

Minutes of the October 1, 2012, City Council Meeting

The October 1, 2012, meeting of the Good Thunder city council opened with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Robert Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in council chambers located at 130 Ewing Street, Good Thunder. Council members in attendance were: Tom Froehlich, Sarah Karels, Russ Brase. Absent Council member: Arlen Ostermann. Others in attendance were: Jerry Birr, City Maintenance; Jeffrey Marx, Police Chief; Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

Councilor Brase made a motion approving the agenda with the addition of zoning permit GT-16-12. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving the minutes of the September 10, 2012, city council meeting with Councilor Karels noting that Cub Scouts #142 helped with installation of the new park slide and should be acknowledged in the September minutes. Councilor Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Karels made a motion approving time sheets 9-1-12 thru 9-15-12, and 9-15-12 thru 9-29-12 for street maintenance. Councilor Froehlich seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Jerry Birr, City Maintenance, informed the council that Southern Minnesota Construction would like to be informed as to when the curb repair on Ewing Street will be completed so that they can schedule patching work for the city. Council member Russ Brase stated that when he had contacted Groebner Construction, he was informed that they have scheduled coming to Good Thunder the end of September. Mayor Anderson asked councilor Brase to contact Groebner construction for a specific time period and contact Birr with the information.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion approving Zoning Permit GT-16-12, 721 Sherman St., 5' x 3 1/2' window installation. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief, Tom Froehlich, informed the council that the fire department responded to seven (7) medical calls, one (1) fire call and one (1) accident call for the month of September 2012. The council was informed that a Pancake Feed will be held October 21st.

Police Chief, Jeff Marx, stated that the police department received 43 calls for service, including delivering delinquent utility notices to property owners, for the month of September. Marx informed the council that he will be attending the Minnesota Zero Death Conference, in Bloomington, October 22 and October 23.

Councilor Russ Brase made a motion approving the part-time police officers time sheets for the payroll period of 9-1-12 thru 9-30-12. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, informed the council of the Safety Meeting that she and City Maintenance Birr attended in St. Clair on September 27th. The Blue Earth County Emergency Management Department presented information and materials for each city in the county regarding disaster events such as tornadoes, flooding etc. One of the topics discussed during this presentation was that a city should have a designated area set up in advance for residents to go in case such an emergency occurs. It was suggested that a generator be installed at city hall so that the city would be prepared in case such an occurrence would happen. Councilor Froehlich also stated that if the fire station was still standing, this would be a place for people to go for safety.

Clerk-Treasurer Barnard informed the council that because of the General/Municipal Election on November 6th the council will need to canvass the municipal election votes. Due to the Veteran's Day Holiday on November 11th, November 12th is a holiday. Therefore, Tuesday, November 13th will be the date for the November council meeting.

The council discussed what the city does when a property has had water disconnected since July 2012 and does not pay the amount past due. Concern of accumulated trash, and the possibility of water being brought onto the property to flush toilets; therefore, using the city's wastewater system is a concern. Discussion followed. It was decided that Clerk-Treasurer Barnard contact the city attorney and move forward with his recommendation.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion to approve the bills as presented and distributed. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor members Karels and Froehlich presented plans for pre-fabricated buildings that could be used for a concession building at the ball park. The cost estimate for a 24' x 25' building with restrooms, 10' concession and storage rooms was estimated at \$60,000 at \$65,000. Romtec is the manufacturer of such "turn-key" buildings. Councilor Karels stated that when a new building was discussed, several years ago, \$80,000 was the estimated cost for electrical, sewer/water lines, and construction of the building. Froehlich and Karels indicated that they presented these building prints as a starting point in getting the process started.

Essentials discussed for such a building were:

- 6' cement pad in front of concession stand and bathroom
- 3 foot over hang above concession stand (it was also suggested to place an overhang over the entire cement padded areas)
- 4' x 16' utility area (for power panels)

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- Masonry building
- Shelf placed outside of the concession area
- Bathrooms would be ADA compliant

The council was reminded that when such a building was discussed previously, several tradespeople offered “in-kind” labor and materials. The council hoped that this would still be offered if the city would move forward with such a project. Discussion regarding the size of the ADA bathrooms followed. Mayor Anderson suggested that because the bathrooms would take up approximately one-third of the building, the council should consider a 24’ x 30’ structure. Mayor Anderson suggested that plumbing and sewer could be roughed in yet this fall along with frost footings. It was suggested that Jerry Birr, City Maintenance, contact area plumbers and obtain their suggestions for roughing in such lines.

The council also discussed replacing the wooden playground at the Main Street Park and discussed suggestions for the current “kiddy” area.

Councilor Tom Froehlich made a motion to proceed to run the water and sewer lines, and frost footings, to the building site as discussed, this fall, depending upon weather conditions. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The objective is to construct a 24’ x 30’ building at the ball park.

The council again discussed the water line situation for 611 Sherman Street. Mayor Robert Anderson suggested that Jerry Birr contact Jeff Dale, Minnesota Rural Water, and have him try to locate where some of these water lines connect in this area.

Councilor Froehlich made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Councilor Brase seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Barnard,
Clerk-Treasurer

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