

Minutes of the November 13, 2012 City Council Meeting

Mayor Robert Anderson called the November 13, 2012, city council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting convened in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Street, Good Thunder. Council members present: Russ Brase, Sarah Karels, Tom Froehlich. Absent council member: Arlen Ostermann.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion approving the agenda with the additions of Zoning Permit GT-17-12, under Street Department, and Mayor and Clerks Meeting Update under Clerk-Treasurer. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Good Thunder city council convened as the Canvassing Board for the city.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, administered the Oath to the city council serving as the city's Canvassing Board. Ms. Barnard presented the Abstract of Votes Cast as follows:

▪ Number of persons registered as of 7:00 a.m.	321
▪ Number of persons registered on Election Day	54
▪ Number of accepted regular, armed forces and	
▪ Temporarily overseas absentee ballots	15
▪ Number of federal office only absentee ballots	0
▪ Number of presidential absentee ballots	0
▪ Total number of persons voting	298

Office of Mayor

▪ Stacey John Karels	109
▪ Robert J. Anderson	172
▪ Write-In	4

Office Council Member

▪ Terri Halvorson	84
▪ Kim Hernandez	197
▪ Kenton Giese	101
▪ Russ Brase	93
▪ Write-In	12

The Canvassing Board adjourned and the regular November 13, 2012, meeting convened.

Ms. Barnard presented *Resolution #2012-08, Resolution Certifying Election Returns and Declaring the Results of the November 6, 2012, City Election*. This resolution certifies the election returns of the Municipal Election held on the 6th day of November declaring Robert Anderson being duly elected to the Office of Mayor for a term of two (2) years beginning January 1, 2013, and Kim Hernandez and Kenton Giese each being duly elected to the Office of Council Member for a term of four (4) years beginning January 1, 2013.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion approving *Resolution #2012-08, Resolution Certifying Election Returns and Declaring the Results of the November 6, 2012, City Election*. Councilor Russ Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving the minutes of the October 1, 2012, city council meeting. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jesse Samuelson, LJP Waste & Recycle representative, was present. Clerk-Treasurer Barnard presented to the council correspondence from Larry Biderman, President of LJP. This correspondence detailed the meeting that she had with LJP representatives discussing Blue Earth County's move to provide single stream recycling at the Blue Earth County Recycling Center. Currently, LJP is picking up city recycling in single stream meaning that all recycling can be mixed together and is sorted mechanically. LJP is proposing, to the city, to provide 64 gallon recycling carts. They are offering this type of cart to all their contracted cities. If these cities approve such carts, they can place a larger purchase order, for the carts, at a lower cost. The increase to Good Thunder residents, for these carts, would be 87¢ per month. LJP also requested a 3 year extension on their current contract which would be used to finance the carts until the year 2018. The CPIU would not be on the 87¢ the first year but would be thereafter. Advantages for the 64 gallon recycling container are:

- All recycling material will be placed in a covered container which will prevent material blowing around town. (This container would have a yellow lid.)
- Easy to move the recyclables to the curb
- Good way to keep recycling stored; can be outside, will keep rain and snow out
- Keeps the town looking clean during and after pick up day
- Helps prevent accidents from lifting totes

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion to approve use of the 64 gallon recycling cart beginning January 2013 at a cost of 87¢ per month to be added to the residents' quarterly utility bill. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried with the following vote: Russ Brase-yes; Sarah Karels-yes; Robert Anderson-yes. One abstention vote: Tom Froehlich.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving the timesheets for city maintenance and water/wastewater operators as stated. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard informed the council that Wayne Koester was requesting reimbursement for televising his sewer line by Jetter Clean. City maintenance, Jerry Birr, had requested this televising to clarify if the sewer problem was the owner's, or city's, responsibility for repairing.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion to reimburse Wayne Koester for the cost of televising his residential sewer line as completed by Jetter Clean. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving Zoning Permit, GT-17-12, 110 Hubbell Street, tear down house. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Barnard presented information on pallet forks, for the city tractor, as requested by City Maintenance, Jerry Birr. The cost for this equipment is \$1,361 from Mankato Implement. Ms. Barnard also informed the council that Birr is requesting permission to purchase shop tools during the after Thanksgiving sales as was done last year. Discussion followed.

