

## Minutes of the April 2, 2012 City Council Meeting

Mayor Robert Anderson called the April 2, 2012, meeting of the city council to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting convened in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Street, Good Thunder. Members present at the meeting: Tom Froehlich, Sarah Karels, Arlen Ostermann. Absent council member: Russ Brase. Others in attendance: Jerry Birr-City Maintenance; Jeffrey Marx-Police Chief; Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

The first item on the agenda was bid opening for city vehicles. The first bid opened was for the 1998 Chevrolet, 1 ton 3500 pickup with 8' quick-detached snowplow. The city had requested a minimum bid of \$4,000. One bid was received on this vehicle in the amount of \$4,500 from D & K Tire Service of Amboy. Bids were opened for the 58 International Fire R-190 and John Ruch, of Garden City, was the highest bidder at \$1,687.50. Other bids received for this vehicle were from Curt Bening, New Auburn, MN \$700 and John Caven, rural Amboy, \$401.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion accepting the \$4500 bid, received from D & K Service, for the 98 Chevrolet pickup and the \$1687.50 bid, received from John Ruch, for the 58 International Fire R-190, Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Ostermann made a motion approving the agenda as presented and distributed. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the minutes of the March 5, 2012, city council meeting. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Eileen Dalluge questioned who is responsible for the Good Thunder Forde monument that had previously been installed by the Maple River on County Road #10. During construction of County Road #10 in 2011 the monument was moved and has not been placed back to its original site. Discussion followed and Mayor Robert Anderson stated that he would contact Blue Earth County and see if they can install the monument back to its original site.

Stacey Karels, Cub Scout leader, informed the council that the scouts need to complete a community project. Mr. Karels stated that if the city would provide mulch for the park equipment at Thunder Valley, the troop would install the mulch for the city. Discussion followed regarding edging, around the park equipment, for the mulch. Councilor Sarah Karels stated that she will obtain cost figures for mulch and edging and present the information at the next council meeting.

Lorraine Truebenbach discussed the erosion problem by her driveway and asked the council if there had been any discussion about repairing this gully in front of her property. Mayor Anderson stated that someone would have to look at the area to determine what type of work would need to be done. Ms. Truebenbach was informed that the problem would be worked on once the weather warms up and other street patching can begin.

Councilor Sarah Karels thanked the community for the 360 pounds of food that was picked up by the Cub Scouts, and was delivered to the Loaves and Fishes food shelf in Mapleton

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving timesheets for the payroll periods of 3-3-2012 thru 3-17-2012 and 3-17-2012 thru 3-31-2012. Councilor Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Birr, City Maintenance, informed the council that he had been approached by Tom Massop, Protein Source, indicating that the “intake” line, by the grain bins on Main Street, needs repair and that another “intake” line may be needed on the boulevard. Discussion followed and the council approved this repair by Protein Sources. Birr also informed the council that the curb, which previously had been cut out and removed, in front of the Brad Schneeberger property needs to be replaced. Another area of curb that needs to be replaced is the curb in front of the Melvin Bergemann residence. The council asked Birr to obtain cost estimates from Trio Brothers Construction and Jerome Pluyme for the curb work that was discussed. Mr. Birr also informed the council that the women’s toilet in the park on Main Street needs repair and that the wooden playground at this park is also in need of repair. Discussion followed and the council approved the purchase of a new toilet and repair of the wooden playground. Discussion was also held on Birr removing the blacktop and fence at the old tennis court and the placement of gravel under the bleachers at the ball field park. The compost pile was discussed and the council approved Birr to purchase more of the block barriers from Superior Concrete to enlarge the site. The council discussed replacing the line 50’ to 60’ from the water main on Shaubut Street. This line has had approximately three breaks. Mr. Birr will contact Boening Brothers for an estimate on replacement of a portion of this line.

The following Zoning Permits were presented to the council for approval.

**GT-01-12**, 510 Hiller Drive, storage shed 8’x6’ x 6.

**GT-02-12**, 421 S. Halladay St., 9’ x 9’ deck attached to SW corner of house, 20’ x 10’ shed in SE corner of lot.

**GT-03-12**, 244 Miner St., new accessory garage approximately 50’ x 66’ with 6’ fence to replace hedge following existing hedge line on north end of lot to be set 4’ off back lot line following setback.

GT-02-12, must follow the Zoning Ordinance and be 6 feet from the side property line before construction of the proposed shed can begin. GT-03-12, was discussed and it was determined that a public hearing would need to be held due to the setback requirements for the north side of this construction.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving GT-01-12. GT-02-12 is approved contingent upon the shed being placed 6 feet from the side property line. Zoning Administrator, Jerry Birr is to discuss this decision with the property owners and inform them on the setback requirements. A Variance Public Hearing will be held Wednesday, April 25, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in council chambers to discuss construction at 244 Miner Street, GT-03-12. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, presented the Peterson Mowing Service proposal for mowing of the waste water treatment plant for 2012. A set amount of \$500 per mowing time, and a one time spraying of the rock area around both lagoons of \$800 was presented. The Hiller Drive ditch was also proposed to be mowed at a price of \$175 per time. The council discussed the city mowing the lagoon property and decided that this will be mowed by the city in April. Councilor Ostermann will obtain mower prices and report back to the council in May.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion that the city hires Brandon Severns to work part time for the city at the minimum wage rate. Councilor Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reviewed preliminary quotes for installation of storm sewer between Hiller Drive and Chapel Street. Quotes were received from Kregel Bros. Inc. and Ulrich Acres Excavating. Council reviewed the quotes and decided to table this project until Ms. Barnard informs the council if such a project is feasible at this time.

The council discussed delinquent utility accounts and was informed that postings would occur Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and shut off of water would occur at 9:00 a.m. Monday, April 9<sup>th</sup> if accounts are not paid.

Fire Chief, Tom Froehlich, informed the council that the fire department responded to three medical calls, and one fire call during the month of March 2012. April 15<sup>th</sup> is the date set for the Pancake Feed at the fire station.

Councilor Ostermann made a motion that the 76 LaFrance ladder truck be again advertised for sale with a minimum bid of \$3500. Bid opening to be held May 7<sup>th</sup> at the city council meeting. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Barnard will advertise this notice in the Maple River Messenger, Home Magazine, and Craig's List.

Police Chief, Jeffrey Marx, informed the council that during the month of March 2012, the police department received forty-three (43) calls for service.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the part-time police officers time sheets for the month of March 2012. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, informed the council that Spring Clean-Up will be held May 19<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Barnard also informed the council that Al Kluever, Deputy Emergency Management Coordination for Blue Earth County, had contacted her and she was informed that the city will be receiving a siren through a grant that was completed in 2009. The council was informed that this grant was originally submitted because the Koch facility was selected as needing attention for security and safety purposes based on its location, in the rural area. This grant is no longer sponsored by the federal government. This siren is to provide protection in the event a chemical release at the Koch facility occurs on Hwy. #169, but it will also be used as the county weather alert system. Mr. Kluever is also working on a vendor for installation of this siren.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard informed the council that LJP Enterprises are increasing the garbage hauling rate and the recycling rate per household based on the February 1<sup>st</sup> CPI-U increase. This increase is enclosed in the contract that the city currently has with LJP Enterprises. Refuse will increase from \$5.62 per month to \$5.78 per month. Recycling will increase from \$4.62 per month to \$4.76 per month. These rate increases became effective March 1, 2012.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving the bills as presented and distributed. Councilor Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Ostermann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl A. Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer