

A regular meeting of the Wakefield City Council was held on Monday, February 12, 2018 at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Wakefield Municipal Building with Mayor Granato presiding and leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- ROLL Present: Councilmembers Wiita, Tarro, Mann, Anderson and Granato
- CALL Absent: none  
Also Present: Richard Brackney, City Manager; William Nordeen, City Attorney; and approximately 12 guests
- CONSENT a) January 22, 2018 regular City Council meeting and February 7, 2018 Special meeting minutes;
- AGENDA b) January 10, 2018 regular Gogebic County Board of Commissioners meeting minutes; c) January 11, 2018 regular Gogebic Range Water Authority meeting minutes; d) November 29, 2017 regular Wakefield Public Library Board meeting minutes; e) January Income and Expense Report; f) Gogebic County Sheriff Department End of Year Report. Mann moved, Wittta seconded to remove Water Income and Expense from the January Income and Expense Report and be put into letter e. Water Rates under New Business. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote. Mann moved, Wittta seconded, to accept the consent agenda as amended. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.
- BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT None
- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA Tarro moved, Mann seconded, Motion CARRIED, that the agenda be amended to add New Business item i) Quonset Hut, j) Utility Billing Software/Training, and k) Deck Improvements and Request near Visitor Center.
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS a) OPEB Actuarial- Mann moved, Wittta seconded, to accept the CIBZ BID for \$4,000.00 for the formal valuation and actuarial report to satisfy OPEB. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.
- NEW BUSINESS a) January(Final) and February(partial) Invoices- Mann moved, Anderson seconded, to accept the invoices as presented and ordered paid. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.
- b) Wakefield Fire Department Donation Request- Tarro moved, Mann seconded, approve the donation of two \$50.00 off camping certificates. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.

c) Regional Hospice Polar Plunge- Witta moved, Tarro seconded, that the Council allow Regional Hospice Services to use the City's Park Facilities and authorize the City Crew and Volunteer Fire Department to assist in the March 24, 2018 Polar Plunge efforts. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.

d) UPSET Request for Financial Assistance- Mann moved, Anderson seconded, place letter on file and the doesn't not wish to donate at this time. Motion CARRIED, No Action taken.

e) Water Rates- In order to increase the City's water rates it is required that the City have a Public Hearing and will not be able to increase the water rates for a 120 days after the Public meeting. Mann moved, Anderson seconded, that the Council call for a Public Hearing to be set for the March 26, 2018 Regular Council meeting to discuss increasing the City's water rates. Motion CARRIED. Mann moved, Tarro seconded, to accept the Water income and expense report from the January Income and Expense Report in letter e. of the Consent Agenda. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote.

f) Compensation Time- The Council discussed the amount of time an employee is allowed to accrue in the fiscal year and remainder of the comp time be paid out at the end of the fiscal year. Witta moved, Mann seconded, that an employee be allowed to accumulate a maximum of 80 hours and be paid out by the end of the fiscal year not to be carried over. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes by roll call vote, except for Anderson, who voted no and Tarro, who abstained.

g) Employee Hours- Witta moved, Mann seconded, to keep the employee's start of the work day at the current time for now and will discuss at a later date. Motion CARRIED, all voting yes, except for Tarro, who abstaining.

h) Managers Report- 1) The City recently fixed a water line break on the line in front of a home on Chaney Lake Rd. No replacement pipe was involved. 2) The frontend loader was shipped to Nortrax in Ashland for repairs. It is back in service and working better than ever. 3) The Sanding Truck developed a transmission problem. This placed the truck out of service. The transmission has been taken to Duluth to be rebuild and is now back in service. The estimated cost is \$3,800.00. City Manager would like to thank the County for the use of one of their sanders while ours was getting fixed. 4) Street Light replacement continues with lights that have shown problems. 5) Snow removal has continues and we are removing the build-up on the residential streets. 6) Brushing has been taking place in the Verona area and on Chaney Lake Rd. It's

anticipated that the pole transfers will take place as weather permits. 7) The frost level is at 46 ¼ inches and we have not had a general problem with water freezing in homes. The City let-run has been set in place. 8) Fire hydrants are being cleared by both the Water and DPW departments. This effort will continue throughout the winter. 9) The City Manager attended the DNR trust fund informational meeting in Baraga. Most of the rules governing the granting of awards are the same as last year. More emphasis seems to be placed on applicants efforts to move beyond the minimum requirements for ADA for inclusion of people with disabilities. 10) The City Manager will be attending a meeting in Marquette that will cover Cities involvement in the 2020 U.S. Census. The census information will form the basis of many different Revenue Sharing eligible program in the future. 11) The City is still moving forward with our Energy Optimization program. Currently the amount spent on our efforts is around \$24,248.43, with approximately 5,298 light bulbs have been replaced with Energy Efficient LED bulbs.

i) Quonset Hut- It was suggested to form a committee to look into information related to placing the Quonset hut or putting a new sleeve on our current one. Mann moved, Tarro seconded, that there be a committee formed to look into the Quonset hut replacement and to bring information to the next Council meeting on Monday, February 26, 2018. The committee will consist of Councilmembers Granato and Anderson. Motion CARRIED.

j) Utility Billing Software/Training- It was suggested that we do not pursue training with INCODE at this time if we are considering changing software. Dan from BSA willing to come and bring information to the Council related to their software. We are currently using BSA software for our tax collection system.

k) Deck Area Improvement and Request near Visitor Center- Information was presented on improvements to the deck area around the Indian statue near the Information Center. The City will looks to see if they would be able to receive any donations to help with the cost of the renovations to the area. Tarro moved, Witta seconded, to get more information on the cost of the renovations and send a letter to the Northern Waters Casino for a donation. Motion CARRIED.

EXTENDED  
PUBLIC  
COMMENT

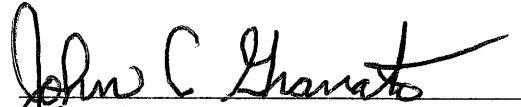
The questions were asked to why the warehouse man doesn't do the inventory and if the City can't afford to replace the re-skin on the Quonset hut how can the City afford to build a new building. The recommendation was to just re-skin the Quonset and seek out grants to help pay.

ADJOURN- Mann moved, Witta seconded, Motion CARRIED, that the  
MENT meeting adjourn at 6:34 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Susan Ahonen, City Clerk

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

2/26/18

  
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John Granato, Mayor

  
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Susan Ahonen, City Clerk