

City of Bronson
Regular Council Meeting
December 11, 2017

Mayor Cole called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Cole, McConn, Cox, Earl, Kenny
Absent: None

Public Comment – County Commissioner Kolcz was present and told Council the vote on the sale of the hospital would be on the agenda at the next commissioner’s meeting and he was fairly certain it would pass. He wished everyone best regards for the holidays from the County Board of Commissioners.

Presentations – Proclamation of the Mayor of Bronson to the Bronson Girls Volleyball State Champions – Manager Mersman presented to the Bronson Girls volleyball team a proclamation honoring them for their third straight State volleyball championship.

FY2017 Audit – Jeff Berry, CPA of Norman & Paulsen, PC – Jeff Berry of Norman & Paulsen presented to the Council the City’s 2017 audit report. He said the City received a clean opinion, the best audit the City could receive. He said the general fund currently has a fund balance of 62% of its annual budgeted expenditures. The recommended percent is 25% so the city above the recommended amount. He reviewed the financial statements of each fund with Council. Mr. Berry thanked City staff for their help during the audit. He said it went very well and saw no problems or issues with any of the City’s funds.

Consent Agenda – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to approve the consent agenda including payment of invoices totaling \$54, 937.50. Seconded by Kenny. Motion carried.

Old Business – Re-Approve Amendment to Fire Association Agreement – Manager Mersman said back in April when he put the proposed amendment in front of Council he inadvertently used the wrong language. He gave council the new language which would exclude personal property taxable value during calculations for the units paying for capital purchases. Councilman Earl moved to approve the amended language. Seconded by Councilwoman Cox. Motion carried.

New Business – Purchase Downtown Tree Lighting – Manager Mersman explained that the lights on the trees downtown were fading over time. He said it was determined they were not commercial grade meant to left on year around. He said staff did some research and found some lights that were commercial grade and was requesting the purchase of lights to replace the ones currently on the trees at a price of \$2,746.70 from Orman Inc. He said they were lowest price available. Councilman Kenny moved to approve the purchase. Seconded by Vice-Mayor McConn. Motion carried.

Industrial Ave Properties – Solar Farm – Manager Mersman said he has been approached by a solar Entergy company interested in purchasing or leasing the vacant lot the City owns on Industrial Ave. They submitted a letter of intent and he was currently having the city attorney review it. He said the City does not have an ordinance regulating solar farms. He said he was looking for direction on how to proceed with the offer. After some discussion Council agreed to have Manager Mersman proceed with due diligence on either a lease or sale of the property.

Trash Contract Extension – Manager Mersman said Republic Services has approached the City about extending the City’s trash and recycling contract for one or two years. In exchange for agreeing to extend the contact they are willing to reduce our minimum numbers of customers to our actual number of participants as of the beginning of each year. This would be a considerable savings to the City as currently the City does not have enough customers to cover the minimum of 665 in the current contract. Currently the City is serving approximately 540 customers. If the City agrees to a two year contract they will also willing to hold our current rate for one more year. Council agreed to proceed with setting up a two year contract extension.

Staff Comments – None

City Manager Comments – Manager Mersman reminded Council the annual Christmas luncheon will be December 21st at noon.

Council Comments – Council again congratulated the Bronson Volleyball team on their accomplishments. They thanked City staff for their work on the audit. Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Adjourn – Vice-Mayor McConn moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilman Kenny. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Smith, City Clerk/Treas.