

MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
CITY OF BERLIN
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2018
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Mayor Schramer called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call present: Ald. Boeck, Erdmann, Harke, Lehr, Przybyl and Secora. Staff present: Lindsey Kemnitz, Scott Zabel, Matt Chier, Jodie Olson and Susan Thom.

Under public comments Daniel Hoppa, 235 S Wisconsin St., stated that his water and sewer bill had increased 300% since last year. Mayor Schramer asked if he had spoken to the Water Dept to resolve the issue and Hoppa responded he had not.

Kevin Behnke, lead auditor from Hawkins Ash, presented the 2017 audit results. Behnke stated that the audit process went well and the City of Berlin received an unqualified clean opinion on our books, which is the highest opinion that can be achieved. Behnke reported that the City's internal controls appear adequate for a City of its size. Behnke thanked the City Council and Jodie Olson and staff for all their hard work. Erdmann made a motion to recommend to Common Council to accept the 2017 Audit and place on file. Harke seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Next was 2019-2023 discussion on Garbage and Recycling request for proposals. Zabel asked if there were any changes council would like to see in the next contract. Secora asked to consider options for changing the recycling to once or twice a month. Schramer suggested looking into the potential for a drop site and elimination of the spring pickup. Zabel voiced concern over space for a drop site and manpower. Zabel stated the 2018 spring pickup cost was an increase of \$23,500 from the previous year. Secora made a motion to recommend directing the staff to send our RFP's for weekly curbside pickup for a garbage and recycling contract effective January 1, 2019-December 31, 2023 and to include an option for additional pick up options in conjunction with the spring pick-up. Harke seconded the motion with carried by voice vote.

Next was P&L Insurance renewal. Jodie Olson reviewed that our annual property and liability insurance renewal is due 07/23/2018. The City currently carries \$6 million in coverage through EMC Insurance with the Diedrich Agency. The 07/23/17-07/23/18 premium paid to EMC was \$214,121 with a 17% workman's comp dividend. EMC quoted a renewal for 07/23/18-07/23/19 at \$203,319 with a 17% flat workman's comp dividend. Our workman's compensation modification factor decreased from a 1.09 to 1.05 from last year. Travelers Insurance quoted a \$204,630 premium. Olson stated that approximately 20% of the insurance bill is passed onto the Water and Sewer Utility. Olson recommendation is to renew with EMC thru our local agent who we have been with since 2006. Erdmann made a motion to recommend to Common Council to accept and approve the renewal quote of \$203,319 from EMC Insurance for Property and Liability Insurance for policy year 07/23/18-07/23/19. Secora seconded the motion, which carried by voice vote.

Next was the League of WI Municipalities Dark Store Elimination Campaign. Daniel Hoppa, 235 N Wisconsin St, stated that each time the City of Berlin gives or grants money to these commercial entities the burden shifts to the taxpayers. Hoppa stated the funds come from the taxpayers and he doesn't feel that is justifiable. Jodie Olson explained that the League of Wisconsin Municipalities is not a commercial entity and that the City of Berlin belongs to League of Wisconsin Municipalities organization. Olson

reviewed that the City of Berlin received a request from the League asking for financial support in the campaign to combat the Dark Store and Walgreens loopholes in WI tax law. The League is requesting a minimum contribution of \$1,200 from each community to help fight the cause. The league is withdrawing \$75,000 from their reserves for this effort. Olson state that many municipalities are passing resolutions urging the legislature to close these loopholes to avoid shifting the tax burden from commercial to residential. Harke made a motion to draft a resolution to support the Dark Store Elimination campaign and send a copy to Luther Olsen and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities. Secora seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

At 7:45 p.m. Secora moved to convene into closed session pursuant to Sec 19.85 (1)(e), of the WI Statutes, to deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public property, investment of public funds or conduct other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session . (*EMS Contract with Theda-Care-CHN*). Przybyl seconded the motion. A roll call resulted in six (6) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) absent. Motion passed.

Secora moved to reconvene into open session at 8:03 p.m. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote. No action was taken as a result of closed session discussions.

Secora moved to adjourn. Harke seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Susan Thom, Deputy Clerk