

The regular meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, Sept. 10, 2001 at 5 p.m. with Mayor John Herman presiding. Present were council members Bob Schultz and Jack Carroll, City Clerk Dolly Schultz, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman and reporter Laurie Bonsack. Council members Ron Gaines and Jay Corbin were absent.

Following the Call to Order, Julie Naumann, representative for the USC Fine Arts Group, addressed Council regarding Homecoming activities at the school during the first week of October. They are seeking council approval for a controlled bonfire following coronation on Monday evening, Oct. 1. It was determined that the best location would be near the ice rink on the school property and that the fire department should be available to light the fire, monitor the burn and clean up. A motion to allow the burn was then made by Carroll, seconded by Schultz and carried. Mayor Herman also voted aye.

Assistant Chief Fred Durfey was present representing the police department. No additional information has been received on the door for the station nor the car quote from the Chevrolet.

There still seems to be some misunderstanding regarding the parking in front of the school but Council felt this should be resolved with time. It was stated once again that persons can drop off children in that area but cannot park and leave the vehicle during school hours.

Discussed the increasing number of appliances being placed on 1st St. SE awaiting pickup/removal. Police department was instructed to contact Mr. Hartman to see if removal could be speeded up as it is not only an "eye sore" but also a potential hazard.

Discussed the replacement of the warming house in the ice rink area. It was noted that \$5000 was in this year's budget for that purpose and the park board would like to complete the project this fall. A 30'x30' shed is proposed with half the space to be used for storage of park rec. equipment and the other half as a possible warming shelter. Motion by Schultz, seconded by Carroll and carried to allow the park board to proceed with this project, noting that costs must stay under \$5000 and that the street crew will do the necessary concrete work. Mayor Herman also voted in favor of the motion.

CD Director Heckman reported that work on the Waack building is progressing and that bids for the demolition of the old Cleaner's building should be coming in this week.

Motion by Carroll, seconded by Schultz and carried to approve the Mayor's appointment of Carol Aske as the Zoning Administrator and who will sign only the building permits that involve a land use change. The appointment of this individual could change annually as it will reflect the current Chair of the P&Z Committee.

Motion by Carroll, seconded by Schultz and carried to approve all the monthly reports, permits, financial reports and payment of the regular bills of \$106,261.86 and liquor bills of \$39,,998.68. Mayor Herman voted aye.

Motion by Schultz and seconded by Carroll to authorize Deb Redman and Michelle Gottberg to attend a Deputy Registrar's seminar in Mankato on Sept. 26 at no fee.

Voting in favor were Schultz, Carroll and Herman.

Discussed the sewer improvement project and the contractor's pay estimate #1 in the amount of \$43,656. Because of some concerns regarding the amount of materials used, a motion was made by Carroll, seconded by Schultz and carried to table any payment until clarification is determined. Mayor Herman voted aye.

No action was taken regarding an increase in the sewer rates. This will be discussed again at the Sept. 24 meeting.

Motion by Carroll, seconded by Schultz and carried to adopt Resolution 2001-07 regarding the 2002 proposed tax levy of \$327,236 and the 2002 proposed budget of \$327,236. This resolution will be certified to the county auditor by Sept. 14.

The levy reflects a 25% increase over last year and a budget increase of 20.6%. It is the intent of the Council to work diligently to dramatically reduce the levy proposal prior to the final certification due in December. Mayor Herman will relate to this in an article he intends to prepare for this week's newspaper.

The next regular meeting will be held on September 24 at 5 p.m.

There being no further business, Mayor Herman declared the meeting adjourned.