

August 19, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Schmiedeberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Council members present were Cindy Adams, Jim Erickson, Dan Goldstrand and Joyce Storeby. Also present were city employees Robert Anderson and Megan Hanson. Darlene Brown and Hope Gonzalez were also present.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: There were none. **M/S/P –Adams/Storeby** to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC FORUM: Adams mentioned she had received complaints about dogs being in the community center while people are eating. Council felt that no pets should be allowed in city buildings other than service dogs. **M/S/P – Adams/Storeby** to have a policy which states that no pets will be allowed in city buildings other than service dogs. Clerk will post notice. Clerk reported six water shut offs for the month. Adams suggested that the clerk make a courtesy call the day before shut offs, also to have the maintenance worker leave a note on the door giving them until noon to pay the day of shut off. Clerk will call those on the list, Maintenance Worker will leave notes on their doors. Hope Gonzalez was in to ask about making payments on her bill as she is scheduled for shut off. She can pay \$80 now and will pay \$100 per month, council agreed that was fine. Gonzalez left the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Council reviewed the July 15, 2013 and July 22, 2013 minutes. **M/S/P – Storeby/Goldstrand** to approve both the July 15, 2013 Minutes and the July 22, 2013 Minutes.

APPROVAL OF 2014 PROPOSED BUDGET & TAX LEVY: Council reviewed the proposed 2014 Budget. The final 2014 Budget will be approved in December. Total General Fund Budget is \$144,000, with a property tax levy of \$62,000 which did not change from last year. Clerk reported an increase in Local Government Aid from \$71,423 for 2013 to \$74,541 for 2014. Total Water Department Budget is \$66,000, total Sewer Department Budget is \$22,250. Clerk noted that the sewer department is short about \$4,268, this may change by December if the contract with Shaun Jevne is renegotiated for a lesser amount. Clerk stated that the council should look at a rate increase as well as expenses exceed revenues for the sewer department and the general fund should not be supporting enterprise funds. Adams mentioned she would like the wages in the water department and sewer department separated out between the Clerk, Maintenance Worker and Operator, clerk will list those wages separately in the budget reports. **M/S/P – Storeby/Goldstrand** to approve the 2014 Proposed Budget. **M/S/P – Erickson/Goldstrand** to approve Resolution 08192013, setting the 2014 Tax Levy at \$62,000.

OLD BUSINESS:

• **Community Center Refrigerator** – Clerk stated she had spoke with the health inspector who informed her that the city does not need to purchase a NSF fridge for the city or seniors to use. Schmiedeberg has been checking prices and should be able to get one fairly cheap. The council

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would like to take bids on the old fridge. They discussed listing it on Craig's List and in the Trading Post as they do not want to spend a lot of money advertising. Clerk will put up signs as well. They will open bids at the next meeting on September 16, 2013. **M/S/P – Erickson/Adams** to purchase a fridge for the community center not to exceed \$650, and to advertise the old fridge on bids which will be opened at the next meeting.

• **Propane Prepay** – Council reviewed propane usage at city buildings from last heating season. A total of 8,343 gallons was used at the community center, city shop, school gym and fire shed. Prepay price is \$1.45 per gallon and cash price is currently \$1.29 per gallon. **M/S/P – Goldstrand/Adams** to purchase 4000 gallons at the prepay price plus sales tax.

• **Woodcarvers Festival** – Council reviewed an email and memo from LMC regarding public purpose expenditures. Adams stated she would think that the Woodcarvers Festival would fall under the artistic organizations category. She also inquired about city celebrations and stated she had talked with the clerk in Karlstad. Karlstad actually budgets for a celebration and plans their events. Adams mentioned that in 2015 it will be the City of Lake Bronson's 110th anniversary. Adams would like to check on it some more and table it for the next meeting.

• **Other** – Clerk presented a bill she received from Adeline Grahn for \$500 to Ronnie Olson for tree removal, Grahn would like the city to pay half. Council was confused as there should have been no expense involved after speaking with Grahn at the last meeting. Schmiedeberg was to take the trees down after the county fair, however, Grahn hired Olson to do the work before that time. Council agreed they would not pay the bill, Grahn can discuss it further with the council at the next meeting if she wishes.

NEW BUSINESS:

• **Minnesota Rural Water Association Training** – There is a water training session in Warren on August 28, 2013. There is no charge for the session. **M/S/P – Storeby/Erickson** to send Robert Anderson to the training.

• **Tri-County EMS** – Council reviewed a letter stating that they had passed two motions at their meeting on August 6, 2013. Schmiedeberg gave an update on the situation.

• **Other** – Council asked Anderson how the job was going. He stated the job was going okay. Anderson mentioned that he would like to get the GPS figured out for water shut offs; Clerk is not familiar with the GPS but is willing to help Anderson review the manual, etc. Anderson also mentioned that the back side of the lagoon is very overgrown; it will need to be burnt this fall. Dirt and grass seed in certain areas still needs to be done, the rock and clay will need to be dug out at the Adams'. There should be a couple of bags of grass seed at the shop. City may need to get some dirt from Essential Landscapes. JR Wastewater was here to clean the sewer lines, lift station and pond structures. There are a couple of manhole covers which need repair. Still

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waiting on a motor for the garage door at the city shop, Chris Anderson is trying to get one. Schmiedeberg reported that the delay in building the cell phone tower west of town was due to there being so much water that they had to pump it out in order to pour concrete. Storeby asked if the city had sent a bill to Patricia Nerguson for the new locks on the buildings, Clerk reported that she had made a copy of the receipt for the locks which have been purchased, but there are still more locks to buy.

BILLS TO BE AUDITED: The council reviewed the claims list for bills. Clerk reported one addition to Minnesota Department of Health for \$238.00 for the quarterly service connection fee. Total claims were \$11,490.49 for the month. Fire Department bills totaled \$2,292.09. **M/S/P – Adams/Storeby** to approve the claims list and pay bills.

ADJOURNMENT: M/S/P – Storeby/Goldstrand to adjourn until the next regular scheduled council meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2013. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Megan Hanson, City Clerk