

City Council Meeting Minutes (Approved)  
May 10, 2010

Present at the meeting: Kim Ebnet, Mike Odden, Lloyd Rausch, Susan Marstein, Ernie Schmit, Pat Meier, Vicki Statz, Scott Lange, Louise Winkler Travis and Sheila Lenarz.

Mayor Ernie Schmit called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to approve checks was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Motion to approve bank reconciliation was made by Lloyd Rausch seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF

Motion to approve electronic transfers, debit card purchases was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF

Motion to approve minutes of the April 12, 2010 regular council meeting was made by Lloyd Rausch, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF

Mayor Ernie Schmit gave his mayor's report. See end of minutes for details.

Scott Lange gave the council an update on the water/sewer/street project. There will be three separate bids, one on the street and utility project, one for the waste water plant upgrade and one for water meter replacement. All the water meters in our city will be replaced. Some of them are very old and may not be accurately recording the amount of water used. There was also discussion doing streets with asphalt or cement. The cost is very comparative right now. Discussion on storm sewers/drainage also took place.

Dan Fiedler discussed with the council our liquor liability insurance premium. Our current insurer will not re-insure because of an open case. Dan found one carrier willing to write our insurance and he is also looking at the LMC (League of Minnesota Cities) as a possibility.

Motion to go with lowest bid for liability insurance for the liquor store was made by Sue Marstein, seconded by Kim Ebnet. AIF

Surfsota contract with the city is coming up for renewal by October, 2010. The council saw the new proposal sent by Steve Woller of Surfsota. Discussion points and possible changes with the contract were pointed out. There will be more on this at the June meeting.

Pat Meier gave the Liquor Store report. They had a Game Day last Friday that went very well, having 11 teams. They grossed over \$2,900 for this game day. They will be open Sunday, May 16, 2010 for the NASCAR races.

Gross revenue for the month of April was \$27,146.75, bringing the total YTD to \$111,265.99. YTD Lottery proceeds are \$1,301.81. Expenses YTD are \$116,918.83 leaving the Liquor Store account in the negative of \$4,351.03. A new one year \$10,000 CD was purchased with Lottery proceeds this month.

There is free internet "hot spot" at the Liquor Store. You can bring in your laptop and have free internet.

Fire Department report was given by Fire Chief Pat Meier. There have been 25 calls so far this year; 9 for Brockway; 6 for Holding; 2 for Krain; 8 for City of Holdingford. Current truck fund balance is \$97,508.73. Pat talked about warranting the pagers the F.D. uses, but not the radios. Cost for the pagers would be about \$2/pager. Radios to warranty are more expensive. They will be applying for a FEMA grant to purchase air packs, a DNR 50/50 grant for hose for the new fire truck that is being built for Holdingford.

He asked the council for clarification on firefighter training payment. Motion was made by Ernie Schmit, seconded by Mike Odden that when a firefighter does not pass tests for all mandatory training classes as prescribed, the person is immediately dismissed. AIF

Pat will call Marv's Repair on repainting the doors on the Fire Department.

Mayor Schmit gave an update on the two buildings the city purchased. We have gotten back the asbestos report. He will be contacting our city attorney to see how we can do the bid in demolition of these buildings.

Travis and Sheila Lenarz came before the council asking for a variance or possibly closing the alley on the south side of their property at 310 River St. There are already trees growing in the alley and a shed has been built on the east end of it. After some discussion, a decision was tabled till more information is brought forth.

Motion to respond to the IF (Initiative Foundation) request of \$250 was made by Mike Odden, seconded by Lloyd Rausch. AIF The city has benefited greatly from the IF over the past several years, getting a \$10,000 matching grant each year.

The water/sewer/garbage issue with a resident was tabled. The city clerk has had a discussion with this resident and they are working out a payment plan.

The blue Veteran's Park signage on Co. Rd 17 coming into town from the south and the west will be replaced with brown signs via Stearns County at no cost to the city. The blue sign on the old Maintenance shop will stay there.

Motion to approve two different designs of street flags for the downtown area was made by Kim Ebnet, seconded by Mike Odden. AIF These flags were designed and will be made by Everything Signs.

A sealer coat put on the boxcar west side to cover the artwork was discussed by the council. The city clerk will call Mr. Goziak, the artist, to see what kind of paint he used and what sealer he would recommend.

Clerk items: the city has been approved for their pay equity report until January, 2012. The maintenance crew requested that a cement apron be put in front of the Veteran's Park shelter. Council said they could go ahead with getting that set up. Hopefully it will be completed by Holdingford Daze.

Three picnic tables have been requested to be placed between the Veteran's Park Shelter and the softball field and the playground. Council asked that city employees look into doing this. Council and maintenance crew would like to have them on a cement base.

To clarify if the school should be charged for using the Veteran's Park Shelter at the end of the school year, when elementary students come down for the day. Council said no charge to the school for these kinds of outings.

Meeting adjourned on a motion by Mike Odden, seconded by Sue Marstein. AIF Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Victoria R. Statz, City Clerk