

**Minutes**  
November 16, 2010  
General Meeting

**1) The meeting was called to order** by Charles Neff/Mayor at 7:02.

a) Council Members present were Charles Neff/Mayor, Bob Dablow, Burl Ingebretsen, Shelley Poehls and Mark Hanson.

b) Others Present were Wendy Otte/Clerk, Rich Hayes, Norm Nyland, Richard Schenck, Kelan Boughton, Dan Hanson, and Karla Hansen.

**2) The Pledge of Allegiance** was said.

**3) Previous Minutes**

a) General Meeting – October 19, 2010

**A MOTION** was made by Shelley Poehls to approve the General Meeting Minutes for October 19, 2010. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Dablow and the motion carried.

b) Special Meeting – October 26, 2010

**A MOTION** was made by Shelley Poehls to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for October 26, 2010. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

c) Special Meeting – November 11, 2010

**A MOTION** was made by Burl Ingebretsen to approve the Special Meeting Minutes for November 11, 2010. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Dablow and the motion carried.

**4) City Attorney** – Zenas Baer – Not Present to report. Charley informed the council that he has been working with Zenas on the AnyConnect lease.

**5) City Engineer** – Dan Hanson - Rich and Charley informed Dan about some yellow water issues that Rich has been working on. Poly-phosphates were discussed, Dan believes that would clean up the yellowing issues we have been dealing with. Rich will talk to Climax as they have the same type of plant as we do. Rich has also been talking to Hawkins for options. Dan will check with Ulteig and see what they can come up with. Norm requested a map for the water and sewer hook-ups for Sabin and Dan will get that to Norm.

**6) Building Permits** – Roland Holms – Not Present to report. Charley let the council know that Roland said there are some homes lined up for the spring.

**7) Amendments to Agenda** – none.

**8) Citizens concerns** – Kelan Boughton came in to discuss the streets and need for a street sweeper. There is a lot of mud and gravel built up on the city streets that causes problems walking around town. Council let Kelan know that a sweeper has been added to next years budget and Aaron will be going out in the next few days to clean up mud along 52.

Karla Hansen came in to discuss water problems. Karla informed to council she has been in contact

with Rich about the yellow water. She has been flushing a lot of extra water down the drain due to discoloration and is wondering what can be done about high use do to wasting. She has concerns that it may be unsafe to drink. Council informed her that it is safe to drink. She was told to contact Wendy after she gets her bill if there is higher than normal use she may receive a credit to her bill.

**9) Maintenance Department** – Aaron Mayry – Not Present to report. Aaron left a list of things he has been working on. City boxes in the attic have been removed and put in the Rescue Squad attic. The Community Center floor has been buffed, but it will need to be waxed again. Took the city truck in for an estimate on the transmission leak, \$1,400.00 to \$1,800.00 to rebuild. All the fire hydrants have been winterized. Used the new blower on the floor in the lift station and removing leaves around the drain cover by the EMS building. The stop sign and 3 way stop signs from 5<sup>th</sup> Ave W/6<sup>th</sup> Ave W intersection have been removed. The city lawn mower has been moved to the EMS building and power-washed all lawn clippings off blades, pulleys, guards, and engine. Aaron also worked on the city maintenance budget for 2011. Council was also informed that Aaron worked on the problem between the FM Crusaders building and the Community Center, that he had Aaron remove the stuff stacked in the Community Center closet in front of the breaker box and Charley put a sign up to not put items in front of the breaker box.

**10) Water Department** – Rich Hayes – Rich brought in a list of water sample tests done. He will flush a hydrant again to try to help clear up the yellow issues then re-winterize it. There have been a lot of issues with the discolored water Rich has been working on which was brought up earlier in the meeting. 1,006,000 gallons were pumped last month. Charley will e-mail the council with progress on the water problems as we work on the issue.

**11) Sewer Department** – Norm Nyland – 1.842 million gallons were pumped to the lagoons last month with 2.84 inches of rain. Both pumps run an average of 2 to 3 hours per day. Norm said the power to the lift station is out of range for what it should be. We will look into the power issues. Norm talked to Randy Berg about surveys on manholes. The discharging is done for the year. He talked to Chad Spieker about the warning signs for the lagoons. DMR's can now be completed electronically, so Norm will get set up for that. Charley would like to keep working on the sump pump deal, Bob has agreed to head up the sump pump work.

