

## MINUTES:

The Wells City Council met on Monday, December 13, 2004 in Council Chambers

at 5 pm with Mayor David Jacobson presiding. Councilmen Carroll, Corbin, Gaines, and Schultz were present. Also present were newly elected councilmen Scott Linde & Stephen Burns, City Administrator Allis, Deputy Clerk Redman, and Reporter Bonsack. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was said by all. Councilman Gaines left the meeting at 5:45 pm.

First item on the agenda was the Stuerman request. Bob Stuerman spoke to the council on a plan residents of 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest have to remedy a water problem. Council would like Street Supervisor LaVallie to inform Mr. Stuerman what materials are needed to connect to the city storm sewer. The city is not responsible for any monetary amount for installation or connection and takes no responsibility for water problems that could occur after the storm sewer hook-up. With that, council approved the request from the property owners to connect to the city storm sewer at their own cost with a motion by Carroll, second by Corbin and carried.

Jim & Lynda Korman had been asked to attend a council or street committee meeting to discuss the dead end by their home. Council wished to inform the Kormans that snow removal was not an issue, but there was a chance that work might need to be done with the manhole or water shut-off. The Kormans were aware this situation could occur.

The minutes of the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved as written with a motion by Corbin, second by Gaines and carried. The minutes from the Truth in Taxation Hearing were also approved as written on a motion by Corbin, second by Carroll and carried.

The bills were reviewed next. Motion by Gaines, second by Schultz and carried approved paying the bills for the month in the amount of \$183,248.99. The Balance/Receipt and Revenue/Expense Statements were also approved on a motion by Corbin, second by Gaines and carried. Minor changes were made to a vendor and receipt name.

Eight Building Permits were brought before council for approval. Motion by Gaines, second by Schultz and carried approved the November permits.

Departmental Reports submitted to council were from Public Works, Community Development, Police, and Library. City Administrator Allis will inform Community Development Director Heckman that the council would like the HRA Board to pursue purchasing the Swehla property. Council would like Police Chief Herman to check to see if the city was reimbursed for the left rear axle replacement done prior to the recall from Ford. Motion by Gaines, second by Corbin and carried approved all the Departmental Reports.

Miscellaneous Reports included the Community Center, Liquor Store, Building Report, Library Automation, Employee comp-time, Employee over-time, and Pool. Motion by Schultz, second by Carroll and carried approved the Miscellaneous Reports for November.

Motion by Corbin, second by Gaines and carried approved the Street/Sewer Committee Meeting minutes as written.

The unapproved Wells Public Utilities Commission Meeting minutes were in the packet as informational.

Other Miscellaneous Reports in the packet were from the EDA, Theatre Board, and Fire Department. Motion by Carroll, second by Schultz and carried approved the rest of the Miscellaneous Reports.

Resolution 2004-36; a resolution approving the 2004 tax levy which is collectible in 2005 in the amount of \$517,360 was approved on a motion by Schultz, second by Corbin and carried.

Resolution 2004-37; a resolution setting the fees and rates for the year 2005 was approved with a motion by Carroll, second by Corbin and carried. No changes were made from the 2004 fee schedule.

Motion by Carroll, second by Corbin and carried approved renewing the (6) Cigarette Licenses for 2005. The Cigarette Licenses were issued to the Wells Super Valu, Wells Liquor Store, VFW Club, Nu-Way Coop, Twin Cities Stores, and Casey's General Store.

The request by Police Chief Rick Herman to take Police Officers Alex Thostenson and Jim Ratelle off probation as of December 13, 2004 was approved by council with a motion by Schultz, second by Carroll and carried.

The letter from Chief Herman on the Squad Car Computers was just an informational update at this time.

Old Business: The heating & cooling options for the Community Center was put on hold again. This time the council would like all the companies to give a bid on the same proposal which consist of (2) roof top units without boilers.

Contract mowing for the City of Wells was also held over until a later date. Council would like changes in the language to accommodate the City and the Contractor for a (3) year contract.

No public comment at this meeting.

At this time the council and City Administrator Allis went into closed session to discuss employee wages for 2005 and to perform the City Administrator's annual review.

The meeting was reopened to the public at this time. Motion by Schultz, second by Corbin and carried approved wages for 2005 non-union and part-time employee. Increases went as followed: City Administrator Allis, \$1.00; full-time employees, 40 cents; part-time police, 50 cents; and part-time liquor store, library, & recycling, 25 cents.

Scott Linde informed the council that the Wells Fire Department has been awarded a FEMA Grant. More information to come later.

City Administrator Allis talked with council about a bond the Wells Public Utilities are putting together. More info to come at the next council meeting. She also informed council that the Wells Employee Christmas Party was scheduled for January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

Mayor Jacobson reminded the council and staff he was asking the employees to meet with him for a short meeting on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Councilman Carroll wondered about any progress at the "trailer park".

The next scheduled council meeting will be held on Monday, December 27, 2004.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Jacobson adjourned the meeting.

Deputy Clerk, Deb Redman