
MINUTES

Regular Session of City Council

City of Wells

The Wells City Council convened in regular session on Monday, October 27, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. in the Wells City Building, Council Chambers. Mayor Dave Jacobson called the meeting to order with the following council members and employees present: Councilmember Steve Burns, Councilmember Ron Gaines, and Councilmember Shannon Savick. Absent: Councilmember Scott Linde. Employees present: City Administrator Jeremy Germann and Deputy Clerk Debra Redman. Mayor Jacobson led the group in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

CONSENT ITEMS:

The minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on October 13, 2008 were reviewed with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to accept the minutes without correction. Councilmember Savick seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Motion carried.

The monthly bills were reviewed in the amount of \$100,429.09 with Councilmember Savick making a motion to pay the bills. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE ITEMS:

Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to accept the Street & Sewer Committee's recommendation to hire Hayden Feist for an open position at the Wells Recycling Center. Councilmember Burns made the motion with Councilmember Gaines giving a second. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. **Motion carried to hire Feist.**

Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to accept the Street & Sewer Committee's recommendation to widen the street access to Mike Weber's property as part of a Sixth Street SW continuation. Councilmember Burns made the motion with Councilmember Gaines giving a second. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. **Motion carried to widen the street access.**

The minutes of the Street & Sewer Committee Meeting held on October 20, 2008 were reviewed with Councilmember Burns making a motion to accept the minutes with two corrections. Councilmember Savick seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Motion carried with the following exceptions: 1.) under the subheading department concerns it should read "sewer line" instead of "septic tank;" 2.) under the subheading department concerns it should read "Discussion was held on the need for a snowplow for the front-end loader."

The minutes of the Police & Fire Committee Meeting held on October 21, 2008 were reviewed with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to accept the minutes without correction. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to accept the Police & Fire Committee's recommendation to begin the procedure to hire a police chief and a full-time police officer due to the planned resignations of Chief Rick Herman and Officer Jim Ratelle during the first quarter of 2009. Councilmember Burns made the motion with Councilmember Savick giving a second. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. **Motion carried to begin a search.**

Mayor Jacobson addressed the recommendation by the Police & Fire Committee for council to deal with the John Frank property. Mayor Jacobson asked City Administrator Germann and Police Chief Herman to begin the procedure as soon as possible.

The minutes of the Wells Community Ambulance Board Meeting held on September 8, 2008; Wells Economic Development Authority Meetings held on September 16 & 29, 2008; and Flame Theatre Board Meeting held October 15, 2008 with Councilmember Savick making a motion to accept the minutes without correction. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to accept the resignation of Julie Forderer from the Flame Theatre Board effective immediately. Councilmember Jacobson made the motion with Savick giving a second. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. **Motion carried to accept Forderer's resignation.**

Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to accept the Flame Theatre Board's recommendation to appoint Renee Burns to fill a vacancy left by Forderer. Councilmember Gaines made the motion with Savick giving a second. Roll call taken with Gaines and Savick voting yea. Councilmember Burns abstained. **Motion carried to appoint Renee Burns.**

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- **HRA - RESOLUTION 2008-15: DETERMINING THE NECCITY FOR AND AUTHORIZING A GRANT FOR ABATING BLIGHT** was passed by the Wells Housing and Redevelopment Authority on October 23, 2008.

- *Bid Opening* – Council received no bids for the Half Moon Park Project. Mayor Jacobson asked the Street & Sewer Committee to reevaluate the bid specifications and report back to council with a recommendation.
- *Data Compliance Officer* – Mayor Jacobson asked for a motion to name City Administrator Germann the city’s data compliance officer beginning November 1, 2008. Councilmember Gaines made the motion with Savick giving a second. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. **Motion carried to appoint Germann data compliance officer.**
- *Martin Dylla* – Asked if council had made any decisions on the information he submitted at Wells City Council Meeting on October 13, 2008. Mr. Dylla was informed council was waiting on a recommendation by Street & Sewer Committee.
- *Officer Jim Ratelle* – Council was informed Officer Ratelle received the Committee Against Domestic Abuse’s first-ever Distinguished Peace Officer Award on October 24, 2008. The award is meant to honor a law enforcement official whose work is exemplary when dealing with domestic abuse cases.
- *Also Noted* – Council was updated on issues concerning Mediacom; Faribault County Storm Water Connections; Minnesota Association of Small Cities; and the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment.

VISTORS:

Brenda Weber – Asked council questions about the condition of Ninth Street, if the city inspects contractors’ work including the Ninth Street Project, about the scheduling of projects, concerning the Johnson property adjacent to Ninth Street and when the Street & Sewer Committee would make a recommendation on Martin Dylla’s requests.

Mike Weber – Asked council questions about his concerns regarding the community economic developer.

Michelle Lacher – Asked council if it was possible to have the United States flags on city property lit when they are being flown after dusk.

ANNOUCEMENTS:

Councilmember Gaines – Nothing.

Councilmember Burns – Nothing.

Councilmember Savick – Comment on the how well the card club is working out.

Mayor Jacobson – Reminded everyone on the Food Shelf’s Halloween drive.

The next meeting was set for November 10, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. in the Wells City Building, Council Chambers. Meeting adjourned.

Mayor Dave Jacobson Administrator Jeremy Germann