

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 21, 2016**

PRESENT: Parent, Bohnen, Baglio, Miller, Warren, Attorney-Scott McDonald and Susanna Torseth, Maintenance Superintendent-Rick Paulson and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Bohnen moved to accept the agenda as presented, Miller seconded the motion and the agenda was approved.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 16, 2016 MEETING

Baglio moved to accept the November minutes as pre-read, Bohnen seconded the motion and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at the November meeting.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

The Washington County Officers did not attend the December meeting.

CHERYL MALKOWSKI

Cheryl came to the Council meeting to ask the Council to reconsider charging the late fees on her utility bill. Cheryl has been delinquent a number of quarters and the late fee is a cumulative fee. Cheryl feels that the late fee is excessive for someone struggling to pay the bill.

The mayor explained that the City passed the ordinance incorporating the late fee to encourage residents to pay the utility bill and make payments on a regular basis if it is impossible to pay the complete bill. The City works with the residents struggling and encourages them to make monthly payments so the late fee is not added to the total bill.

Also if the resident makes payments and tries to keep the utility bill current, they are not penalized by certifying the amount of the bill to the property taxes which increases their house payments.

Cheryl did not accept the explanation for the fines and requested the Council to wave them on her bill.

The Council explained that the history on the account does not warrant waving the fines, simply because the account has been delinquent for several years.

LED STREET LIGHTING

Xcel is replacing all the City street lights with LED lighting that should make the lights brighter and they will last longer. Xcel received a grant to replace the lights so the City of Willernie will not acquire any expense for the replacement of the lights.

The new lights will be installed as soon as Xcel receives all the new equipment.

SHERIFF CONTRACT

Parent explained the new sherriff's contract will save the City funds on the cost of the services provided by Washington County.

Warren moved to approve the contract, Baglio seconded the motion and the contract was approved.

ZONING ON KINDROSS

The building for sale on the Kindross is not a buildable lot so anyone purchasing it cannot build on it.

FINAL BUDGET APPROVAL

The final budget was approved at the Truth and Taxation meeting on December 21, 2016 with a motion from Parent and a second by Baglio.

412 PADDINGTON

There are no new reports on 412 Paddington.

GRANTS

Miller has a meeting set for January 9th with Chuck Wiger and his aid, unless it is rescheduled, to discuss Grants available for Willernie.

YARDS IN VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES

Terry Patraw has a carport filled with building materials that need to be stored somewhere else.

Les Smaltz also has building materials that need to be stored in a garage.

Hanson and Loftis will receive tickets after the new year if the articles are not removed from their yards.

Baglio reported on each house that has violations and is checking on them to make sure they have removed the articles as required. Any resident that has not removed the articles as instructed will receive a citation from Washington County.

MOISTURE REPORT

Parent read the moisture report and explained that the closet has been removed and the basement has been insulated. She requested help cleaning the garage area as soon as the weather permits.

RICK REPORT

A water main on Stillwater Road broke and was fixed in a two day period. Rick requested research on grants to replace this main.

Everything else is running smoothly in the City.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Miller moved to approve the bills, Bohnen seconded the motion and the bills were approved.

ADJOURNAMENT

Bohnen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Miller seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer