

Minutes of the July 2, 2012, Good Thunder City Council Meeting

Acting Mayor, Tom Froehlich, called the July 2, 2012, meeting of the Good Thunder city council to order at 7:00 p.m. in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Street, Good Thunder. Council members present: Sarah Karels, Russ Brase. Absent council members: Robert Anderson, Arlen Ostermann. Others in attendance: Police Chief, Jeffrey Marx; Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by council members.

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion approving the agenda as presented and distributed. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Brase made a motion approving the minutes of the June 4, 2012, city council meeting. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Lola Phelps, 821 Willard Street, informed the council of a sinkhole that has developed by a storm sewer drain located on her property. The council will direct City Maintenance to fill in the hole and have it repaired. A barricade will be placed over the hole to prevent anyone from being injured. Ms. Phelps also stated that the Farmers Market is being held on Wednesday's, from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Main Street Park and several vendors have shown up with a large variety of produce and crafts.

Ben Stein, 230 N. Halladay Street, informed the council that he had previously spoken to Police Chief Marx about a neighbor's property which contains inoperable vehicles. Mr. Stein's concern is that no effort has been made by the neighbors to restore the vehicles or make them operable. Mr. Stein indicated that he wants to enjoy the peace and quiet of his backyard. Police Chief Marx will speak with the vehicle owners. Stein also informed the council that he has a hobby of metal detecting. He has been spending time in the city park and was informed by Police Chief Marx that he should inform the council of his metal detecting. The council asked that Stein remove, from the park, anything that he uncovers from the park.

Councilor Sarah Karels stated that the Good Thunder Postmaster had told her that starting in the fall, the post office hours would be reduced to four hours per day. The council should consider whether morning or afternoon hours would benefit customers.

The council was informed that Jetter Clean had tried to clean out a catch basin on the northern end of Hubbell Street but could not get through the line as the catch basin is plugged. Discussion was held by the council and it was decided not to pursue repairing this line at this time. Councilor Brase indicated that there are streets that need to be repaired, because of maintenance repairs, and they should be fixed before the city tears up another street.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, informed the council that City Maintenance, Jerry Birr, was informed of a gate valve tool that is available from the city of LeSueur. The tool is approximately \$2500 and has hardly been used. Discussion followed.

Councilor Sarah Karels made a motion that Jerry Birr contacts the city of LeSueur to view the gate valve tool that is currently available. If upon demonstration, this is a tool that will be useful to the city of Good Thunder, Mr. Birr will have the authority to make this purchase. Councilor Russ Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the time sheets for the street and water/sewer departments for the periods of 5-28-12 thru 6-9-12, and 6-9-12 thru 6-23-12. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Brase made a motion approving the following Zoning permits:

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GT-12-12, 124 Middle Street, addition to west end of garage and driveway approach on south side

GT-13-12, 106 S. Ewing St., 6' privacy fence along Ewing St. to be placed behind the tree approximately 8' from the sidewalk. Along south and west edge of property fence to be 4' high (this should be placed 2' from property line)
Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Severns informed the council that in reading water meters, this quarter, several are still not in operating order. Acting Mayor, Tom Froehlich, asked to see a listing of these non-working meters. Severns will obtain a below grade shut off valve quote for the water tower.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the part time police payroll period for the month of June. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief, Jeffrey Marx, reported to the council that there were forty-seven calls for service during the month of June 2012.

Fire Chief, Tom Froehlich, informed the council that the fire department responded to four medical (4) and two (2) fire calls during the month of June 2012.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, presented Resolution No. #2012-05. This resolution would approve election judges for the August 14, 2012, State Primary, and the State General and Local Election on November 6, 2012.

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion approving **Resolution #2012-05** which approves election judges for the State Primary and the State General and Local Elections in 2012. Acting Mayor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Barnard asked the council to consider giving a gift certificate to Paulette Nelson for all of the work she has done, over the past several years, regarding the flowers at the bell tower corner. Councilor Russ Brase made a motion that Paulette Nelson be given a \$25 gift certificate, from the city, to Thunder Restaurant. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Barnard also noted that a thank you should be given to Sarah & Stacey Karels, Jeff Marx, and Jerry Birr for the work they had done on the flag pole corner at city hall.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the bills for payment as presented and distributed. Councilor Russ Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Karels informed the council that the border for the Thunder Valley Park playground area has arrived. The council was informed by Karels that she and Ms. Barnard have been discussing various options in mailing out a survey for Happy Dan's. The council was reminded that the answers to this survey would be compiled and given to anyone interested in purchasing the business for future reference. Discussion followed.

Councilor Brase made a motion that the survey be sent out as soon as possible by the city. Acting Mayor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl Barnard, City Clerk-Treasurer

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