

The City Council held their regular meeting on Monday, May 21, 2001 with Mayor Herman presiding. Present were council members Gaines, Corbin, and Schultz, City Clerk Dolly Schultz, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman and reporter Laurie Bonsack. Council-man Carroll was absent.

Following the Call to Order, street supervisor Rick LaVallie addressed the council with a recommendation on the new hire for the street department. The committee indicated they had interviewed 10 applicants and had a very hard time reaching a decision due to the fact that all applicants were very qualified. Following discussion and based on the committee's recommendation, a motion was entertained by Schultz, seconded by Corbin and carried to hire Kurt Niebuhr at \$12/hr plus full benefits. He will be on 6 month's probation. LaVallie will notify him and find out how soon he can start.

LaVallie informed council that the No Overnight Parking signs are in place on the south side of the four blocks from Hwy 22 to 4th Ave. SW. The other side of the street will be finished some time this week. There seems to be some concern from one of the residents along that area regarding parking for family and/or friends visiting and staying overnight. Mayor Herman will address the issue with the appropriate party.

The mosquito control program will soon be starting, however a notice will be placed in the paper before any spraying begins.

Rick is to check on available dates in October for a Fall Clean-up Day.

The sewer improvement project is scheduled to begin July 1. The street department will be responsible for the removal of the hockey rink but will utilize the lights elsewhere.

Repair costs are being obtained for the park shop at Thompson Park, the \$10,000 grant for the street sweeper should be coming soon and the sidewalk near the old Super Valu building will be repaired by the street crew.

Representatives of One Healthy Community were present to discuss a proposed fund raiser for the skate board park. They would like to hold a dance on June 30 from

7-12 PM at Thompson Park near the park shelter and would like the council's blessings. They noted several concerns that they are checking on including curfew hour for ages under 16, fencing for the area, and police enforcement even though they will have several adult chaperones. Motion by Corbin, seconded by Gaines and carried to allow the group to use the park shelter, at no fee, with the stipulation that they get appropriate answers to all their concerns and keep the council informed.

Mike Beckmann was present representing the Library Board. He stated they have hired an architect to research and recommend ideas for the expansion of the present library. He indicated the cost would be approximately \$3000 with funds to come out of the Roland Weite donation. Council expressed their idea of a shared library if and when the school expands.

Also discussed benefits for the librarians. Presently part time employees are exempt. Staff is to check on the amount of hours that a part time person can work before being classified as full time and if they would become eligible for benefits at that time.

Revised library hours were presented to council. However, no action was taken on any of this until hours for the part time help is determined. This will be discussed again at the next regular meeting.

Motion by Corbin, seconded by Schultz and carried to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 7, the reports and payment of the regular bills of \$98,926.12 and liquor bills of \$13,650.84.

Club licenses for the Wells VFW and American Legion were approved on a motion by Gaines, seconded by Corbin and carried.

Applicants were recently interviewed for the part time position in the City Clerk's office. Based on the committee's recommendation, a motion was entertained by Schultz, seconded by Corbin and carried to hire Michelle Gottberg at a starting salary of \$7/hr. Dolly will notify her and determine a starting date.

Motion by Gaines, seconded by Schultz and carried to approve the application from the Easton Area Mentors to hold a raffle during the Kernel Days celebration. This is a fund raiser for the skate board facility.

Motion by Corbin, seconded by Gaines and carried to approve the contract services with Pettipiece-Cesario for the Small Cities Development Program at a cost of \$700. The CD Director will be working with them on this.

A cigarette license and 3.2 Off Sale license were both approved for Twin Cities Stores, Inc. on a motion by Schultz, seconded by Corbin and carried. This is for the balance of the license period as they will be purchasing the Food N Fuel stores.

The schedule for council meetings during the summer months was presented and accepted as follows: June 11, July 9, August 13 and September 10.

It was noted that one of the civil defense sirens is ready to be installed and will be placed just north of O'Rourke Electric. Information is still forthcoming on the additional siren for the Thompson Park area.

Motion by Corbin, seconded by Gaines and carried to reimburse the fee for the lifeguards that have completed their WSI certification. Reimbursement will be \$110 if the individual is still employed at the end of the pool season.

Remodeling of the City Clerk's office was discussed. The present storage closet will be converted into an office, a new storage room erected in the council chambers and additional counter space added in the Clerk's office. Work is to begin immediately and will be completed by the city street crew.

No further business was brought before the council at this time and therefore, Mayor Herman declared the meeting adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be on June 11 at 5:00 p.m.