

August, 2009 Ashby City Council Meeting

The Ashby City Council met in regular session on Thursday, August 13, 2009 at Ashby City Hall. Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with council members Lynn Jensen, Carl Ulrich and Ronnie Jaenisch present. Absent was George Jordan. Also present were Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer; Richard Walton, City Attorney, Dennis and Judy Helle and Thor Tollefson, Chief of Police.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jensen moved to approve the agenda with additions. Ulrich seconded. MCU

New Dimensions had planned on attending the meeting but could not, due to another conflict. A letter from them was distributed to the council. They have decided to place Northwoods Assisted Living on hold.

**New
Dimensions/
Northwoods**

Consent Agenda

Ulrich moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid: \$114,643.09 and Claims for Approval: \$25,418.39 for a total of \$140,061.48. Jaenisch went through the bills prior to council and gave pre-approval.

Jaenisch seconded. MCU

**Consent
Agenda**

There were no outstanding utility bills scheduled to be disconnected tomorrow.

**Outstanding
Utility Bills**

Open Forum

There were no residents in attendance at the Open Forum.

Open Forum

Mayor's Report

The mayor attended the following:

- Economic Development Meeting
- Meeting at USDA Rural Development – Closing on the truck and questions regarding some possible projects.
- Park Board Meeting
- Regional Mayor's Meeting with Clerks in attendance.

Mayor's Report

Administration

The budget committee met on August 10th and discussed the first half financials. Everything was in order and we appear to be under budget at this point. Part-time help hourly comparisons were reviewed. Now that summer is soon over, hours for outdoor staff should be less in the next quarter and we will continue to watch these hours. The budget committee also discussed the applications that the City has submitted to Rural Development. It was decided that a special council meeting would be in order to discuss these possible projects and do some financial goal-planning. This will be scheduled prior to the September meeting.

**Budget
Committee**

The Clerk/Treasurer's Report was accepted. The report details work done by the Clerk/Treasurer for the previous month such as:

- Central Lakes Trail meeting, along with preparation of balance sheet.
- Preparation for the Central Lake Trail bike ride.
- Local users meeting for radios.
- Community Club Meeting
- Clerk's Institute training.
- Research on several items regarding liquor licensing.
- DOT application for Country View Estates Billboard.
- Info to insurance company for lift station control panel, water plant computer, etc. during a lightning storm.
- Economic Development Meeting.
- Closing on fire truck at USDA Rural Development.
- Meeting at Trumm Drug regarding Ashby.
- Posted several committee/commission meeting.
- Park Board meeting.
- 2nd quarter financials.
- Budget meeting.
- Meeting with WC Initiative regarding possible programs available for the drug store.
- Council packets.
- Monthly bills and reports.
- Utility bills and receiving payments.
- Waiting on customers, all financials including deposits, checks, reports; posting and publishing notices; payroll; minutes; policies, and more.

Clerk Report

Public Safety

The Police Report was as follows:

- Open door – 1
- Animal Complaints – 2
- Motor Assist – 1
- Speed – 4
- City Ordinance Violation – 5

Police Report

- Property Checks – 1
- Property Lost – 2
- Sick Cared for – 2
- Suspicious Activity – 1
- Traffic Direction – 2
- Unsafe Equipment - 5

COPS Grant

We did not receive a COPS grant this year. We will be put on a waiting list. The majority of the grants went to metro cities.

Ulrich and Jaenisch reported on the Police Commission. They thanked Tollefson for a great job- especially during Appreciation Days. A few changes may need to take place for next year's celebration. The police commission will meet again next month and will make recommendations to the council.

Police Commission

The Fire Department report was as follows:

- 20 ambulance calls – 1 in the City of the Ashby.
- 0 Fire Call

Fire Department Report

The new fire truck was delivered on August 6th.

Public Works

Public Works Report: Cassavant was not available for the meeting. Grover let the council know that there was a lightning storm and power surge that caused the control panel at the lift station to malfunction, along with the water plant computer and back up. This will all be turned into the insurance company.

Public Works Report

The park commission had met on August 11th and discussed the DOT Roadside Beautification Program. We are just waiting to hear back from DOT on the next steps.

Parks Board

We have received most of the FEMA money that we applied for. We only need to send in one more receipt to receive the balance.

FEMA Reimbursement

Old Business

The council received an update on the housing rehab grant as follows:
The status of the applicant households:

- 2 homes were inspected in July. Bid specs are being written and/or the jobs are out for bids.
- 2 additional homes are ready for inspection.
- 4 households: we are waiting for more information on income and/or property verifications.
- 3 applicants have been found to be over-income, ineligible, or have withdrawn their applications

Housing Rehab Update

We should be awarding some construction jobs to contractors by late August or early September. We will continue with home inspections in the coming months. Maximum grant money per job is \$22,000

The council discussed some property that is available for one or two industrial businesses. We will get the information out there for prospective buyers.

Property for Industrial Businesses

New Business

Martin and Grover will continue to work with West Central Initiative, the building owner and prospective business owners to try and get another drug store in Ashby.

WC Initiative – Drug Store

Ulrich moved to approve a gambling permit for Eagle Lake Sportsmen's Club Banquet on January 16, 2010. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Eagle Lake Gambling Permit

Jensen moved to approve **Resolution 2009-18 accepting the following donations: \$25 from Vernon and Nancy VanWinkle for use of the Park and Denzel's Regional Waste donated a dumpster for Appreciation Days (\$175 Value).** Ulrich seconded. Roll call vote. Those for: Jensen, Grover, Jaenisch and Ulrich. Those voting against: none. MUC

Donations

Adjourn 6:34 p.m.

Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer