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# COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

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CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

## MINUTES

### Regular Session of City Council City of Wells

The Wells City Council convened in regular session on Monday, August 24, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. in the Wells Community Center, Council Chambers. Mayor Shannon Savick called the meeting to order with the following council members and employees present: Councilmember Steve Burns, Councilmember Ron Gaines, Councilmember Ashley Seedorf and Councilmember Mike Weber. Employees present: City Administrator Jeremy Germann, Deputy Clerk Deb Redman, Police Chief Jim Ratelle and City Attorney David Frundt. Mayor Savick led the group in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

#### CONSENT ITEMS:

The agenda for the August 24, 2009 council meeting was reviewed with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Seedorf. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber Voting yea. Motion carried.

The minutes of the regularly scheduled council meeting held on August 10, 2009 were reviewed with Councilmember Burns making a motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gaines. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber Voting yea. Motion carried.

The monthly bills were reviewed in the amount of \$89,151.29 with Councilmember Seedorf making a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Discussion held on a Schroeder Electric of Easton and fence repair bill. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber Voting yea. Motion carried.

The monthly financial reports were reviewed including balances & receipts, revenue & expenditures, liquor monthly comparison, building permits & report, library automation, community center figures, regular hours worked, over-time hours accrued and comp-time accumulated, yearly pool report, with Councilmember Burns making a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Gaines seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried

#### COMMITTEE ITEMS:

Mayor Savick asked for a motion concerning a proposed golf cart ordinance. Councilmember Weber made a motion to have the proposed ordinance reviewed by the city attorney. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to accept the minutes submitted by the Safety Committee for a meeting held on August 12, 2009 as presented. Councilmember Gaines made the motion with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a recommendation from the Infrastructure Committee to hire Bolton & Menk to replace property irons on a single property in the Garlock Addition at a cost of \$500.00. Councilmember Gaines made the motion. **Motion failed for lack of a second.** A motion to reconsider was made by Councilmember Weber. Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a recommendation from the Infrastructure Committee to hire Bolton & Menk to replace property irons on a single property in the Garlock Addition at a cost of \$500.00. Councilmember Gaines made the motion with a second from Councilmember Weber. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a recommendation from the Infrastructure Committee to run an advertisement in the local newspaper requesting residents submit addresses where they might have septic tanks which will not be state compliant in 2012. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to accept the minutes submitted by the Infrastructure Committee, for a meeting held on August 12, 2009, and by the Budget Committee, for a meeting held on August 19, 2009, as presented. Councilmember Seedorf made the motion with a second from Councilmember Weber. Roll call taken with Burn, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to accept the monthly report from the Police Department for July as presented. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Discussion held on Food 'N Fuel. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve Deputy Register Deb Redman attending the 2009 MDRA Annual Meeting in St. Cloud, Minnesota at a cost of \$20.00. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve Development Director Austin Bless attending the Minnesota chapter of the American Planning Association conference on September 17-18, 2009, at a cost of \$140.00. Councilmember Weber made the motion with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve Development Director Austin Bless joining the Minnesota chapter of the American Planning Association, with membership dues of \$52.00. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Weber. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion regarding the application of herbicides to city property for weed control purposes. Councilmember Weber made a motion to table the topic. Councilmember Seedorf seconded the motion. Discussion held on the Street Department applying the chemicals after the possible purchase of a John Deere Gator. Roll call taken with Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Burns, Gaines and Savick voted nea. **Motion failed.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion regarding the application of herbicides to city property for weed control purposes. Councilmember Gaines made a motion to award the bid to Schrader Enterprises under option No. 2. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick and Seedorf voted yea. Weber voted nea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a request from the city administrator to have Police Chief Jim Ratelle removed from probation. Councilmember Weber made the motion with a second from Councilmember Burns. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a request from the Police Department to contract with an outside person/agency, at the rate of a part-time officer, to assist the department in entering in approximately 2,000 backlogged reports (ICR). Councilmember Weber made a motion to approve the request up to \$3,000.00 while having council updated on the progress. Councilmember Burns second the motion. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Gaines abstained. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve an official job description, as submitted in the August 24, 2009 council packet for the position of Chief of Police. Councilmember Weber made the motion with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve an official job description, as submitted in the August 24, 2009 council packet for the position of Police Officer. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve an official job description, as submitted in the August 24, 2009 council packet for the position of Part-Time Police Officer. Councilmember Gaines made the motion with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion regarding a proposed 25-year lease for Mark Gregor for the purpose of renting land to build a hanger on, at the Wells Airport. Councilmember Weber made a motion to table the topic. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion regarding a proposed 25-year lease for Mark Gregor for the purpose of renting land to build a hanger on, at the Wells Airport. Councilmember Burns made a motion to approve the lease at a rate of \$300 per year, pro rated, for the rest

of 2009 and to be reexamined every five years. Councilmember Gaines seconded the motion. (Councilmember Weber requested a roll call voted). Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick and Seedorf voting yea. Weber did not vote. **Motion carried.**

City council received an update from Faribault County Commissioner Bill Groskreutz, Jr. on the status of the abandoned trailer court on the north side of town. Discussion held.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve the West Meadow Subdivision plat, as approved by the Wells Housing & Redevelopment Authority and the Wells Planning & Zoning Commission. Councilmember Seedorf made the motion with Councilmember Gaines giving a second. Discussion held Housing & Redevelopment Authority President Ann Schuster answering questions. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

City council received an update from Administrator Germann on the status of the 2010 budget. Discussion held.

City council reviewed an advance notice of the 2010 annual assessment from the Wells Community Ambulance Service.

City Council reviewed minutes from a July 12, 2009 meeting of the Wells Community Ambulance Board of Directors.

City Council reviewed minutes from a July 7, 2009 meeting of the Wells Public Utilities Commission.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- *Milt Peterson* – Discussed issues involving the Wells Airport. Council requested John Thisius be invited to the next council meeting.

#### **EMPLOYEES:**

*Administrator Germann:* Nothing

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

*Mayor Savick:* Nothing

*Councilmember Burns:* Nothing

*Councilmember Gaines:* Nothing

*Councilmember Seedorf:* Discussed the current status of the landscaping in the Garlock Addition. Administrator Germann discussed legal issues delaying the project.

*Councilmember Weber:* Discussed the possibility of video recording council meetings, the current population and mediation with AFSCME Council 65. Councilmember Weber asked the city attorney for an update on annexation question.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of negotiating a LELS union contract deemed permissible by Minnesota Statute §13D.05 MEETINGS HAVING DATA CLASSIFIED AS NOT PUBLIC. Council voted unanimously to go into closed session.

(CLOSED SESSION)

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to reopen the council meeting. Council voted unanimously to go into open session as required under Minnesota Statute §13D.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to approve a counter offer to LELS for a three-year contract, which would see a \$50.00 increase in uniform allowances and a general salary increase of 1 percent in January of 2010, an increase of 1 percent in January of 2011, an increase of 2 percent in January of 2012, and an increase of 2 percent in July of 2012. Councilmember Weber made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

The next regularly scheduled council meeting was set for September 14, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the Wells Community Center. A motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Gaines with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Meeting adjourned.

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Mayor Shannon Savick

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Administrator Jeremy R. Germann