**12) Mayors Minute** – none.

**13) Treasurers Report** – Currently there is about \$47,000.00 in general reserve, water is building up reserve, and sewer is making it's way back up to zero. In the future Charley would like to put information in folders ahead of time so council will have some time to look things over before the meetings begin.

**14) Receipts & Disbursements** – were looked over. Farmers water use from elevator is being paid. We have some disbursements to the Fire Relief Association \$9165.00 which came in for them on November 15, 2010 from the state and \$2240.00 that was deposited to the city account on March 15, 2006 that the Relief doesn't believe they received back then. Wendy has checked the records from 2006 and didn't find any record of it being paid to them. Shelley mentioned that in the beginning of 2007 there was an issue brought up for unpaid Relief that was then paid in a lump sum. Wendy will do some more checking to see if it may have been paid then, but as of now we will pay the \$2240.00 to the relief association.

**A MOTION** was made by Bob Dablow to approve the Receipts & Disbursements. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burl

Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

### 15) Water/Sewer/Garbage Bills & Past Dues

a) A large shut off list this month, we are hoping that it will go down before the 25<sup>th</sup> as we have given plenty of notice and we have let some people slide for too long. As of now no one has a set up a payment plan.

b) John Beck has been shut off for quite sometime and has yet to make any payments. He is currently only being charged for garbage which is not being paid. Council discussed assessing unpaid utilities to property taxes for John Beck.

**A MOTION** was made by Bob Dablow to certify John Beck's unpaid utilities in the amount of \$473.61 to his taxes. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Shelley Poehls and the motion carried.

### 16) Old Business

a) **Budget** – We still need to cut \$21,000.00 to make the budget for 2011. We will wait until the next budget meeting to work on it.

The next budget meeting is set for November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

### 17) New Business

a) **Harvest Days Community Center Use** – No one from Harvest Days Community was present. The council discussed waiving the fee to use the hall. The fee for a non profit fund raiser is \$100.00. The council agreed that Harvest Days will have to pay the \$100.00 fee for use on November 21, 2010.

b) **Elevator Water Use** – There has been a complaint from the elevator about them being responsible for monitoring use of the water by the farmers. We believe it is a service to the elevators customers and feel they should monitor use if they want to offer that service to their customers. We will look into it further later.

c) **Phone Bill** – Wendy got an estimate from Midcontinent to switch to their phone service. It would be \$20.00 per line plus taxes with a 5 year contract.

**A MOTION** was made by Bob Dablow to switch the phone to Midcontinent at the 5 year contract. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

### 18) Commissioner Reports

a) **Health & Weeds** - Charles Neff – Nothing to report.

b) **Civil Defense** - Randy Schmidt – Not Present to report.

c) **Planning & Zoning** - Aaron Skattum – Not Present to report.

d) **Fire District** - Bob Dablow – Minutes from the October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting were looked at as well as financial reports from October. The fire district has not been able to find anyone to do their payroll for the year and has previously asked the city to do it for them and been turned down. Charley and Wendy have been asked again to do the payroll and have agreed. We'd like to keep the Fire District and City separate, but in this case it is not cost effective for the fire District to pay someone else to do the payroll checks.

e) **Rescue Squad** – Shelley Poehls – Shelley read a copy of the October Rescue Squad Minutes. Richard got a few estimates for new tires and was told if the Rescue Squad has money in the budget for 2010 to go ahead and get the tires.

f) **Parks** - Burl Ingebretsen – Nothing to report.

g) **Recycling** - Mark Hanson – Nothing to report.

h) **Streets** – Mark Hanson – Pot holes on 67 have been filled. Shelley brought up street light

problems, Wendy will call Xcel and check into billing and cost to replace burnt out bulbs.

**19) Adjournment**

**A MOTION** was made by Shelley Poehls to adjourn. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Dablow and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

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Wendy Otte, City Clerk

Approved 12-21-10