

Minutes
August 16, 2011
General Meeting

1) The meeting was called to order by Charles Neff/Mayor at 7:00 pm.

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

b) Others Present were Wendy Otte/Clerk, Aaron Mayry, Norm Nyland, Becky Nyland, Dave Coalwell, Dan Hanson, Steve Ahlschlager, Rich Hayes and Richard Schenck.

2) The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

3) Previous Minutes

a) General Meeting – July 19, 2011.

A **MOTION** was made by Shelley Poehls to approve the General Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2011. It was 2nd by Bob Dablow and the motion carried.

4) City Attorney – Zenas Baer – Not Present to report.

5) City Engineer – Dan Hanson – Will wait until water portion of meeting.

6) Building Permits – Roland Holm – Not Present to report.

7) Amendments to Agenda – Add under New Business e) Citizen of the Season

8) Citizens concerns – none.

9) Maintenance Department – Aaron Mayry – Sprayed ponds for algae, cleaned pond pump a few times, inspected sump pumps in town, did a few water shut offs & back on, cleaned community center for events, filled ruts in park, painted park garbage cans, & talked to Fitzgeralds about filling a hole in the area behind the community center.

We also had an issue in the park that some girls reported others vandalizing the tables in the shelter. We will see what we can do about removing the marker from the tables and contact the parents of those that were reported.

10) Water Department – Rich Hayes – 1,239,000 gallons were pumped out last month. We haven't had any recent complaints. Becky Nyland brought in a sample of her water taken last week that is discolored. Becky said her dishwasher & ice machine are ruined and they are less than 10 years old. Becky feels that this issue is getting old. Steve Ahlschlager, a water specialist with Moore Engineering, explained what he has found working on our plant and what the next steps are to continue working on this issue. Council also discussed the best way to inform residents of what is being done to clear up the water. Council decided that we should send a letter to the residents informing them of what is being done and of a special meeting on Tuesday, September 27th with Steve Ahlschlager if they'd like to attend.

a) **Job Responsibility Changes** – Rich has a new job and isn't as flexible as before, so adding a Water Supervisor Assistant in the plant was discussed. When the plant was put in it was supposed to be low maintenance, but according to Steve it is not. We need someone in the plant daily checking to make sure things are running properly and samples need to be taken more often. Rich has the knowledge and licenses and would still be running the plant, the assistant would work under Rich in the

plant around 40 hours per month doing water tests and paperwork.

A MOTION was made by Shelley Poehls to add the position of Water Supervisor Assistant to the water budget. It was 2nd by Mark Hanson and the motion carried.

11) Sewer Department – 2.4 million gallons were pumped to the lagoons last month with 7.04 inches of rain in July. The lagoons are currently at 7 feet 2 inches in the secondary, 6 feet in the primary and primary 2 is at 5 feet 10 inches. We still have until September 15th for the discharge window, but we may need to do an out of the window discharge. We still have not gotten the signs made for the lagoons, Chad has been too busy to do them thus far. Norm asked if he can get them done elsewhere, council approved.

a) Sump Pump Update – Aaron went around town and checked what he could see for sump pump violations, there were 70 that he was unable to see if they were in violation or not. Norm feels that if half of those were in violation it would still not account for the amount of water being pumped out to the lagoons and feels that we have a leak. Norm has talked to Jet Way to get an estimate of what it would cost to clean and video tape our sewer lines, for the whole town the cost would be around \$38,000. We have \$3,000 in our budget for cleaning this year. Council feels it is best to spend the money to get the cleaning & video taping done now, so we can find the problem and repair the issue. Sewer rates will probably need to be raised as well, as it is better to spend the money to find the issue than to have to pay for a new lagoon.

A MOTION was made by Charles Neff to authorize up to \$36,000 to clean & video tape the sewer lines using the \$3,000 that has already been budgeted for cleaning as well. It was 2nd by Mark Hanson and the motion carried.

12) Treasurers Report – We have received the first half of LGA.

13) Receipts, Disbursements & Claims – We need to add REI to the claims list for \$87.91 for removing the wire from the park.

A MOTION was made by Bob Dablow to approve the Receipts, Disbursements & Claims. It was 2nd by Shelley Poehls and the motion carried.

14) Water/Sewer/Garbage Bills & Past Dues – There are two that need to be shut off this month if no payments are made by the 25th.

15) Old Business – none.

16) New Business

a) Crowbar Temp. Liquor Licenses August 19 & 20 – The Crowbar is requesting two one day licenses for Harvest Days.

A MOTION was made by Bob Dablow to approve the Crowbar licenses for August 19 & 20. It was 2nd by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

b) Nundahl Property – Tim Nundahl contacted Roland about moving in a garage and was told he may need a variance. He proceeded to move the garage in without contacting the city, getting either a building permit or a variance (if needed). A letter was sent to him on August 5th giving him until the 20th to get the necessary permits and request a variance (if needed). He has since gotten and paid for the building permit with a penalty. If he does need a variance and does not contact the city by the 20th he will be charged with a misdemeanor, because he was told before he brought the garage in that he may require a variance and has done nothing to contact the city to find out if he needs the variance. If he doesn't require a variance he is fine. Dave Coalwell feels that Tim Nundahl has been doing this for years and gets by with it, because he has other buildings that haven't been finished for years. Council

explained that his other permits are open ended, because they were written prior to the current ordinance. If he needs the variance we would be able to add contingencies to the variance to finish the other areas of the property.

c) Proposed Property Tax Levy – We need to hold a special meeting before September 15th to set our proposed property tax levy. The meeting will be on Wednesday, August 24th. Now that we have over 500 residents we are also required to have a truth in taxation meeting this year between November 25 and December 28 to explain how we come up with our property taxes.

d) Recycling Center Hours – Stacey has requested changing the recycling center hours if she gets a new job. The council has authorized Mark to make the decision on the recycling center hours if they need to be changed due to Stacey getting another job.

e) Citizen of the Season – Burl would like to set up an award given out quarterly from the city to recognize citizens for good deeds. The award would be a certificate from the city recognizing them as the citizen of the season. Residents would nominate others citizens for the award and council would decide each quarter who would receive the award. We may be able to check with one of the nonprofit groups to see if they'd like to donate a plaque to hang in the office that we could add plates with the names of those chosen to quarterly. We could add a request to the web site and Area Update for nominations. Council thinks it's a great idea and will go forward with it.

17) Commissioner Reports

a) Health & Weeds - Charles Neff – We will be spaying for mosquitoes before Harvest Days.

b) Emergency Management Director - Randy Schmidt – Not Present to report.

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

d) Fire District - Bob Dablow – Recent minutes and financial reports were looked over.

e) Rescue Squad – Shelley Poehls – Recent minutes were looked over and we were informed that the wireless internet service is still not working in the rescue building. Wendy has contacted the person that is to fix the issue numerous times and will keep working on him.

f) Parks - Burl Ingebretsen – The city sign has been replaced along with the Lioness sign.

g) Recycling - Mark Hanson – Nothing to report.

h) Streets – Mark Hanson – The person that lives next to the Crowbar has asked about filling a pot hole in the road by his house. Aaron will check with Fitzgeralds on fixing it.

18) Adjournment

A MOTION was made by Shelley Poehls to adjourn. It was 2nd by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Wendy Otte, City Clerk

Approved 9-20-11