

MINUTES:

The Wells City Council met on Monday, August 28, 2006 at 5 pm in Council Chambers with Mayor Jacobson presiding. Councilmen Burns, Carroll, Gaines, and Linde were in attendance. Also present were City Administrator Allis, Deputy Clerk Redman, and Reporter Bonsack.

Mayor Jacobson called the meeting to order and the group said the "Pledge of Allegiance".

The minutes from the August 14th Council Meeting were reviewed and approved as written with a motion by Burns, second by Carroll and carried.

The remainder of the monthly bills were reviewed and approved for payment in the amount of \$54,697.09 on a motion by Gaines, second by Burns and carried.

The Street & Sewer Committee Report was the next item on the agenda. Richard Brandenburg has completed a 6 months probationary period on September 14th. Motion by Carroll, second by Gaines and carried approved taking Bucky off probation. Nate Nasinec is interested in becoming the City of Wells Building Official. City Administrator Allis would like to begin working out details with Mr. Nasinec. Motion by Burns and second by Linde approved starting the process. A sewer rate adjustment for lawn watering for the months of June through September was discussed. Motion by Gaines, second by Carroll and carried approved a "not to exceed" rate of \$8.70 per month for the year 2007. Motion by Burns, second by Linde and carried approved the Street & Sewer Committee Meeting minutes as submitted.

The Police & Fire Committee Report was also in the packet for review. Chief Herman would like Officer Ratelle to attend Cornerhouse (children involved in domestic abuse situations) training, which is offered through a grant. Motion by Linde, second by Gaines and carried approved sending Jim to this training with the City paying for housing & meals. The Police & Fire Committee Meeting minutes were approved as submitted with a motion by Burns, second by Linde and carried.

The Wells Area Chamber of Commerce requested the Council waive the fees involved in getting a building permit to construct and place a "Welcome to Wells" sign in the North Industrial Park. Motion by Gaines, second Burns and carried approved waiving the fees.

The request from the USC School to use the Flame Theatre as a gathering place for students in case of an emergency was approved on a motion by Linde, second by Carroll and carried.

A new logo for the City of Wells was discussed. After viewing some samples, council suggested the Chamber of Commerce be involved and view the designs also. This will be discussed at a later date when all parties have made suggestions.

Cub Scout Pack 31 would like to hold a Cub Mobile Derby in Wells on Saturday, May 5, 2007 and use 7th Avenue Southwest. After some discussion, Council believes this is a good idea, but a different date and a better location might be advisable. Ronda will contact Jackie Neubauer and discuss details.

The Chamber of Commerce request to keep the Kernel Days celebration at Half Moon Park was approved on a motion by Gaines, second by Burns and carried.

There were 2 items in the packet for information. The first one was a notice from the League of Minnesota Cities for their 2006 Regional Meetings. The second one was a notice from Mediacom about their extended services.

The budget for 2007 was reviewed at this time. Large amount items from several different departments were reviewed. Some items were cut, some were lowered, and some will be checked into. The budget will be looked at closer at the next meeting.

Old Business:

The request from Local 49 to participate in the Central Pension Fund was brought back for approval. Motion by Linde, second by Burns and carried approved participation with \$2,000 maximum contribution per year.

The Railroad would like to know when the final paper work for the closing of 4th Avenue Northwest crossing would be completed. Council directed City Administrator Allis to convey to the Railroad that the tracts on Broadway have not been started yet.

No "Public Comment" at this meeting.

City Administrator Allis informed Council that Don Smieja had spoke to her about his property being connected to the city sewer. His property is for sale and he needs to disclose this information. Street Supervisor LaVallie will check to make sure he is actually connected and then council needs to decide how they wish to proceed. The amount for back payment for the many years he has been connected could be significant.

Councilman Gaines had a citizen inquire if the City could force a landlord to place a handicap parking stall in a private parking lot.

Councilman Carroll inquired about increasing the Council Member's wages. City Administrator Allis will check into this and report back to Council later.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2006.

With no further business to bring before the Council, Mayor Jacobson adjourned the meeting.

Deb Redman, Deputy Clerk