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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFTON CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF AFTON  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**APPROVED** City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2018  
Afton City Hall  
3033 St. Croix Trail  
Afton, MN 55001  
7:00 P.M.

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1. **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Richard Bend
2. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – was recited.
3. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Richard Bend, Council Members Palmquist, Richter, Ross, Nelson. **Quorum Present.**
- ALSO PRESENT:** Nick Guilliams (City Engineer), City Administrator Ron Moorse, City Attorney Fritz Knaak, Planning Commission Chair Kris Kopitzke.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA –**  
**Motion/Second Ross/Bend to approve agenda. Passed 5-0**
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
A. Minutes of October 16, 2018 Regular City Council meeting  
**Motion/Second Bend/Ross to approve minutes of October 16, 2018. Passed 5-0.**
6. **PUBLIC INPUT –**  
Tom Gasser 4220 River Rd.; stated that his variance request is up for review tonight for his house remodel.
7. **REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS -**  
A. Sheriff's Monthly Report  
No report  
B. Tom Niedzwiecki, Budget Report (taken out of order)  
Tom provided an overview of the monthly financial reports. Funding has been received from Washington County for the sheriff's garage (\$100,000).  
C. Lower St. Croix Fire District Report  
1. Recognition of Jim Stanley's 40 years of service – **Resolution 2018-50**  
**Motion/Second Palmquist/Richter to approve resolution 2018-50 recognizing Jim Stanley for his 40 years of dedicated service to the city of Afton as a member of the Lower St. Croix Valley Fire Department. Roll Call: All Aye, Passed 5-0.**
8. **CONSENT AGENDA**  
A. Just and Correct Claims  
B. 4M Fund Transfer – October – **Resolution 2018-51**  
**Motion/Second Palmquist/Ross to approve Resolution 2018-51 approving 4M Fund transfers for October. Roll Call: All Aye, Passed 5-0**
9. **CITY COUNCIL BUISINESS**  
A. **Planning Commission Report** – (PC report & Draft PC minutes)  
Chair Kopitzke provided a summary of the November meeting.

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1. Tom Gasser Variance Application at 4220 River Road – Resolution 2018-52  
Planning Commission recommended approval of the 4 variances requested.  
Council member Ross asked about screening (discussed at PC and decided to leave up to applicant to do. Rule is you’re not supposed to see the house from middle of the river in summer.)  
Administrator Moorse stated that they aren’t taking out trees. The plan meets DNR requirements for color. Existing garage door is white.  
**Motion/Second Richter/ Bend To approve Resolution 2018-52 approving the Tom Gasser variance application at 4220 River Road with the addition of condition requiring painting the exiting garage door an earth tone color. Roll call vote: All Aye, passed 5-0**

**B. Engineering Report** – (Engineer Staff Report & Council Update)  
No report

**C. Administration** –

1. Building Inspection Services Contract Renewal – Resolution 2018-52  
The fee schedule for the inspection services is to remain unchanged, with the exception that, rather than a flat fee of \$110.00 for a swimming pool permit, the fee is proposed to be based on the value of the project, similar to permits for other structures.  
Council member Richter asked about the swimming pool fee. If based on value, the cost for a permit could go way up. Discussion was held over cost for fee and structure. Richter would like to see city portion not go up.  
Mayor Bend asked how our fees compare with surrounding community fees? (Woodbury higher, small communities less). Also when our fees were last reviewed? (3yrs ago). Perhaps time to review again.  
**Motion/Second Palmquist/Nelson to approve Resolution 2018-52 approving the renewal of the contract for building inspection services with Stensland Inspection Services for a period of three years, expiring on December 31, 2021. Roll call all aye, passed 5-0**
2. Liquor License Renewals for 2019 Afton St Croix Co, Afton House Inn.  
**Motion/Second Ross/Bend To approve the 2019 Liquor License renewals for BJS Restaurants LLC dba The Lumberyard Pub, by Scott Dahl and the Afton St. Croix Co DBA Afton House Inn, by Gordy Jarvis. Passed 5-0**
3. Thorn Butler Concerns Regarding Drainage and Legal issues  
Mr Butler was not present. No action taken
4. Pay Voucher No. 18 from Geislinger for the Downtown Village Improvement Project  
**Motion/Second Ross/ Palmquist to approve payment of Pay Voucher No. 18 from Geislinger and Sons, Inc. for the Downtown Village Improvement Project in the amount of \$74,085.43. Passed 5-0**
5. Process for Verification of Completion of the CenturyLink High Speed Internet Access Project Valley Creek Trail area  
Council member Ross stated that the work should be done by spring/summer of next year. Penfield is another area CenturyLink is aware. Last time we ran a request for feedback in the newsletter which worked well. He also has contact email addresses for customers on Valley Creek. 10 mb still minimum speed; should be able to get 40 mb for \$45.  
**Motion/Second Ross/Nelson To authorize payment to CenturyLink when Valley Creek and Penfield area households are up and running with high speed internet. Passed 5-0**
6. Federal Land and Water Conservation fund Program Reauthorization – Resolution 2018-54

106 Council member Palmquist stated that the resolution supports the permanent reauthorization and full  
107 funding of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. The Land and Water Conservation Fund  
108 provides funding for open spaces, trails, and recreation facilities, and has funded all or a portion of  
109 Steamboat Park and Afton State Park.

110 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Ross To adopt resolution 2018-54 supporting the permanent**  
111 **reauthorization and full funding of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund.**  
112 **Roll call: All aye, passed 5-0**

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114 7. Establishing New Funds – Resolution 2018-55

115 **Motion/Second Bend/Nelson To adopt resolution 2018-55 establishing six new Funds:**

116 **Fund 122 Bridge Replacement Fund**

117 **Fund 410 Sanitary Sewer**

118 **Fund 560 Special Activities Other**

119 **Fund 726 2017B Road Debt Service**

120 **Fund 806 PFA Loan Debt Service**

121 **Fund 807 Downtown Temporary Improvement Debt Service**

122 **Roll Call: All Aye, Passed 5-0**

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124 8. Schedule Work Session

125 A Work Session will be scheduled in early December.

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127 **D. Committee Reports**

128 1. Public Works – no report

129 2. Personnel – no report

130 3. Parks – no report

131 4. Heritage Preservation Commission / Design Review – canceled Oct meeting

132 5. Natural Resources and Groundwater – focus on well testing next summer

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134 **10. COUNCIL, CONSULTANT, AND STAFF REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND UPDATES**

135 A. Ward 1 Council Member Palmquist – no report

136 B. Ward 2 Council Member Richter – no report

137 C. Ward 3 Council Member Ross – no report

138 D. Ward 4 Council Member Nelson – no report

139 E. Mayor Bend – no report

140 F. City Attorney Knaak – legal representation question regarding Tom Radio representing a client in Afton.

141 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Richter to give affirmative consent to Tom Radio to represent a client in**  
142 **Afton. 4-0-1 (Nelson abstain)**

143 G. City Administrator Moorse – no report

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145 **11. ADJOURN**

146 **Motion/Second Bend/Ross to adjourn.**

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148 Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm Passed 5-0

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151 Respectfully submitted by:

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Julie Yoho, City Clerk

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157 Approved by Council December 18, 2018 as (check one): Presented:   x   Amended: \_\_\_\_\_

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Mayor Richard Bend\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_