

The special meeting of the Bromley Council began at 7:30 P.M. with a pledge to the flag.

Officers answering to roll call: Gail Smith, Dixie Meyer, Mayor Jobe, Charlie Foulks, Nancy Kienker and Bob France. Tim Wartman is absent.

The items on the agenda to be discussed are:

- 1) First reading of the ordinance to remove a budgeted item
- 2) 214 Pleasant Street
- 3) Personnel/City contract

FIRST READING OF THE ORDINANCE TO REMOVE A BUDGET ITEM

Foulks asked if the City owned a bobcat. Mayor Jobe replied, "no".

Foulks asked if we were under any obligation up to this point to purchase a bobcat. Mayor Jobe replied, "no".

Foulks asked if any process had begun to buy a bobcat. Mayor Jobe replied, "no".

The Attorney read Ordinance 7-1-16 for the first time. This ordinance amends the 2016-17 budget to remove a budgeted item.

Smith stated that she has prepared and sent a copy of the proposed amended budget to the Council and the Mayor. A citizen has brought to Smith's attention that figures in the "difference" column of the budget are incorrect and minor changes need to be made to correct this error. She wanted to make everyone aware of this matter.

Kienker wants to clarify that \$35,000.00 was preapproved for a bobcat in the original budget passed by this Council. If Council amends the budget the bobcat is not going to be purchased. If the ordinance does not pass the line item for the bobcat will still be in the budget and up for purchase. Kienker hopes that Council understands the magnitude of adopting this amended ordinance which takes away the original decision that all members made together. Kienker just wants clarification. This is a decision that should not be taken lightly.

Foulks stated that a first and second reading of this ordinance is required. If the ordinance is approved the \$35,000.00 will be removed as a line item for the bobcat but can be put back into the budget for another use. Foulks said to see how the vote on the ordinance goes. If the ordinance goes down we can get rid of it.

The Mayor stated that if the first reading passes the ordinance goes to a second reading, then has to be published. The \$35,000.00 to purchase the bobcat will be removed from the budget.

Meyer stated that, with the knowledge shared by Attorney Vocke, a first and second reading is required. If the ordinance is approved the Mayor has the power to veto Council's decision. She feels that, if the Mayor vetoes the decision, the entire process has become a waste of time.

Mayor Jobe does not want the matter to come to a veto. He would like to have some further discussion and obtain people's feelings in regards to this matter.

Meyer was given a copy of a spreadsheet prepared by the Mayor in regards to projected bobcat rental fees that could possibly be charged for future projects in Bromley. Mayor Jobe stated that if Bromley continues with projects \$16,000.00-\$20,000.00 in rental equipment fees could be incurred. Part of the State contract for the Main Street project states that State-authorized engineers must do the work or it can be done in-house. Paul Bledsoe is not a State-authorized contractor.

The Mayor informed Meyer (when asked if a true analysis had been done in regards to contractor fees) that, based on linear footage, as much as \$170,000-\$180,000 could be spent based on State bid pricing for sidewalks alone (Main Street Project-which will have to be discussed at a later date as it is not on tonight's agenda). Meyer stated that Bromley would still have to pay for concrete, labor and insurance. The Mayor stated that pricing has to be approved, an engineer has to sign off, plans have to be submitted and then jobs must go out for bidding or use in-house workers. KDOT 6 suggested to the Mayor that in-house help would be the best avenue to pursue.

Kienker stated that a bobcat can be used to remove trees, tear out sidewalks, etc.

France stated that a bobcat can be used to move gravel, dirt, etc. but not to remove any houses. The Mayor agrees. Other equipment, along with a bobcat, would be required to remove an entire house. The Mayor stated that Bledsoe uses a bobcat with an attachment to do curb and sidewalk work.

Foulks moves to accept the first reading of Ordinance 7-1-16. France seconds. (A no vote is required to keep the original budget. A yes vote is required to approve this amended budget removing a line item). Roll call: Kienker-no, Smith-no, France-yes, Meyer-yes (would like to have an open discussion regarding this matter), Foulks-yes. The motion carried.

Foulks would like for the Mayor to go over future plans in regards to bobcat uses (not tearing down houses).

The Mayor stated that the second reading of Ordinance 7-1-16 would take place on August 3, 2016, the next regular Council meeting. Foulks suggests that the second reading of this ordinance be held on the Saturday following the August 3rd. meeting. After some discussion it was decided to read Ordinance 7-1-16 for the second time at the August Council meeting.

Smith stated that Council should take into consideration a valid point brought up by Kienker in an email letter that if equipment is rented and bad weather takes place the rented equipment has been paid for but cannot be used. Meyer agrees with this but still has questions.

The Mayor has drawn up some conservative, rough estimate, time frames for use of rental equipment that he would like for Council to review.

Kienker stated that having our own bobcat for improvements to the City would be a benefit for all of the people and our children as well. A bobcat will be here longer than any of us. There are so many little projects that a bobcat could be used for now and in the future.

Meyer asks if a backhoe would not be a better piece of equipment for the City to purchase as opposed to bobcat. The Mayor said that a backhoe is a huge piece of equipment and only a couple of attachments can be used with a backhoe.

The Mayor stated that if we rent the bobcat for Main Street the rental fees will come out of the grant money project fund. Kienker asked why some members of Council were opposed to purchasing the bobcat.

France would like more justification for the purchase of a bobcat. He stated that the bobcat could not be used to tear down houses. The Mayor stated that a track hoe would have to be used to remove the house. A bucket grapple would then be used to pick up the debris and put it into a dumpster. France was not as much opposed to making this kind of investment. He felt that discussions to purchase a bobcat were done around Council instead of including Council and that Council was being neglected. He would like no more back-office discussions. France said that he was to blame for not going over the budget items that listed special project costs. He would like for everyone to work together and move forward in a positive direction. Meyer and Kienker agree.

The Mayor feels that the current Council has put more money back into the City than any other in the past. He will answer any questions from any Council member.

The Attorney suggests that Council return to the regular order of business.

PERSONNEL AND CITY CONTRACTS

The Mayor suggests that the Council consider consolidating jobs such as cutting grass, snow removal, planting of flowers and mulch, etc. into one entity. He proposes hiring an employee (possibly a second Public works employee) to do these types of jobs. He suggests that Council put out for bids for the jobs that he has mentioned, hiring this independent contractor and paying a monthly salary. This person will be given designated jobs and a time frame for completion of these jobs. (An annual salary of \$24,000.00 was put out there as an example to be paid by the month). This has been a topic of discussion at the Mayor's meetings and Ft. Wright is going to pursue this matter. Mr. Hamant was told that this person would be an independent contractor and would be responsible for hiring his or her own employees for assistance with the jobs. They would also be required to use their own equipment. Council members feel that this is a good idea and worth looking into further.

Smith moves that Council go into executive session to discuss 214 Pleasant Street. Meyer seconds. Roll call: all aye. The motion carried (8:14 P.M.)

Smith moves to go out of executive session. Kienker seconds. Roll call: all aye. The motion carried (this motion recorded by Meyer).

Smith moves to allow the Mayor to offer \$4,000.00 for the purchase of the property located at 214 Pleasant Street and to be permitted to sign any documentation necessary to complete the purchase. France seconds. Roll call: all aye. The motion carried.

Smith moves to adjourn. Meyer seconds. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 P.M.

MAYOR _____ CLERK _____

