

MINUTES:

The Wells City Council held their last meeting of the year on Thursday, December 20, 2007 at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers. Mayor Jacobson presided with Council Members Burns, Gaines, Linde, and Savick in attendance. Also present were City Administrator Allis and Deputy City Clerk Redman. The "Pledge of Allegiance" was said by everyone present.

The minutes from the December 10th Council Meeting and the minutes from when the Council moved back into open session were reviewed and approved as written with a motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried.

The remainder of the monthly bills were reviewed and approved for payment in the amount of \$65,811.56 on a motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried.

County Commissioner Bill Groskreutz Jr. was present to discuss with Council the "In Lieu of Taxes" situation. The City has been receiving in lieu of tax payments from the HRA for the Broadway Apartments & Park Place Town Homes. The Faribault County Treasurer has not received a payment from the City for these properties for several years. After some discussion, Council felt it was best to have a committee formed to research this situation and report back to Council. Motion by Savick, second by Gaines and carried approved having a committee of Bill Groskreutz, City Administrator Allis, and Treasurer David Frank meet to work out a solution to this situation and to report back to Council their findings.

The Police & Fire Committee discussed a proposal Chief Herman was going to present to the Minnesota Lake City Council concerning the Wells Police Department providing services to the City of Minnesota Lake. Motion by Savick, second by Gaines and carried approved Chief Herman discussing a service proposal with Minnesota Lake, but more complete details need to be worked out and a 6 month trial basis needs to be added. Also, the committee discussed increasing the cell phone allowance. Motion by Savick, second by Burns and carried approved increasing the cell phone reimbursement to \$25 a month. This would also be included in the Building Official's contract. The Police & Fire Committee Meeting minutes were approved with a motion by Linde, second by Gaines and carried.

The Street & Sewer Committee met and discussed repairs to the Sterling Snow Plow and new snow shoes for the blower. The estimated cost for these two items would be \$4,500. Motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried approved Supervisor LaVallie's requests. Motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried approved the Street & Sewer Committee Meeting minutes as presented.

Miscellaneous Reports were submitted from the following; Flame Theatre Board, Wells Community Ambulance Board, Wells Library Board, Tri-City Joint Sewer Board, and the Wells Public Utilities Commission. Motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried approved the Miscellaneous Reports as presented.

Milt Peterson addressed the Council at this time. Prior to the Council Meeting, Mr. Peterson spoke to City Administrator Allis about being put on the council agenda. City Administrator Allis provided Council with information related to the subjects Milt Peterson wanted to discuss. Some of the items he addressed were the Community Development Director's job description of 1991, the City Administrator's job description, the City Council Member's role, dead end streets, sewer issue on 10th Avenue, "gift" to Council Member, and time table for Council action.

Randy Kuster has resigned from the Fire Department. Fire Chief Pyzick is requesting permission to advertise for the open membership. Motion by Savick, second by Burns and carried approved going ahead with the hiring process.

The Minnesota Council of Airports membership dues for 2008 are requested at this time. Motion by Linde, second by Gaines and carried approved remaining a member for 2008.

Chief of Police Herman submitted an update on the Drug Task Force. A new agreement is being drawn up; this will be reviewed at a later date.

The Wells Public Utilities Commission is considering doing a retrofit of 73 light fixtures at the Community Center. City Administrator Allis will take this information to the next Community Center Committee meeting.

The League of Minnesota Cities is hosting a Leadership Conference in Bloomington on January 18-19, 2008. Councilwoman Savick is planning on attending.

In the packet for information was the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust 2007 Property/Casualty Dividend information.

Old Business: none

Public Comment: Mike & Cindy Weber

Mike passed out information to the four Council Members regarding his sewer line, sewer hookup, and the manhole on the Pietan property. Cindy Weber commented on wanting Committee Meeting minutes on the City's Website. Also, she gave her opinion on closing committee meetings.

There were no reports from the City Administrator, the Mayor, or any Council Member at this meeting.

The next regular scheduled Council Meeting is set for Monday, January 14, 2008 at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers.

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

Deb Redman, Deputy City Clerk