

The City Council held their regular meeting on Monday, August 27, 2001 at 5 p.m. . Mayor John Herman presided and council members Jack Carroll, Bob Schultz, Ron Gaines and Jay Corbin were present as were City Clerk Dolly Schultz, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman and reporter Laurie Bonsack.

Following the Call to Order, representatives of the Library Board and Foundation addressed Council regarding their findings on an expansion for the library.

Plans were drawn up and included an addition of 2230 sq. ft and some minor remodeling of the existing building for a cost of \$314,370. Board members noted they had funds of around \$50,000 and would have to do some fund raisers for additional dollars. Council informed them that spending an amount of that denomination on a city building would require a referendum of the people.

However, Council also felt that for that kind of money, a new building could be built and suggested they research the possibility of the vacant lot across from the Community Center, which the City already owns. This would give them 14,000 sq. ft. versus 6200 sq. ft. and eliminate the possibility of having to add on again in another 5-10 years.

Council wants to review the previous architect's proposal but directed the Boards to also contact Wells Concrete Products for plans and construction costs on a new building and report back.

Mr. Todd Cologne once again failed to keep his 5:15 appointment.

The appointment of a zoning administrator was tabled until the next meeting.

Police Chief Mike Iverson presented a quote from Fairmont Glass for a security door for the police office. It was the consensus that \$3275 was too high and that he should obtain quotes from other places and report back.

For informational purposes only, Mike presented a quote from Superior Ford for a new 2002 Ford Crown Victoria . He was instructed to also obtain costs on a new Chevy police interceptor package.

Councilman Schultz was concerned with the monthly police report being submitted so late and suggested that if the Chief cannot attend the first council meeting of the month, the Ass't. Chief shall attend as a replacement.

Discussed the No Left Turn sign coming off the one-way street north of the elementary school and it was decided the placement would be as it was previously.

Motion by Schultz, seconded by Gaines and carried to allow Bob Placek to remove the sidewalk running east and west in front of his residence at 601-1st St. NW and not replace any portion of it.

Discussed replacement of the trees along the southeast corner of Half Moon Park. Because of the sewer project in that area, the trees had to be removed. Due to the traffic congestion in that area during park activities, it was decided to eliminate the trees and make an exit , with stop sign, going to the east onto 7th Ave. SW. This action was on a motion by Gaines, seconded by Corbin and carried.

Minutes of the meeting of August 13 were reviewed with the following corrections:

eliminate the entire first paragraph on page 8 and in the 7th paragraph, same page, replace the word "services" with the word "platting"

Motion by *Gaines*, seconded by *Carroll* and carried to approve the minutes, with the appropriate corrections, reports and authorize payment of the regular bills in the amount of \$74,273.69 and liquor bill of \$16,545.25.

Motion by *Corbin*, seconded by *Schultz* and carried to hold the auction bidding on the farmland on Sept. 24 at 5:00 p.m. Attorney *Bichler* will conduct the bidding.

It was the consensus of the Council to leave the Burning Ordinance as is, with no revisions or new amendments.

Bill Schindler has once again requested permission to put in a garden along the south side of 10th St. SE now that the tiling has been completed. Council had no objection.

The City Clerk's office was asked to get comparisons from surrounding communities regarding sewer rates. Council is contemplating the need to increase our rates, however they felt it necessary to research the issue further and therefore tabled any action until the next meeting.

The Long Range Planning Committee is ready to make a presentation to the Council and a special meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 17 at 5 p.m. for this purpose.

It was noted that the Firefighters Grant in the vehicle category has been denied for the Wells Fire Dept. No notification has been received as yet on the status of the equipment category. Fire department members have been notified of this correspondence.

The next regular council meeting will be held on Monday, September 10, 2001 at 5:00 p.m. in the council chambers.

Mayor *Herman* then declared this meeting adjourned.