

**City of Cologne
October 20, 2014**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regularly scheduled council meeting was held on Monday, October 20, 2014 at the Cologne Community Center. Mayor Matt Lein, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers Scott Williams, Kyle Evenski, Don Meyer and Jeff McInnis were present. City Administrator John Hendel, and Deputy Clerk Sue Mueller were present.

ADOPT AGENDA

Motion by Evenski, seconded by McInnis to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA

- a) October 6, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes
- b) October 14, 2014 - October 20, 2014 Expenditures
- c) October 7, 2014 Payroll
- d) Cologne Lions Club, December 13, 2014 Temporary Liquor License
- e) Assessment Hearing Delinquent Utility Bills November 17, 2014 7:30 PM

Motion by Meyer, seconded by McInnis to adopt the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

VISITORS PRESENTATIONS, PETITION AND CORRESPONDENCE

COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Silver Leaf Flour Planters

City Administrator John Hendel updated the Council on five businesses that were very interested in participating in the Silver Leaf Flour Planters. All were willing to pay for a planter that would cost between \$275 and \$300. Councilmember Jeff McInnis stated he would rather wait until next year. Council decided to table at this time.

Motion by Williams, seconded by McInnis to table the Silver Leaf Flour Planter proposal. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Benton Lake Lights

City Administrator John Hendel requested the Council approve a light be installed at Benton Lake due to the city's ice skating rink being moved from the west side of the Cologne Fire Department to Benton Lake. The cost to install the light is \$1,644.

Motion by Meyer, seconded by McInnis to approve the purchase of lights for Benton Lake. Motion passed unanimously.

BOARD REPORTS

a) Review Utility Billing Collection Process

Deputy Clerk Sue Mueller reported there have been changes in the utility billing collection. In the past the disconnects were not done until the bill was over 90 days late and over \$100, this resulted in some bills that were over \$300-\$400, but not over the 90 days not getting notification of a disconnect. As a result some residents realized they could go a long period of time without having to make a payment. When the 90 day notice was sent out after the 15th within 7 days the utility billing person was billing again for another 30 days, so in reality by the time a notice was sent out they were over 120 days late.

The utility billing person is now sending out a friendly reminder notice after 30 days late and disconnect notice after 60 days, with 20 days given to pay before action would be considered.

This has resulted in a decrease in the amount of accounts at year end that need to be assessed again taxes.


ANNOUNCEMENTS

Administrator Hendel reported that a local bar/restaurant owner stated that due to the Hollanders having night games he has had an increase in business during the summer months.

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion by Evenski, seconded by McInnis to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Mueller, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:



Matt Lein, Mayor