

The City Council held their regular meeting on Monday, July 23 at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor John P. Herman presiding. Attending the meeting were council members Jack Carroll, Bob Schultz, Ron Gaines and Jay Corbin, City Clerk Dolly Schultz, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman and reporter Laurie Bonsack.

Police Chief Mike Iverson presented Council with two quotes for a new garage door for the rear of the police station and requested permission to section off part of the storeroom in the basement of the municipal building to be used as an evidence room for the police department. Motion by Corbin, seconded by Gaines and carried to authorize the purchase of the garage door from Lampert Yards at a cost of \$397 and allowing the department to purchase materials to erect a wall in the basement for their security purposes. This is a budgeted item and it was noted that the officers will be doing the work themselves.

The two additional civil defense sirens have been installed and are operational.

Discussion was had regarding the possibility of hiring another full time officer as compared to additional part time. It's becoming more difficult to have part time people fill in because most of them have other jobs and are not available on a moment's notice. It was suggested however, that they eliminate the additional part time officer on weekends from 9-2. No action was taken at this time.

Discussed the house on North Broadway owned by Mr. Jim Hassing. Complaints have been received on the condition of the premises and Chief Iverson and Weed Inspector Gene Kauffmann will notify the owner to get the problem resolved.

No action was taken on the proposed dog, noise and burning ordinances - tabled until the next meeting.

Community Development Director Zoa Heckman informed Council of a problem that arose when a contractor razed a house recently purchased by the HRA through the Blighted Housing Project. At the disposal site where the rubbish from the house was taken, it was discovered that the siding contained asbestos. The MPCA was immediately contacted and a representative visited the site today and called for an emergency abatement, which requires the city to allow MPCA to remove and clean up the contaminated materials within 24-48 hours.

Mrs. Julie Latusek, who lives in the neighborhood of the property in question, raised concerns about possible problems that might arise from exposure. Her grandchildren had been in and near the area as the house was being demolished and she became aware of the problem when the MPCA person came to her door and suggested she keep the kids away from the area because of the possible contamination. She questioned why more precautions hadn't been taken and what was going to be done now. Council assured her they would do everything they could to help in any way and would keep her informed of the findings of the samplings from MPCA.

Discussed the tax forfeited properties on South Broadway. It was the general consensus to list them with all three local realtors, noting that the realtors want \$1000 regardless of what the

properties might be sold for. Any and all offers are to be brought back to the council for their consideration.

Dick and Mary Meyer came before the Council to discuss parking problems near their residence, noting that many times their driveway and sidewalk were being blocked.

Council agreed to direct the street department to paint the curbs yellow wherever necessary.

Motion by Gaines, seconded by Carroll and carried to approve the minutes of the July 9 meeting, the balance of the monthly reports and payment of the regular bills of \$78,241.24 and liquor bills of \$22,328.62.

Councilman Schultz expressed concerns with the letter from the Police Chief which was included with the reports. The letter stated that concerns with the department should be addressed through the Police Committee, however Schultz felt that

council member's opinions should be allowed to be expressed openly. He also stated that he felt the Committee has been negligent in working with the police and suggested they should be meeting with the officers on a more regular and frequent basis.

Action on a Zoning Administrator was tabled.

Motion by Carroll, seconded by Corbin and carried to have the street crew remove the handicap signs in the school area along Hwy. 22 and to order and install signs stating "No Parking During School Hours", on the west side of that block. Councilman Corbin will confirm this with the street supervisor.

The sewer improvement project is expected to start on Thursday of this week and a portion of the street near Half Moon Park will be closed off during part of the project.

Blacktop surfacing costs for the "cartway" have been updated and will be given to the appropriate property owners.

In regards to the deteriorated garage on 1st Ave. NE, the property owner has been notified and is willing to work with the city on the removal. Mayor Herman and the street supervisor will address the issue.

A motion was made by Corbin, with a second by Carroll and carried to adopt Ordinance 242, repealing previous zoning ordinances. (However, it was later determined that the newly adopted zoning ordinance supercedes any previous ordinances and therefore the motion was not necessary).

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, August 13 at 5:00 p.m.

As there was no further business to come before the Council at this time, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned.

