

## Minutes of the September 9, 2013, City Council Meeting

The September 9, 2013, 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; Kenton Giese; Sarah Karels, Arlen Ostermann. Others in attendance: Jerry Birr, City Maintenance; Jeffrey Marx, Police Chief; Cheryl Barnard, Clerk-Treasurer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council member Kenton Giese made a motion to approve the agenda as presented and distributed. Council member Kim Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Sarah Karels made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2013, city council meeting and the minutes of the budget workshop of August 27, 2013. Council member Arlen Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The city's insurance agent, Chad Ostermann, of M & M Insurance, presented the city's insurance policy premium. The yearly insurance cost for the city will total \$33,055, an increase of \$1000 from last year.

Councilor Kenton Giese made a motion approving the excess liability policy for the city. Councilor Kim Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Arlen Ostermann made a motion approving the street department's time sheets for the payroll periods of 8-3-13 thru 8-17-13, and 8-17-13 thru 8-31-13. Councilor Kenton Giese seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Kim Hernandez made a motion approving the following Zoning Permits:

**GT-08-13**, 247 Ewing St., pour concrete drive shed N/E corner property

**GT-09-13**, 300 S. Ewing, brick landscaping & river rock

**GT-10-13**, 331 Ewing St., 6' x 10' deck

**GT-11-13**, 321 Hubbell St., replace front steps

Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City Maintenance, Jerry Birr, informed the council that Nielsen Blacktopping may be in the city the on September 10<sup>th</sup> to complete the curb and patchwork projects. The council held discussion on when the city's mower will need to be replaced.

Fire Chief, Phil Klammer, was unable to attend the meeting. Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, reported that the fire department responded to three (3) medical calls during the month of September. The fire department also served approximately 400 meals during their Firemen's Annual Dance.

The council discussed the Badger water meter quotes and installation of such meters. Mayor Anderson suggested that the city could install some of the meters and save money on the installation cost. Discussion followed. It was decided to make a decision on the purchase such meters at the November 2013 council meeting.

Mayor Robert Anderson had questions regarding the Police Chief's time sheets. Discussion followed. It was decided that the Personnel Committee meet with Minnesota Valley Council of Governments representative Parker Skophammer to review any questions or concerns that arose during the meeting.

Councilor Arlen Ostermann made a motion approving the part time police officers time sheets for the month of August 2013 and the Police Chief's time sheets for the payroll periods of 8-3-13 thru 8-17-13 and 8-17-13 thru 8-31-13. Councilor Sarah Karels seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Marx informed the council that the police department responded to fifty-four (54) calls for service during the month of September 2013. The council was also informed that the D.A.R.E. Program will begin this fall for the fifth grade class at the elementary school in Good Thunder.

Clerk-Treasurer, Cheryl Barnard, presented the final draft of the 2014 proposed budget to the council. Barnard indicated that as discussed, and agreed upon at the budget workshop meeting, no increase in city taxes is reflected in this proposed document. Mayor Anderson and council stated that Barnard had done a good job in the preparation of this budget. Barnard presented two resolutions that needed council approval for submission to Taxpayers Services at Blue Earth County.

Councilor Kenton Giese made a motion approving Resolution No. 2013-02, Resolution Certifying Proposed Tax Levy, and Resolution No. 2013-03, Resolution Certifying Proposed 2014 Special Levy. Councilor Arlen Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Treasurer Barnard informed the council that the 2014 final budget will need to be adopted at the December 2, 2013 meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. Barnard informed the council that the city needs to approve, by motion, the \$100 increase in the fire pension for the volunteer fire department members as proposed in the 2014 proposed budget.

Councilor Kim Hernandez made a motion approving the Fire Relief Pension be increased from \$300 per year to \$400 per person per year beginning in 2014. The council also approved the recommendation from the Fire Department that fire members be vested after ten (10) years beginning in 2014 as they are currently vested at five (5) years. Councilor Arlen Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Sarah Karels made a motion that beginning January 1, 2014, the following individuals receive a three percent (3%) increase in salary. Police Chief Marx, City

Maintenance Birr, Water/Wastewater Operator Severns, Clerk-Treasurer Barnard.  
Councilor Kenton Giese seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Sarah Karels made a motion approving the bills as presented and distributed.  
Councilor Kim Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Sarah Karels reported the following:

- Vanessa Etherington and Sarah Karels will have a get together at the “Little Library” on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> to inform people on the process for using the “Little Library”.
- National Night Out was held on August 6<sup>th</sup> and there was a great turnout. Ms. Karels thanked everyone who worked, donated items, and who had shown up. A special thank you to Jack McGowan, the Fire Department and Police Chief Marx for their participation.

Councilor Arlen Ostermann informed the council that the person delivering Pepsi products has asked that a gutter be installed on the south side of City Hall as filling the machine is difficult on a rainy day. Discussion of seeing if a Coke machine could also be installed was discussed.

Tom and Mary Doyen were drawn as Yard of the Month Recipients.

The council was informed that the Natural Gas Company of Mapleton will install a gas line to the new concession building at no charge. It was decided to see if a gas line could also be installed at the “old warming” house building.

Councilor Kim Hernandez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. Councilor Arlen Ostermann seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Cheryl A. Barnard  
Clerk-Treasurer