

The Wells City Council held their second meeting of the month on Monday, August 25, 2008 at 5 p.m. in Council Chambers. Mayor Jacobson presided with Council Members Burns, Gaines, Linde, and Savick present. Also present were Deputy Clerk Redman and Reporter Bonsack. Mayor Jacobson led the group in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

Tim Flaherty, Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, gave a presentation to Council starting with a report on the 2008 legislative session, CGMC programs, LGA information, and their advocacy efforts. He also provided Council with handouts and urged them to become a member. The CGMC is 80 members strong and the dues for 2009 would be \$972.

The minutes from the August 11th Council Meeting were reviewed and approved as written with a motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried.

The rest of the monthly bills were reviewed and approved for payment in the amount of \$167,948.92 on a motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried.

The minutes from the Police & Fire Committee Meeting were approved as submitted with a motion by Burns, second by Gaines and carried. Motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried approved the Fire Department using \$1,350 of the donation money for Fire Prevention Week items. Motion by Gaines, second Linde and carried approved Mike and Bucky doing Fire Prevention Classes at the Fire Station for the youth. Chief Herman would like to replace 3 radios at a cost of \$850 plus programming. The radios would be placed at City Hall, the Police Station, and in the DARE car. Motion by Linde, second by Savick and carried approved purchasing the used radios from Alpha Wireless.

The minutes from the Street & Sewer Committee Meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried. The Doolittle septic plan was discussed. Motion by Savick, second by Burns and carried approved Randy Weber's bid of \$6,120.30 to complete the job. Councilman Linde will check to make sure there is a MPCA permit, an easement, and an agreement in place. This amount will be assessed on their property taxes. Some old stretches of covered sidewalk were discovered while putting in the curb and gutter on 9th Street SW. Since the old sidewalk was not being used, a new sidewalk was not recommended.

The minutes from the City Hall Committee Meeting were approved as presented with a motion by Burns, second by Gaines and carried. Councilwoman Savick will check with Honeywell to see if they have a finance program available for the heating & cooling system needed at City Hall. It was recommended that the Street Department check the double doors in the basement for the Dance Studio to see why they do not open. Disposal of City property at a consignment auction was discussed. The committee needs to find out what percentage the auction gets. Dulas Excavating quote for demolition of the building north of the Theatre still needs an amount for asbestos removal. Councilwoman Savick read a statement on manners to the public.

The minutes from the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting and the minutes from the Ambulance Board of Directors Meeting were approved as submitted on a motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried.

The Police Department monthly report was approved as presented with a motion by Burns, second by Linde and carried.

Chief Herman would like to attend the BCA Criminal Justice Information Users Conference on September 10-11, 2008 in St. Cloud. Motion by Savick, second by Linde and carried approved his request.

Planning & Zoning recommendation to vacate the entire alley on the 200 block of 7th Street SW was approved on a motion by Linde, second by Burns and carried. Community Development Director

Heckman will check with Wells Public Utilities and the Street & Sewer Committee for the appropriate utilities easements. Councilwoman Savick abstained from the vote.

The Public Pool Upgrade Program was a grant application submitted by Zoa Heckman, Rick LaVallie, and Nathan Bichler to help fund the equipment requirements for public pools. Motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried approved the grant application submitted.

The Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation invites all Council members to their Faribault County Community Dialogue on September 17th in Blue Earth.

The Wells Area Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee requested permission to decorate the windows of City Hall with posters for "Homecoming Week" and also to decorate the downtown area streetlights with scarecrows and cornstalks for the month of October. Motion by Burns, second by Savick and carried approved their requests.

Jessica Redman's letter of resignation as a concession worker for the Flame Theatre was approved on a motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried.

There were two bids received for the fall application of weed control for the City of Wells areas. The bid was awarded to Shawn Hassing for the amount of \$1,134 with a motion by Linde, second by Savick and carried.

The 2009 budget review was started at this meeting. Departments that need to take a second look at their expenses were the Fire Department and the Street Department. Council Members need to visit with their committees and do some trimming of the budget before the September 8th Council Meeting.

The City Administrator Position was the next item on the agenda. Mayor Jacobson asked all Council Members for their number one pick. The five members decided to have a live interview with Jeremy Germann as soon as possible. Motion by Gaines, second by Linde and carried approved flying Mr. Germann and his wife here for an interview as soon as accommodations can be made.

The Amended Grant of Easement and Agreement for the Pietan property was approved with a motion by Savick, second by Burns and carried.

Public Comment:

Elaine Hernandez: a) no alley cut on curb & gutter for 6th Ave SW

b) no driveway cut on 9th St SW for Godina property

c) needs help finding pin for northeast corner of property, no one returns phone calls

d) when will street assessment public hearing be

Lynda Korman: a) stub on 9th Street & 6th Ave SW done prior to committee meeting

b) other issues concerning supervisors

Jim Pietan: a) thanked Council for amended agreement

b) wants City to do an out of court settlement

Mike Weber: a) Personnel Policy

b) Budget cuts

c) Council packets

d) Code of Ethics for Council Members

e) Email Data request answer

f) % of street project is assessed to property owners

Cindy Weber: a) Data requests have not been answered since June

Randy Anderson: a) Golf Cart Ordinance

b) Street and sewer issues

c) ATV Ordinance

Mayor Jacobson discussed with Council the letter all Council Members had received from Attorney Frundt concerning the Weber's data request for copies of emails. Motion by Linde, second by Gaines and carried approved sending the request to the League's Specialist for an appropriate decision.

Councilwoman Savick discussed with Council an issue concerning a dog which had been picked up and how the situation had been handled.

The next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2008 in Council Chambers at 5 p.m.

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

Deputy City Clerk, Deb Redman