

**CITY OF NEW STRAWN  
SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday, March 18, 2020**

Present: Mayor Mark Petterson

Council Members: Jeanne Haas, Gary Haehn, and Jim Weeks

Present by Phone: Rhonda Taylor

Not Present: Richard Croll

Staff Present: Steven Dwight, Maintenance; Joni Hernandez, City Clerk; Tom Robrahn, City Attorney

**Call to Order:** Mayor Mark Petterson called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

The council discussed steps to move forward after City Superintendent Ron Parkey's retirement effective March 31, 2020.

They asked Steven Dwight for his input. It was a consensus that Steven will combine his current position and duties as Maintenance Worker II with the City Superintendent job duties with minor changes. City Attorney Tom Robrahn will work on combining the job descriptions and recommend a new job title to be reviewed at the April meeting.

There was discussion regarding adding a part-time employee versus a new full-time employee. Steven noted a new trailer will be need to be discussed when equipment requests are made at budget time. Some future repair jobs may need to be contracted out.

Haas moved, seconded by Weeks, to approve advertising for a Temporary Seasonal Laborer to work approximately 25 hours per week from May through August with a start date of May 4 and Steven Dwight to become director effective April 1, 2020. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Haehn moved, seconded by Taylor, for the City of New Strawn to advertise for the Temporary Seasonal Laborer position for approximately 25 hours per week at an hourly wage of \$12.00. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Council Member Weeks left the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Haehn moved, seconded by Haas, to pay Steven Dwight for new position with title to be determined and offer a rate of \$20.00 per hour effective April 1, 2020. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Work session scheduled for Thursday, March 26, 2020 at 4 p.m. at City Hall.

Taylor moved, seconded by Haas, to go into executive session at 4:52 for five minutes to discuss contract salary of non-elected personnel. **Motion carried 3-0.**

Steven Dwight and Joni Hernandez left City Hall for five minutes.

Council returned to regular session at 4:57 p.m.

Taylor moved, seconded by Haas, to pay a retirement bonus of \$250.00 to Ron Parkey for his 17 years of service as City Superintendent. **Motion carried 2-1.**

There was discussion regarding Steven's cell phone and whether he will use his personal phone with City paying a stipend or keep using his work phone. No action taken. Tabled.

**Mayor Petterson adjourned the meeting at 5:09 p.m.**