

City Council Meeting Minutes (Approved)
November 13, 2007

Present at the meeting: Kim Ebnet, Mike Odden, Lloyd Rausch, Dick Paggen, Ernie Schmit, Vicki Statz, Louise Winkler, Louis Walz, Don Elfering, Melyssa Sakry, Jeanette May.

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

Kim Ebnet made a motion to pay bills, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Lloyd Rausch made a motion to accept the October 9, 2007 minutes, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

Mayor Schmit gave the Liquor Store report in the absence of Manager Pat Meier. There are two upcoming events for the Liquor Store, Nov. 23rd there will be live music; Nov. 24th will be a Game Day. All are welcome to come and participate.

		November, 2007	LIQUOR STORE REPORT	
		GROSS RECEIPTS		
OCTOBER	2007	\$ 29,043.15	GROSS RECEIPTS	\$ 29,043.15
SEPTEMBER	2007	\$ 28,122.71		
OCTOBER	2006	\$ 27,063.35	PREVIOUS GROSS	\$ 266,411.67
Lottery'07 October		\$ 497.10	'07 GROSS	\$ 295,454.82
'07 YTD		\$ 4,513.21	07 EXPENSES	\$ 301,280.67
			PROFIT/(LOSS)	(5,825.85)
GT BANK		\$ 10,557.32	NET PROFIT LOTTERY	\$ 4,513.21
			BAND REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 1,333.00
'06 CD	\$10,000	'07 CD \$10,000	TOTAL PROFIT (LOSS)	\$ 20.36

Mayor Schmit gave the Fire Department report in the absence of Fire Chief, Pat Meier. There has been 78 calls so far this year, seven for the month of October. The truck fund has \$11, 208.98 including interest. There is a \$40,000 CD for the Fire Department also. The gambling manager duties are being shifted to Dave Yurczyk. On November 29th the Fire Department will be canvassing the city, going door to door asking if the residents have a good working smoke detector. If they do not, one is available FREE of charge. These smoke detectors were purchased to fill out a grant given to the Fire Department. Anyone who does not have a smoke detector is welcome to get one

Payroll for the Fire Department will be cut off as of November 30th so salaries can be paid out in December.

Mayor Schmit gave his report. See the end of the minutes for complete details.

Old Business

There was discussion on the water/sewer snow bird rates that was established in the January, 2007 Schedule of Charges list. Several of the "snow birds" have felt that doubling the rate from \$10/month to \$20/month charge was too much. The city clerk did a short review of the neighboring cities as to what they charge their "snow birds." The \$20 rate is on the low end of the three other cities called. The city has to maintain the operation whether or not people are here for the winter. The mayor asked the council if this should be reduced to \$12 or \$15/month. Dick Paggen rescinded his motion from back in January. Kim Ebnet did not second the rescind. The \$20/month rate stands in effect for those "snow birds" leaving Holdingford during the winter. As it stands now, the option of "snow birds" having their water turned off for a \$25 fee is available to them.

Melyssa Sakry talked to the council about barking dogs in her neighborhood. The city has a noise ordinance against habitually barking dogs and dogs barking outside after 10 p.m. Anyone who believes a neighbors dog is in this category, will need to contact the city clerk at 746-2966 so a letter may be sent to the offending dog's owner.

Attorney Paul Ampe sent a letter to the city requesting a split of Bias property. The area of land in the city limits owned by Bias' allows for the split according to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning laws. R58.33516.000 was approved for split by Resolution 07-11-13-01 a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF

Summer Rec program for the area children was discussed. A motion to approve \$3,000 to help pay for this program was made by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

The Initiative Foundation has a grant available to the City of Holdingford for \$10,000 to be used for programs and community development. A motion was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Lloyd Rausch to allow the city to apply for this \$10,000 grant. AIF

LUCA (Local Update of Census Addresses) will begin late 2007 and on into the early part of 2008. Mayor Schmit asked the council for extra hours for Vicki Statz, city clerk and Kathy O'Hara, utility worker to do this addressing verification. Accurate addressing is necessary as it will affect the city for the next ten year cycle for LGA (Local Government Aid). Lloyd Rausch made a motion to allow extra hours, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Speed study for downtown Holdingford and south of Holdingford on Co. Rd. 9 was discussed. There is a process the city has to go through before speed limits can be changed. The city must request the county for this change, who in turn requests the State Highway commissioner for this area. If the State highway agrees, then a study needs to be done for these areas. Kim brought up the issue of who has to pay for this study. Mayor Schmit will talk to the county to see what costs would be involved. It was suggested that maybe the city could rent an electronic speed indicator (such as was in Avon). Herman is to see if they have one available. Mayor Schmit will check with the county as to the cost of a speed study.

Resolution 07-11-13-02 thanking the Lioness Club for their help in redoing all the play equipment at Veteran's Park this past summer was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Dick Paggen. AIF

A big thank you to the Commercial Club for donating finances from Holdingford Daze to purchase two infant safety swings for down at Veteran's Park. It is very much appreciated by the city.

Time sheets were discussed. The council got clarification on winter/summer hours for our utility worker. There are more summer hours because of extra cleaning and extra duties when any of the other city employees are on vacation. She fills in where needed. Her winter hours are less because of less bathrooms to be cleaned on a weekly basis and less vacation time by other city employees.

There is a Health Care Savings Plan available to city employees through the State of Minnesota. The city clerk attended a seminar where this was explained. The council went through this Plan. It was decided by the council that at the time an employee retires, all of the compensatory time that has accumulated for that employee, up to 40 hours, will be put into this plan. The employee will have the option to put his/her sick leave available at the time of retirement, (a maximum of 120 hours), into this plan. All vacation time available to the employee at the time of their retirement, the employee will have the option of putting into their HCSP. The city and employee both benefit from this plan since no taxes are paid on the money that goes into this plan.

The city's Personnel Manual Sections 4, 6, 7, 9, 11 and Appendix A was updated by the council.

Resolution 07-11-13-03 thanking the Garden Club, Pedals to Petals, for their beautification of the city this past summer and fall was made on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF

Louis Walz brought up the item of the abandoned well property R58.33728.500/001 to be given back to parcel # R58.33728.000/001. This parcel of property, 45' x 25' of Lot 5, Block 2, Townsite of Wardville is the location of Old Well #1. The city clerk will be getting this information to the city attorney. This was tabled until such time as the attorney has looked over papers brought in by Mr. Walz.

Dick Paggen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF Meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Victoria Statz, City Clerk