Councilor Karels made a motion that the city purchases a set of forks for the city's tractor contingent upon the tractor having quick attach. Tools are to be purchased at a cost up to \$500 for the city. An inventory is to be recorded of city tools. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard presented the police report as requested by Police Chief Jeffrey Marx. The calls for service during the month of October 2012 were 46. The total number of Calls for Service for the year was approximately 415. Parking issues, during the winter months, are a concern of Police Chief Marx and he requested that the council consider "no parking" or "temporary no parking" during the winter months and during the year are as follows:

1. Having No Parking signs placed on the east side of the road of South Ewing Street. Starting at the intersection of South Ewing and Willard Street continuing to the North to the intersection of South Ewing and Sherman Street. (Citizens expressed concern at an earlier meeting in the year about the road being too narrow with parking on both sides.)
2. Removing No Parking signs from in front of the Mundt's Auto business and changing it to "Parking During Business Hours Only". (Area also had previous concerns of making road too narrow, but this would allow parking during business hours.)
3. Placing No Parking/Temporary No Parking During School Hours on the west side of South Houk Street starting at the intersection of South Houk and Willard Street just past the residence on the west side of the road. (Also causes an issue during winter months for snow removal and narrowing the roadway.) Along with this is an idea that the city could make the tennis court black top available for teacher parking during the winter months to alleviate any problems.

Police Chief Marx also requested that the city approve that he attend a three day course, December 16-20, at The Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. The class that Police Chief Marx would be attending is a Standardized Awareness Authorized Training Program, Train-the-Trainer. The course description: Training and course materials on Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive hazards prevention and deterrence methods, and Emergency Response Guidebook utilities. Marx would be authorized to instruct AWR-160 Standardized Awareness Training Course for emergency responders in our local jurisdiction. Marx is requesting for some of the meals and any other expenses incurred during the training. Councilor Froehlich informed the council that the Fire Department had also received this information from FEMA and was not interested in sending anyone for such training. Discussion followed. It was decided that the council did not feel that this course would be beneficial to the city.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion regard the three (3) sign requests suggested by Police Chief Marx. The city approved placing "No Parking" signs on the east side of S. Ewing as described. In regards to the sign request suggestion for parking in front of Mundt's Auto it was decided that the city would leave the signs as is as this was a decision by Blue Earth County. In regards to parking on S. Houk Street staring at the intersection of S. Houk and Willard Street it was decided that the city would delay this action until more information is received. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The council discussed the placement of water and sewer lines for the concession building at the ball park. The old concession building had been torn down, during October, and footing construction had begun. Mayor Anderson suggested that the council consider placing a "V" runway in the old railroad bed, feather it out, run it to the creek, and hydro seed it. This would control water runoff by the playground (helping maintain the current mulch under the city's playground equipment) and the ball diamond. Discussion followed.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion to run the sewer line, for the concession stand, approximately 350 feet to the east of the concession stand. George Spear, Spear Plumbing, is to draw up bathroom and plumbing plans; Darin Dalluge, Maple River Electric, is to draw up all electrical plans for the concession stand. The "V" plan for drainage, in the old railroad bed, is to be completed after the sewer line is installed. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Councilor Sarah Karels made a motion approving the part-time police officers time sheets for the month of October 2012. Councilor Tom Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief, Tom Froehlich, informed the council that the fire department responded to four (4) fire calls, three (3) accident calls, and two (2) medical calls during the month of October 2012.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, informed the council that a representative from USAgain had stopped in at City Hall to see if the city would be interested in placing one of their clothes collection systems within the city. The city was informed that revenue would be paid quarterly based upon the pounds of clothing picked up weekly. Discussion followed.

Councilor Karels made a motion to place a USAgain container next to the Pepsi machine by city hall. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The council was reminded that the 2013 city budget would need to be approved at the December 3rd council meeting.

A draft of chapter 3, Utilities Code, was presented. City Attorney, Chris Kennedy and Ms. Barnard have been working at making changes in the city's current Utilities Code.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard informed the council that the 2013 business applications, and all documentation, and payment, needed for such applications, had been received by Thunder Bar and Restaurant.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion approving the 2013 Business Applications for licensing within the city for Thunder Bar and Restaurant. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The council was informed that Good Thunder will host the November 29th South Central Safety Committee meeting.

Ms. Barnard reported on the Mayor and Clerks meeting that she attended in the city of Pemberton. The council was informed that this association has redesigned the loan program and application process for the Blue Earth County Small Cities Loan. Currently, if a city approves a Blue Earth Small Cities Revolving Loan, that city is 100% responsible for the loan if the loan goes into default. This is a burden for any small city. There is a considerable amount of funds in the B.E. County Small Cities Loan pool and at this time the Mayors and Clerks Association is requesting that the Blue Earth County Small Cities Loan Program consider a 50/50 split in the share of such a default.

Councilor Karels made a motion to approve the bills for payment as presented. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion to reimburse Jason Anderson for a curb stop that was replaced on his property. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

James Day is requesting the city to pay for a curb cut onto his property. The council decided that this was his responsibility.

The council discussed the water shut off at the Jake Thissen residence and decided that this should be lowered and black dirt hauled in by the city.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl A. Barnard
City Clerk-Treasurer