissioner Wolf moved to approve the request for alternate water source, second by Commissioner Stern. Upon discussion, the reason for the alternate water source is that the city has no plan to extend water mains to serve the property, within two (2) years. The permit may be renewed one (1) time for an additional fifteen (15) years. On roll call vote: Wolf, "Aye" Stern, "Aye", Pillar, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried.

REPORTS

Water/Sewer/Garbage: Commissioner Pillar informed the board that the new garbage truck had been delivered but it had received minor mechanical damage when it was shipped to Fargo. The truck is going back for the repair and will be placed in service later.

Street/Cemetery: Commissioner Haack absent no report. Auditor Erhardt informed the commission that the city is developing cemetery policies which will be brought to the board for approval later. PW Director Brousseau said staff is busy mowing and has started spraying city properties.

Finance/Busing/Library: Commissioner Stern had nothing to report at this time.

Police/Fire/Forestry: Commissioner Wolf informed the board that the city is continuing to serve residents who have wrecked, junked, or abandoned vehicles and other nuisance violations.

Commissioner Pillar asked about towing and was advised that vehicles will be impounded to the city shop or Mercer County Regional Landfill.

HCD: Buster Langowski had nothing to report at this time.

President: President Obenauer reminded the board that he will be meeting with Mr. Williams, regarding Expedition Estates, on Wednesday afternoon.

NEW BUSINESS

Arbor Day Proclamation: Commissioner Wolf moved to approve a proclamation establishing June 10, 2020, as Arbor Day in the City of Hazen, second by Commissioner Pillar. Ceremonies will be held, at the arboretum, late in the afternoon with the tree giveaway until trees are no longer available. On roll call vote: Wolf, "Aye", Pillar, "Aye", Stern, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried.

Approval of Bills: Commissioner Stern moved to approve the bills, as presented, second by Commissioner Wolf. Pre-paid and bills approved for payment are as follows: Further, 9.75; US Postal Service, 277.10; Nelson International, 174235.00; Olson Electric, 4000.00; 121572.31; Axon Enterprise Inc, 1164.00; BHG Inc, 1790.36; Cardmember Service, 623.36; CVB, 1255.55; Dakota Pump & Control Inc, 1660.00; DXP Enterprises Inc, 2620.00; Fastenal, 68.17; GovOffice, 900.00; Grand Forks Fire Equipment, 444.43; Hazen Fire Dept, 405.56; Hazen Hardware, 452.12; Innovative Office Solutions, 174.95; Krause's, 30.13; Marco Technologies LLC, 393.54; Mercer Co Ambulance, 81.24; Mercer Co Treasurer, 8740.25; Moore Engineering, Inc, 1170.00; ND League of Cities, 60.00; Pam Borlaug, 54.05; Pro Forms, 1315.70; Rath & Mehrer PC, 7300.00; Roughrider Electric Coop Inc, 55.00; SCBA Sales & Rentals LLC, 7168.21; Sletten Excavating, 1225.00; SW Water Authority, 56430.56; Stamps.com, 50.00; Stein's Inc, 110.08; Swanston Equipment Corp, 142.49; Union Bank, 10550.00; Universal Premium Fleetcard, 1448.29. On roll call vote: Stern, "Aye", Wolf, "Aye", Pillar, "Aye", Obenauer, "Aye", motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM CT. The next regular meeting of the commission is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2020 at 5:30 PM CT in the Commission Room of the Hazen City Hall.

Approved: _____
Jerry Obenauer, President

Attest: _____
Monte J. Erhardt, Auditor