



COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF WELLS, MINNESOTA

MINUTES

Regular Session of City Council City of Wells

The Wells City Council convened in regular session on Monday, November 23, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. until 6:30 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 Community Development Director Austin Bleess. Mayor Savick led the group in the "Pledge of Allegiance."

CONSENT ITEMS:

The agenda for the November 23, 2009 council meeting was reviewed with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to approve 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.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing (1) pending litigation involving the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, (2) preliminary consideration of allegations and (3) union negotiations as deemed permissible by Minnesota Statute §13D.05 MEETINGS HAVING DATA CLASSIFIED AS NOT PUBLIC and Minnesota Statute §13D.03 MEETINGS FOR LABOR NEGOTIATIONS STRATEGY. 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.

(CLOSED SESSION)

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to reopen the council meeting. Councilmember Gaines made the motion to go into open session as required under Minnesota Statute §13D. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Burns. No action was taken in closed session.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to hire Setter & Associates, LLC to conduct an internal investigation for the purpose of preliminary consideration of allegations. 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 set a special council meeting for December 7, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the Wells Community Center, Council Chambers. 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.

The minutes of the special council meeting held on November 6, 2009 were reviewed with Councilmember Burns making a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilmember Gaines seconded the motion. Discussion held on if a city employee and an utility employee should be listed under attendance. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick and Seedorf voting yea. Weber voted nea. Motion carried.

The minutes of the regularly scheduled council meeting held on November 9, 2009 were reviewed with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Councilmember Burns seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

The monthly bills were reviewed in the amount of \$54,241.67 with Councilmember Burns making a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Seedorf seconded the motion. Discussion held on the Schrader Enterprises 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, building permits & report, and the monthly liquor comparison with Councilmember Gaines making a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Seedorf seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

The monthly library automation report, community center figures, regular hours worked, over-time hours accrued and comp-time accumulated with Councilmember Burns making a motion to approve as presented. Councilmember Seedorf seconded the motion. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried

COMMITTEE ITEMS:

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to accept the minutes submitted by the Infrastructure Committee for a meeting held on November 17, 2009 as presented. Councilmember Burns made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Discussion held on an estimated submitted by Bolton & Menk to conduct a capital improvement evaluation for future road projects. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

City council reviewed a draft of the minutes submitted by the Economic Development Authority for meetings held on November 16 & 17, 2009.

City council reviewed a draft of the minutes submitted by the Housing & Redevelopment Authority for a meeting held on November 19, 2009.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion to accept a report from the Police Department for the month of October as presented. Councilmember Seedorf 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 accept a report from the Community Development Department for the month of October as presented. Councilmember Gaines 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 to approve two official job descriptions for the positions of Street Laborer and Street Department Assistant Supervisor. Councilmember Burns made a motion to approve the two job descriptions as submitted in the November 23, 2009 council packet. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Weber. 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 Wells Insurance Agency to remain the city's insurance agent for 2010. Councilmember Seedorf made the motion with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Discussion held on bidding out the service and other agents located inside the city. Roll call taken Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Savick asked for a motion for council to determine rates & fees for 2010 for the purpose of formally adopting the annual resolution at the next regular council meeting. Councilmember Burns made a motion to set the 2010 fees & rates at the same level as 2009, with the two exceptions being with the airport hangers. The yearly rent for the airport hangers will be \$200.00 except for Wells Aviation which will be \$300.00. Councilmember Gaines 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 concerning the renewal of the city's subscription of "The Kiplinger Letter" at a price of \$89.00 for the next 12 months. Councilmember Burns made a motion to renew the subscription with a second from Councilmember Gaines. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

City council reviewed the agenda for the special council meeting concerning the 2010 budget starting at 6:00 p.m. on December 7, 2009 to be held at the Wells Community Center, Council Chambers.

City council reviewed the minutes submitted by the Wells Community Ambulance Board of Directors for a meeting held on October 12, 2009.

City council reviewed the minutes submitted by the Wells Public Utilities Board for a meeting held on October 6, 2009.

City council reviewed a letter dated November 10, 2009 from Faribault County Auditor/Treasurer John Thompson concerning 2010 ditch assessments.

City council reviewed a letter dated November 12, 2009 from Faribault County Solid Waste Coordinator Billee Rabbe concerning 2009 fall SCORE funds distribution.

City council reviewed a flyer submitted by the Wells Historical Society requesting council members consider submitting an application for membership.

Mayor Savick asked for a motion concerning the purchase of a John Deere Gator for use by the Street Department. Councilmember Burns made a motion to lease a 4x4 John Deere Gator, with an option to purchase, from Detke Morbac Co., located in Blue Earth, Minnesota. Councilmember Gaines seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines and Savick voting yea. Weber voted nea. Seedorf abstained. **Motion carried.**

City council reviewed the city's amortization schedule for outstanding general obligations bonds.

Administrator Germann updated city council on their request to research any state statutes which may require the publishing of council proceedings. Administrator Germann read Minnesota Statute **§412.191 Subd. 3 PUBLISH PROCEEDINGS; ALTERNATIVE**. The statute reads: *...As an alternative to publication, the city may mail, at city expense, a copy of the proceedings to any resident upon request.* Councilmember Weber made a motion to have the city administrator research the expense of purchasing a camera for the purpose of broadcasting council meetings. Councilmember Gaines seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. Motion carried.

Administrator Germann updated city council on their request during the November 9, 2009 regularly scheduled council meeting to research a complaint by resident Gene Weber.

Development Director Bless updated city council on the Food 'N Fuel storage tanks. City council asked for the item to be removed from Old Business.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- *Kim Sorenson* – Asked for explanation on what council meant by a previous discussion concerning board members. Requested to be placed on the agenda for the December 14, 2009 regularly scheduled council meeting.

GUEST:

- *Duane Johnson* – Asked council about investigating field tiles on his property that were crossed over by the interceptor project, as was done earlier in 2009 for another property owner.

EMPLOYEES:

Administrator Germann: Informed council the owner of Wildcats Bar & Grill requested two handicap-parking signs to be placed on Broadway in front of his establishment. Councilmember Weber made a motion to approve the request with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Discussion held on state requirements and having the Safety Committee discuss the issue. Roll call taken with Burns, Gaines, Savick, Seedorf and Weber voting yea. **Motion carried.**

Informed council the Faribault County Economic Development Authority is offering Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act at sub-market rates. Administrator Germann requested council's permission to apply for the bonding to save money on potential 2010 street repair projects. 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.**

ANNOUCEMENTS:

Mayor Savick:

Discussed the benefits from the Blandin Leadership training held during the week of November 9, 2009 and thank all Wells residents that volunteered their time for the conference. Discussed setting up a committee to reapply for another group to attend the training in the near future.

Councilmember Burns:

Nothing.

Councilmember Gaines:

Nothing.

Councilmember Seedorf:

Nothing.

Councilmember Weber:

Requested septic tanks be placed under old business for the next council agenda. Discussed liability issues involved with the Half-Moon Park project.

The next two special council meetings were set for December 7, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. (union negotiations) and 6:00 p.m. (2010 budget) at the Wells Community Center. The next regularly scheduled council meeting was set for December 14, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. at the Wells Community Center. Councilmember Gaines made a motion to adjourn with a second from Councilmember Seedorf. Meeting adjourned.

Mayor Shannon Savick

Administrator Jeremy R. Germann