

The regular meeting of the Wells City Council was held on Monday, May 6, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Herman presided and all council members were present as well as City Clerk Dolly Schultz, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman and reporter Laurie Bonsack.

First on the agenda were representatives of the Wells American Legion Post 210, Arnold Groskreutz and Leonard Cihlar. They were present to inquire as to the council's decision regarding paving of the alley just west of the Legion Club. As previously stated, Mayor Herman sent a memo to all the property owners along that alley asking if they would be willing to participate in the cost of paving. Nuway Convenience Store was the only positive reply.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Schultz, seconded by Corbin and carried to pave the alley from Franklin to the north end of the city parking lot.

Jim Moll came before council to recap the progress of the skateboard park. Since the last meeting the committee has been notified that the Legion will donate \$3000 towards the project and St. Casimir's school has raised approximately \$600 which they are going to donate. The concern now is the excavating and fill that will be needed with costs running \$500-\$1000. A motion was then entertained by Corbin, seconded by Carroll and carried to approve the plans as proposed by the committee and since there is adequate funding, to proceed with the project, with the city doing the excavating and providing the fill. Moll was reminded to have his committee coordinate everything with the appropriate personnel including park board, utilities and street department.

CD Director Zoa Heckman discussed and recommended amendments to the current assessment policy for the city. However, councilman Schultz felt that council should do nothing with the policy at this time but to wait and see if the Garlock Addition will be annexed, after which this matter could then be considered. Utilities Superintendent Wigern was in concurrence.

It was noted that annexation needs to take place soon or it will be too late to write the second phase of the funding application.

Discussion was had regarding the Swehla property. No correspondence has been received as of late and therefore Zoa was directed to get an answer from Swehla's attorney regarding our purchase proposal.

It was suggested that council should probably consider implementing a housing code for the city. A copy of Alden's ordinance regarding this was distributed for information.

Mr. Chad Cooper, administrator of United Hospital in Blue Earth was the council's next appointment and his presentation was in regards to automatic external defibrillators. He explained that it is the goal of the Hospital District and law enforcement to place one defibrillator in every squad car within Faribault County plus provide the training. He stated that the total cost will be about \$47,500, however \$15,000 has been awarded through a grant and the hospital foundation is contributing \$10,000. Cooper stressed that it is the hope that with the support of the local communities, they will be able to raise the remaining money needed to make this project a reality. Thus his request for some type of monetary contribution from the city. Council agreed to seriously consider the request but made no commitment at this time.

Police Chief Mike Iverson informed council that during the week of May 24-June 2, law enforcement will target seat belt use hoping to educate the community of the importance of wearing seat belts. The Mayor was asked to sign a proclamation declaring that specific week as Wells Buckle Up Week, Doing so will make the department eligible for a portable breath tester and a tint machine. Mayor Herman agreed to sign the proclamation which will also appear in the local newspaper.

Iverson noted that we are now in the severe weather months, however all four of our sirens are presently in good working condition.

A list of several items needed by the police department was presented to the council for their approval, including a door for their evidence room, shotgun holder for the Tahoe, two vehicle unlocking kits, medical bags and oxygen tank kits for the squads, and other small miscellaneous items. Council instructed him to contact the ambulance personnel for supplies for the medical bags. Also, information was received stating that oxygen has now been reclassified as a drug and training would be required on the use of such. Chief Iverson is to check on this. Other than this, he was authorized to make the necessary purchases.

Discussion was had regarding a new squad for the department. Chief Iverson recently received a package bid from Superior Ford on a 2003 car in which they indicated they would have the vehicle in stock by mid-May. The total package price was very comparable to last years, however no action was taken at this time.

Council was informed that the Ford needs some more repairs including replacement of the rear wheel bearings. Because of the costs involved with these repairs, councilman Schultz will contact the Repair Shop and discuss the problems with them.

In reference to the Library minutes, a motion was made by Corbin, seconded by Schultz and carried that the library personnel will not be paid for travel time to and from meetings.

Motion by Gaines, seconded by Corbin and carried to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 22, financials, licenses, permits, monthly reports and payment of bills in the amount of \$161,141.47.

Motion by Carroll, seconded by Gaines and carried, to approve the assessor's re-evaluation of the Larry Gamradt property at \$84,600. Staff will notify the assessor's office of this decision.

The council members will hold a work session on Monday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the council chambers. No business will be transacted.

It was noted that the air conditioner at the Liquor Store needs to be replaced. Bill's Hardware has given a quote of \$2600 for a 2 ton unit. However, council felt another quote should be obtained and councilman Corbin will get this information and bring back to the next meeting.

Councilman Schultz reported that the reason Mr. Wigern will not be seeking a seat on the SMMPA board is because he may possibly be retiring in the next couple of years and since the board seat is a four year term, it would not be fair to put his replacement in possibly, an unfamiliar situation.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 20 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business at this time, the meeting was declared adjourned.