

City Council Meeting Minutes (Approved)
January 14, 2008

Present at the meeting: Kim Ebnet, Mike Odden, Lloyd Rausch, Dick Paggen, Ernie Schmit, Vicki Statz, Louise Winkler, Milt Eiden, Gordon Sjaenheim, Pam Voss, Sue Marstein, Christy Marstein, Deb Meier, Pat Meier, Annie Philippi, Jackie Hadley.

Mayor Ernie Schmit called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Checks were approved on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF

Approval of minutes from December, 2007 was made on a motion by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Liquor store report was given by manager Pat Meier. Coming events for the Liquor store: Jan. 25th, Music; February, Bar Bingo.

		January, 2008	LIQUOR STORE REPORT	
		GROSS RECEIPTS		
DECEMBER	2007	\$ 31,619.39	GROSS RECEIPTS	\$ 31,619.39
NOVEMBER	2007	\$ 30,397.02		
DECEMBER	2006	\$ 27,791.85	PREVIOUS GROSS	\$ 325,851.84
Lottery'07 December		\$ 442.58	'07 GROSS	\$ 357,471.23
'07 YTD		\$ 5,393.96	07 EXPENSES	\$ 359,648.53
			PROFIT/(LOSS)	(2,177.30)
GT BANK		\$ 10,995.49	NET PROFIT LOTTERY	\$ 5,393.96
			BAND REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 1,333.00
			GARDEN CLUB REIMBURSE	\$ 82.50
'06 CD	\$10,000	'07 CD \$10,000	TOTAL PROFIT (LOSS)	\$ 4,632.16
'07 Inventory	\$44,555.48	'06 Inventory	\$41,096.43	

Fire Department report was given by Chief Pat Meier. The Fire Department truck fund has a balance of \$16,238.47 which includes a \$5,000 donation in December, 2007 from the Relief Association. Annual fire board meeting will be Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at 7 p.m. here at the city center. Chief Meier requested a resolution from the council to renew the gambling license for the Fire Relief Association at the Municipal Liquor Store. Resolution 08-01-14-01 was passed on a motion by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Pat said he was re-elected fire chief by the Fire Department. Kim requested to see a copy of the Fire Department's bylaws. Relief election of officers will be at their February meeting.

Lloyd Rausch rescinded his motion on accepting the minutes from the December, 2007 meeting, seconded by Mike Odden. A change in the minutes was made under the Fire Department section. It will read, "The Holdingford Fire and Rescue Department will be given an award." Motion with correction was made by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF The award the Fire Department received was the "Link to the Community Award" from the Life Link Helicopter service for their professionalism and creativity in getting an injured person on board a helicopter last September. This award was presented to them on Thursday evening, 6:30 p.m. during their regular meeting.

Resolution 08-01-14-02 to commend the Holdingford Fire Department for receiving the "Link to the Community Award" for their professionalism and creativity in getting an injured person on board a helicopter was made on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Mayor's report was given. See end of minutes for complete details.

Old Business

HCSP through the State of Minnesota (Health Care Savings Plan) was discussed by the council. It was decided on a motion by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Mike Odden to have 5% of each full and part time employees salary put into the HCSP as well as the payout of employees allotted sick leave (1/2 of their sick leave) upon retirement will also be put into the HCSP. AIF Resolution 08-01-14-03 was made to this effect. These changes will be put into our Personnel Manual effective immediately.

CD 21056 Maintenance Equip Fund is maturing the end of January. Lloyd Rausch made a motion to transfer \$44,142.22 from this CD to General account to cover the cost of roof repair of city center, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF.

Dick Paggen made a motion, seconded by Mike Odden to start a new Building fund by putting in it the Fire Department's 2008 budgeted portion of the roof repair (\$15,000) as it becomes available. AIF The rest of the Fire Department's portion (\$7,940) will be budgeted into their 2009 budget and transferred into the Building account as it becomes available also. Total of the Fire Department's portion of the roof repair is \$22,940.

Mike gave an explanation of the snow removal procedure that the maintenance crew does to clear the sidewalks and streets.

New Business

Bar compliance checks were done during the month of December by Stearns County. The council commended the HMLS for passing its compliance check, with special recognition to Annie Philippi who was bartending at the time. TKs Restaurant failed the compliance check. The city council will wait to see if Stearns County will prosecute this non compliance before the city proceeds with following its ordinance procedure. This was tabled on a motion by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Liquor Store profitability was discussed. Mayor Schmit asked the council for its ideas. Bartenders that were at the meeting were also asked for their ideas. After much discussion, Mike Odden made a motion, seconded by Kim Ebnet that the Liquor Store must have an average monthly profit of \$1,400 over the next 4 months, (January, February, March, April). If not, the council will either shut down the Liquor Store or get a whole new staff. Kim Ebnet, Mike Odden, Dick Paggen, Lloyd Rausch voted yes, Ernie Schmit voted no.

Schedule of fees was discussed. See changes on the 2008 Fee schedule listing at the end of these minutes.

Keeping the dog licenses the same was made on a motion by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Other changes: Trailer court clarification is \$23.00 for water and \$23.00 for sewer for each unit;
Sewer Rates 100% of water rates except during the months of June, July, August. These three months the sewer rate will be 50% of the water rate over the minimum usage.

Reconnection Fee was changed from \$25 to \$50.

Snow bird rates stayed at \$20/month during the months these residents are gone.

Election judges was changed to \$10/hr for judges, \$12/hr for head judges.

Mileage changed to .50/mile.

Kim Ebnet made a motion to have these rates changed, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Changes on the Liquor license fees will be heard at a public hearing in February before the regular February council meeting.

Accepting the Stearns County Sheriff's contract for 2008 was made on a motion by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF Fee is \$40/hour with 12 hours per week, the same as in 2007.

Tree trimming along Veteran's Park fence will be done by Cougar Tree Service (Bryan Young). A motion by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Dick Paggen to have him trim 12-16 trees for a cost of \$650-\$750 plus tax. AIF

MCFOA (Municipal Clerks and Financial Officers Association) annual conference in Alex for the city clerk to attend was approved on a motion by Dick Paggen, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF This conference is in March.

There will be a League of Stearns County Cities meeting here in Holdingford, Tuesday Jan. 15, 2008 starting at 6:30 p.m. with a meal followed by the meeting at 7:15 p.m. The council and city clerk are encouraged to attend.

The council accepted Herman's retirement date of October 31, 2008. They will be conducting a search for a replacement by this spring so there will be time for Herman to train in the new person. Ernie will call the MN Rural Water Association for help in defining what exactly we should be looking for as a replacement for Herman.

Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District annual dues for Holdingford is \$500. The city received matching grant \$s from them for abandoning Old Old Well #1 in 2007. Mike Odden made a motion, seconded by Kim Ebnet to pay this annual fee. AIF

Kim Ebnet made a motion to transfer \$50,000 from our General account to the Select PF General reserve account, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF

Ernie noted that the city received a reimbursement from LMC Insurance this year of \$5,570.

A motion to suspend the regular council meeting to go into a closed session was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF

After resuming the regular meeting a motion was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Kim Ebnet to approve Pam Voss (assistant bar manager) being moved from step 3 to step 4; Vicki Statz (city clerk) being moved from step 3 to step 4. AIF

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Ernie Schmit, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Statz, city clerk.