

## Minutes

August 18, 2015

General Meeting

**1) The meeting was called to order** by Mayor Bob Dablow at 7:00PM.

**a)** Council Members present were Bob Dablow, Drew Schwan, Adam Jenstead, Burl Ingebretsen and Tom Berglind.

**b)** Others Present were Wendy Otte/Clerk, Norm Nyland, Zenas Baer, Randy Schmidt, Jeff Nelson, Amber Palmer-Nelson and Richard Schenck.

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

**3) Previous Minutes**

**a)** General Meeting – July 21, 2015

**A MOTION** was made by Burl Ingebretsen to approve the general meeting minutes for July 21, 2015. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Berglind and the motion carried.

**4) City Attorney** – Zenas Baer – The city wants to get out of the Rescue Squad business and combine them with the Fire District. The city feels that would be the best for both groups and for those that they cover. The council would like Zenas to inform them how to merge the groups and transfer assets. We need to define the assets come up with a dollar amount and transfer to the Fire District with the joint powers agreement. We would honor the agreements with the townships until the end of the coverage period then they would need to sign contracts with the Fire District for coverage after that.

**5) City Engineer** – Dan Hanson – Nothing to report.

**6) Amendments to Agenda** – none.

**7) Citizens concerns** – Jeff and Amber Nelson have concerns about the letter they received regarding their property. They are very upset, offended and feel that they were singled out by the council. They do not feel comfortable allowing the city in to inspect their home and want to know why they were singled out for inspection. The council informed them that they had complaints about some properties in town and also looked at others that they felt needed attention. All that the council has done so far to determine which homes to start with for these inspections was look at them from the outside, homes that they felt had exterior issues were sent letters asking that they allow the city to inspect the interior, if there are no interior issues they will be given an inspection record stating that there are no interior issues, they would still need to work on exterior issues if there are some. The council feels that the outside of their home is in ill-repair and that they have the right to inspect the home to make sure it is up to code. The Nelson's have been working on fixing up their home and have been on a waiting list for years for help fixing up the home. It is the city's job to enforce building code. All the city is asking is that for the homes that received letters to allow the city to inspect the homes, if there are no issues the home owners will be given an inspection record at the city's expense stating that there are no issues. Amber said she has been doing the best she can with what she can afford to work on her home. The council told them about an owner occupied rehab program they can sign up for which helps with home repairs. Amber informed the council she has been on a waiting list for that program for 4 years and got a letter today again letting her know she is still on the waiting list. The council feels that the Nelson's have taken this wrong

and did not intend to hurt feelings or offend anyone with these inspections. The letters were mailed out on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and recipients were given 30 days to fill out the voluntary inspection form and return it, we have not yet received any inspection forms back. We do plan to continue moving forward with this matter and the next step will be moving towards getting administrative search warrants issued for those that do not comply.

**8) Maintenance Department** – Aaron Mayry – Not present to report. While it was raining during Harvest Days a big leak was found in the old garage roof next to the recycling center. The council wants Aaron to check it out.

**9) Water Department** – Norm Nyland – 1.372 million gallons were pumped last month. Norm met with Dan Portlock from Moore Engineering and everything is looking good. Norm restrung chemical lines and switched the chlorine pumps around. Norm called KLM about cleaning the tower and clear well. Next year we will need to do the fluoran treatment again. Norm filled out and sent in a fluoride waiver variance request to the Department of Health.

**10) Sewer Department** – Norm Nyland – 1.25 million gallons pumped to the lagoons last month, with 2.93 inches of rain. JetWay still needs to come out to do the sewer line cleaning this year. There are still people riding dirt bikes out around the lagoons tearing up the grass. The rip rap was added to the storm water pond and looks great.

**11) Treasurers Report** – looked over. The 2016LGA will be \$100,203.00.

**12) Receipts, Disbursements & Claims** – Were looked over.

**A MOTION** was made by Adam Jenstead to approve the Claims. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Drew Schwan and the motion carried.

**13) Water/Sewer/Garbage Bills & Past Dues** – There are 4 to be shut off this month if payments aren't made by the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**14) Old Business**

**15) New Business**

**a) Proposed Tax Levy** – We can go lower but not higher after tonight. The council decided to set it at a 10% increase for now, but plans to lower it before the final levy is set.

**A MOTION** was made by Tom Berglind to set the proposed tax levy at \$141,946.00. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

**b) Tax Forfeited Properties** – Zenas suggests that because one of these properties is what the council feels is a hazard that we purchase these properties, clean them up and sell them ourselves. The council thinks purchasing the hazardous property is a good idea and asked Zenas to look into it for us, so we can move forward with that property. We will discuss this again next month.

**c) Wheelage Tax Funds** – Tom saw an article about wheelage tax funds from the county and looked into it. There are funds that we can apply for from the county to help with the \$14,247.00 that we spent on seal coating this year. Tom suggests we apply for \$10,000.00 and see if we qualify. Tom will fill out the paperwork and send it in.

**d) Harvest Days** – The council wants to thank the Harvest Days Committee for all the hard work they did, the event went very well. The only issue was weather, high temperatures and wind. They can use and are always looking for more volunteers.

**e) 61 for 61** – The F.M. Crusaders would like to use the community center as well as tables and chairs for the event on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**A MOTION** was made by Adam Jenstead to approve use of the community center, tables and chairs for the event. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tom Berglind and the motion carried.

#### **16) Commissioner Reports**

**a) Health** – Adam Jenstead – All is well.

**b) Weeds** – Bob Dablow – Weeds are dying off.

**c) Emergency Management Director** – Randy Schmidt – Nothing to report.

**d) Fire District** - Bob Dablow – Minutes and financials were looked over. The Fire District is doing well and had some good events during Harvest Days.

**e) Rescue Squad** - Drew Schwan – Minutes were looked over. There are 3 new members awaiting city approval. All 3 need EMR training that is paid for by the Rescue Squad. **A MOTION** was made by Adam Jenstead to approve Curtis Stubstad, Blaine Brauden and Donna Stubstad as new Rescue Squad members. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Burl Ingebretsen and the motion carried.

**f) Parks** – Adam Jenstead – The softball season is over, the Dickelman tournament is the last event for the year on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**g) Recycling** – Burl Ingebretsen – Burl ordered signs from the county for the center at no cost to the city.

**h) Streets** – Burl Ingebretsen – Crosswalks have been painted onto the streets by the county.

**i) Zoning** – Tom Berglind – Nothing to report.

#### **17) Adjournment**

**A MOTION** was made by Burl Ingebretsen to adjourn. It was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Jenstead and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

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Wendy Otte, City Clerk

Approved 9-15-15