

MINUTES:

The Wells City Council met on Monday, December 27, 2004 in the council chambers at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Jacobson presided with Councilmen Corbin, Gaines, Schultz and Carroll present. Also present was City Administrator Allis. Reporter Bonsack arrived at 5:35 p.m. Deputy Clerk Redman was absent. Mayor Jacobson led the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Arnie and Mike Schrader were present to discuss contract mowing, so Mayor

Jacobson moved the item up on the agenda. It was noted in the letter from Schrader Enterprises that they would like the option to increase the contract amount by an agreed upon percentage. The council was comfortable capping the increase at 3%. Arnie and Mike also agreed with 3%. Upon a motion by Schultz and a second by Gaines, the council voted to contract out all city mowing, under the terms of the contract, with the addition of a 3% increase in year 2 and a 3% increase in year 3. The contract would be good for three years. Voting in favor: Corbin, Gaines and Schultz. Voting against: Carroll. Motion carried.

The minutes of the December 13th Council Meeting were reviewed and approved as presented on a motion by Corbin, seconded by Schultz and carried.

Motion by Gaines, second by Corbin and carried approved paying the rest of the monthly bills in the amount of \$74,600.76.

The next item on the agenda was the Police and Fire Committee Meeting minutes. On a motion by Corbin and a second by Schultz, the council voted to remove Michelle Scherb from her part-time duties with the Wells Police Department. Motion carried. Motion by Corbin, second by Carroll and carried approved the Police and Fire Committee minutes as presented.

The council reviewed the minutes of the Wells Public Utilities Commission (December 6 and December 13). On a motion by Corbin, second by Carroll the minutes of the Wells Housing and Redevelopment Authority were approved. Motion carried.

Zoa Heckman submitted a request, on behalf of the HRA, to pay the HRA board members on an annual basis (\$200 per year) rather than on a per meeting basis. Motion by Gaines, second by Schultz and carried approving this request.

The council reviewed the letter from the US Department of Homeland Security regarding the fire department grant. The approved project costs amount to \$130,000. The Federal share is 90 percent or \$117,000 of the approved amount and the city's share of the costs is 10 percent or \$13,000. Motion by Carroll, second by Gaines to accept the grant and agree to fund the 10%. Motion carried.

Police Chief Rick Herman submitted an updated 2005 South Central Drug Task Force Joint Powers Agreement. The city had already signed the agreement, but updates were necessary due to changes at the State level. On a motion by Corbin, second by Gaines and all voting in favor, the updated Agreement was passed.

Liquor Store Manager Miles Lindholm requested permission to open the off-sale portion of the municipal liquor store on New Years Day. He will be at the store performing year-end inventory and would like to have the off-sale open. The request was approved on a motion by Schultz, second by Carroll and all members voting in favor.

The council reviewed Resolution No. 2004-38, a "Resolution Relating to Water Utility General Obligation Revenue Note, Series 2005A; Authorizing the Issuance Thereof in Connection with the Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association Financing Program; Providing for the Execution and Delivery of a Project Loan Agreement and Related Documents; and Authorizing Certain Further Actions". Wells Public Utilities is bonding for the water portion of the southside sanitary sewer project. In order to receive a better interest rate on their bond, the city will need to provide general obligation backing. Motion by Gaines, second by Schultz and carried approving Resolution No. 2004-38.

The fire department submitted a last minute addition to the council packet. An equipment list request, out of the 2004 budget, was reviewed by council. The list was approved upon a motion by Carroll, second by Gaines and carried.

Mayor Jacobson opened the meeting for public comment. Mike Weber asked what changes had been made to the contract for mowing. City Administrator Allis informed Mr. Weber that the council requested two changes at the last meeting. The first change allowed either party to cancel the contract upon a 30-day written notice. The second change extended the contract from one-year to three-years. Ronda also reminded Mr. Weber that the council made another change tonight, which allows a 3% increase on years two and three of the contract. Mr. Weber also asked about the \$7,500 connection fee for sewer service. Administrator Allis explained that the \$7,500 applies to the newly annexed properties who will receive service in the first leg of the sewer project. It does not apply to properties, for example those along Hwy 109, who will not connect until a later date. That cost may be more than \$7,500 (but not less).

Hearing no more comment, Mayor Jacobson closed the meeting to the public.

City Administrator Ronda Allis had nothing additional to report.

Mayor Jacobson thanked Jay Corbin and Bob Schultz for the service on the council and their dedication to the City of Wells.

Councilman Corbin commented that he enjoyed working on the council and with the other council members.

Councilman Schultz also thanked everyone for their assistance and discussed some of the accomplishments the city has completed over the past 30 plus years. Councilman Schultz felt that the greatest accomplishment during his time on the council has been the hiring of a City Administrator.

The next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 10, 2005.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Jacobson adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Ronda C. Allis, City Administrator