

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, an Avon City Council Meeting was duly held at City Hall on the 7th day of March 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:**

Hugh Knox – Mayor; Jeff Manthe, Jeff Meyer, Jesse Springer – Councilors;  
Kathy Schulzetenberg – Deputy Clerk

**NOT PRESENT:** Julie Jarnot - Councilor

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Pledge of Allegiance

**PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM:**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Council Minutes of February 1, 2016
2. Council Minutes of February 25, 2016 (Special Meeting)
3. Paid Check Register February 2016
4. Planning Commission Minutes of February 16, 2016
5. Capital Expenditures, Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Detailed Reports
6. Approve bills/invoices
7. Approve Gambling Permit – Fire Department
8. Approve amendment to Fire Relief Association by-laws (changing service pension & death benefits)
9. Approve Resolution for State of MN Joint Powers agreements
10. Council Minutes of February 18, 2016 (Workshop and Special Meeting)
11. Approve Serenity at Avon underground electric reconfiguration

**Motion by Councilor Springer to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilor Manthe. Motion passed unanimously.**

**COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

Renae Alcorn requested a variance of the two-dog ordinance so that they could take care of an elderly dog in hospice care. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to approve the variance of two-dog ordinance for Alcorns. Second by Councilor Springer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Dean Mielke discussed his interest in the building at 112 Avon Avenue S. He would like to eventually purchase the Lion's Den and then take the building down and use as a parking lot. Until then would like to preserve the building. **No action taken.**

Matt Imdieke discussed Avon Estates. Mr. Doll purchased a home in Waters Edge. While he receives many inquiries about lots in Avon Estates, the general buyer is looking for a ready to move in/built home due to high construction costs. Mr. Imdieke introduced Mr. Schneider who is interested in purchasing a number of lots in Avon Estates including Outlot C. Mr. Schneider is considering building a couple of spec homes. **No action taken.**

Discussion in regards to revising the Fire Service Contract to allow Avon Township to make their fire service payments one-half on June 1 and the second half on December 1 of each year rather than making one large payment. **Motion by Councilor Manthe to approve Resolution No. 2016-06 Amending an Agreement to Provide Rural Fire Protection Second by Councilor Meyer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion in regards to Rental Property Life Safety / Criminal Background. Chief Nellis offered more insight as to what this might involve. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to table until a new clerk/administrator is on staff. Second by Councilor Springer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Richard Bresnahan addressed the council and praised the Avon Fire Department for excellent service provision. He suggested that the council, along with Avon Township and Colleeville Township consider entering into a joint powers agreement and work toward the development of a fire district. Fire Hall space issues and the need for a need for a new fire hall were discussed. **No action taken.**

Rental Housing Study, along with update on hospitality study. No action needed.

Paul Eisenschenk, a realtor/developer, addressed the Council in regards to his vision for Avon Estates. He suggested a name change such as "Weston Hills on Avon". He also feels that the city should not sell the lots on "price only". Rather than attempting to liquidate them, perhaps offer one or two lots at a time for a reduced fee. **No action taken.**

Ruth Reichert, Rose Maidl and Ronald Zierden, children of Delores Zierden came to discuss their concerns with the City's deferred assessments on the WWTP and Wells projects. They took ownership of their mother's home in March 1 of 2002 via a life estate and claim not to have received notice of the assessments. Their mother had signed an assessment deferral and is now selling the home, making the assessment plus interest payable. Mayor Knox addressed Jodi Austing-Traut as she was the Clerk/Administrator at the time. Ms. Austing-Traut indicated that the assessment notices were mailed out to the person(s) listed on Stearns County's property tax statements. Jeff Manthe spoke in regards to his personal experience with deferred assessments. Ms. Reichert indicated that they had begun this process of finding out the assessment amounts approximately a year ago and were inadvertently given incorrect information by a former employee. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to reduce one year of interest on deferred assessment. Second by Councilor Manthe. Motion passed unanimously.**

Consider approval for Resolution 2016-04 for Park exchange Councilor Manthe requests that we are clear on which part of the sign/base will be moved and which will be left as is. **Motion by Councilor Springer to approve Resolution 2016-04 for the park exchange. Second by Councilor Manthe. Motion passed unanimously.**

Ron Luethmers potential purchase agreement. Not in attendance. No action needed at this time.

#### **ISSUES BY STAFF:**

Public Works Department – Casey Jansky, Public Works Director: Discussion as to which streets need sealcoating and that there is \$22,000 in grants that we received for this purpose. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to open up the bidding process for sealcoating on First Street SW , Linneman Lake Road and Chinook Avenue. Second by Councilor Manthe. Motion passed unanimously.** Discussion in regards to getting the air ducts cleaned in City Hall. Casey also offered information in regards to the trainings he has attended. The DNR contacted Casey in regards to replacing the middle spunk access. **Motion by Councilor Springer to proceed with rebuilding the boat access with assistance from DNR and Lange Trenching, Second Meyer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Police Department – Corey Nellis, Police Chief, refers to his written report. Corey asks when we can get the computer back that is currently in police evidence. Jesse Springer will stop in later this week to get it back up and running. Corey explains the extra police patrol last week after the threat. A bill will be submitted to the Albany School District for the extra patrol. While this was a negative situation it turned into a positive interaction. **No action needed.**

Water/Wastewater Department – Jon Forsell, Utilities Supervisor: discusses blower issues and repairs. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to pay Electric Motor Servies \$5400 for repairs to the blower motor. Second by Councilor Springer. Motion passed unanimously.** New flygt pump is in. Jon Forsell indicated that he would be receiving a wastewater operator's award from the MPCA.

Randy Jenniges updated the council on the street improvements being considered. Mr. Jenniges is planning to do a drive around with Councilor Meyer and Casey Jansky in the near future to prioritize street projects. Mr. Jenniges will report back to the council on their findings.

**OTHER –**

- Reschedule Janelle Kendall to May 2 to give her annual report.
- Suggestion to have Bob Derus attend next meeting.
- A special meeting was scheduled for March 16 @ 7 pm to discuss personnel, finance, and buildings.
- Discussion to pay Jodi the hourly rate at which she left in the interim. **Motion by Councilor Meyer to employ Jodi Austing-Traut on an on call and as needed basis. Second by Councilor Springer. Motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Councilor Manthe to adjourn the meeting at 8:58.p.m. Second by Councilor Meyer. Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kathryn Schulzetenberg, Deputy Clerk*