

GOOD THUNDER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting

August 3, 2015

The August 3, 2015 meeting of the Good Thunder city council was called to order, at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Robert Anderson. The meeting convened in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Court, Good Thunder, Minnesota. Council members present, Kim Hernandez; Sarah Karels. Absent council members: Jim Prom, and Ken Giese. Others in attendance: Hunter Chaffee, City Maintenance; Phil Klammer, Fire Chief; Brian Severns, Water/Wastewater Operator; Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council member Kim Hernandez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and distributed with the addition of Zoning Permit **GT-14-15**. Council member Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Sarah Karels made a motion to approve the July 6, 2015 council minutes with corrections as noted. Council member Kim Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Hunter Chaffee, City Maintenance, informed the council that the Zoning Permits presented at the meeting have been approved by him. However, Mr. Chaffee has one Zoning Permit for a picket fence at 332 Main Street that he has a concern with and is not approving at this time. Mr. Chaffee would like to have a written letter, from the neighbor, granting permission that the requested fence can be erected two (2) feet from the property line as requested in the permit. The council was in agreement with this decision.

Council member, Kim Hernandez, made a motion approving the following Zoning Permits for approval:

GT-12-15, 209 Halladay St., 10' x 40' 6' fence installation

GT-13-15, 220 S. Ewing St., put up wood fence

GT-14-15, 244 Miner Street, fence (previously approved in 2012)

Council member, Sarah Karels, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Chaffee thanked Sarah Karels, and her two sons, for helping spread the mulch at the parks two Playgrounds. Robert Anderson was also thanked for the use of his bobcat during this project.

Mr. Chaffee informed the council that he had contacted Jay Stenzel, instructor at South Central College, North Mankato, and asked if students could locate curb stops, and map them out, as a class project. There would be no cost for this assistance and locates for one street may be provided annually. Mr. Stenzel is checking into this request.

The council was asked to consider replacing the three (3) remaining wooden picnic tables with current picnic tables at a cost of approximately \$1200 each. Luke's Electric will install cameras at the concession stand at an estimated cost of \$1100. (This price includes cameras and installation costs.) The council was informed that there are five (5) property owners who have not responded to the request of allowing the city access to install the new water meters in their homes.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, has sent out letters requesting specific property owners to mow their property. If they do not, the city will mow it at a cost of \$45 per hour. This caused discussion regarding raising the rate for providing such a service.

Council member, Kim Hernandez, made a motion to increase the city's fee of mowing a property to \$150 per time. Council member, Sarah Karels, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Hernandez stated that Chuck and Kathy Travaille requested that it be noted at a council meeting that Mr. Chaffee was very respectful during the installation of their water meter in their home. Council member Karels complimented Chaffee on a job well done.

Brian Severns reported that testing of the city's water is fine and that the wastewater treatment ponds look good. Their Well has been contacted and pump #1 will be pulled for needed repair in the next few weeks.

Phil Klammer, Fire Chief, reported that the fire department responded to two (2) false alarm calls, one (1) medical call, and one (1) assist to another agency call. The fire department, on September 12th from 4:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. will sponsor a Pork Feed at the fire station.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, informed the council of a State revenue that the city received in July. No prior announcement had been given as to what this payment of \$6499 was for. It was received at the time Local Government Aid was issued. Small Cities which do not receive municipal state aid will receive two annual payments in 2016. This money is to aid in construction and maintenance of roads within these cities. This includes engineering, construction, reconstruction, maintenance etc.

The next city council meeting will be held September 14th due to the Labor Day Holiday. At this meeting, the proposed 2016 will be adopted. The budget workshop will be held Wednesday, August 26th at 5:30 p.m. December 7th will be the Truth in Taxation Hearing for the adoption of the 2016 final budget at 7:00 p.m.

The council discussed the Tri-City Police Departments proposed 2016 proposed budget. The Tri-City Police Commission will hold their monthly meeting on August 17th in Amboy beginning at 7:00 p.m. The proposed budget will be discussed at this meeting. It was decided that the Good Thunder Council would like to hear from citizens regarding how they feel the Tri-City Police Department is progressing at the October 19th Police Commission which will be held in Good Thunder.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard informed the council that at the September 2015 meeting the council will hear any discussion from homeowners who will be receiving notification that their delinquent utility accounts will be placed on their property taxes, through Blue Earth County, for payment in 2016.

Council member, Sarah Karels, made a motion approving the bills for payment as presented and distributed. Council member, Kim Hernandez, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Virgil Marble stated that he felt speeding vehicles, on North Halladay Street, are not being stopped due to the lack of presence of law enforcement.

John Lillis thanked the council for presenting information on the Maple River School as he has spoken to many individuals who were concerned about the school closing.

The council discussed recycled blacktop and decided to not place any down on Willard Street until a petroleum product is found to help the product from disintegrating.

Grand marshals for the Good Thunder Day parade, August 22, are Dick and Cheryl Barnard.

Council member, Sarah Karels, reported that “Night to Unite” held, Tuesday August 4th, was again successful this year.

Yard of the month was chosen and the recipient is Randy Glaser, 407 Ewing Court.

Council member, Kim Hernandez, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Council member, Sarah Karels, seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Barnard
City Clerk-Treasurer