

October, 2008 Minutes

The Ashby City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2008 at Ashby City Hall. Mayor Thomas Grover called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with council members Carl Ulrich, Kristyn Fick, Peter Hoff and Lynn Jensen present. Also present were Richard Walton, City Attorney; Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer; Alan Cassavant, Public Works Superintendent and Thor Tollefson, Police Chief. Visitors were Tim Bayerl and George Jordan of Widseth, Smith and Nolting and Jim Rylander.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jensen moved to approve the agenda. Fick seconded. MCU

Visitors:

Tim Bayerl and George Jordan were present to discuss the services still offered by WSN. Four of their employees have left the company but they would still like the City to maintain their services. George also discussed mapping/GIS services available.

Jim Rylander was present to discuss the Outdoor Wood Burning Furnaces. He had some concerns about the chimney height. The council tabled this ordinance.

Consent Agenda

Ulrich moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of all September minutes.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid: \$32,012.04 and Claims for Approval: \$16,918.72 for a total of \$48,930.76. Hoff went through the bills prior to council and gave pre-approval.

Hoff seconded. MCU

There were three outstanding utility bills.

Open Forum

No one was here.

Mayor's Report

Grover attended the following:

- Regional Mayor's meeting.

Administration

The Clerk/Treasurer's Report was presented.

Public Safety

The Police Report was as follows:

- Public/Motorist Assist – 4
- Animal Complaints – 4
- Animals Found - 1
- Open Door -4
- Alarms – 1
- No Parking Zone Violation-2
- Sick Cared For-2
- Speed-1
- Property Check Requests – 9
- Suspicious Activity-1
- DWI-1
- Referred Other Agency-1
- Assist Other Agency-1
- Driving Complaints-3
- Unsafe Equipment-1

The Fire Department report was presented as follows:

- 23 Ambulance calls – 7 within the City of Ashby.
- 2 Fire Calls – 1 Motor Vehicle Accident and 1 Boat Collision.

Public Works

- Hydrant flushing has been completed. We flushed into the sanitary sewer whenever we could reach. All went well with no complications.
- The main lift station will be pulled and serviced tomorrow for general maintenance.
- The ditch by the assisted living, where the storm sewer was put in, settled so we will add some dirt and reseed.

- Grant County rates went up for equipment rental. The council discussed the idea of having a sander and possibly doing some of our own sanding.
- Bathrooms will be shutdown in the park.

Old Business

A meeting has been set for the Country View Estates promotional committee.

New Business

Ulrich moved to pass **The Identify Theft Prevention Program Policy** as presented. Hoff seconded. MCU

Ulrich moved to pass **Ordinance #20 – An Ordinance Relating to Criminal History Background Checks for City Employees.** Hoff seconded. MCU We need to have an ordinance in place for future employees, if we want the ability to do background checks.

There was a discussion on whether to offer councilmembers health insurance – at their cost. Tabled for more information.

Hoff moved to pass **Resolution #2008-15 Police Officer Declaration for Water Linder.** Ulrich seconded. Roll call vote: Jensen-yes, Fick-yes, Grover-yes, Hoff-yes and Ulrich-yes. Motion Carried.

Fick moved to pass **Resolution #2008-16 Resolution Accepting Donation of \$500 from REA for the Fire Department.** Hoff seconded. Roll call vote: Jensen-yes, Fick-yes, Grover-yes, Hoff-yes and Ulrich-yes. Motion Carried.

Hoff moved to pass **Resolution 2008-17 Resolution Certifying Utilities to Property Taxes.** Jensen seconded. Roll call vote: Jensen-yes, Fick-yes, Grover-yes, Hoff-yes and Ulrich-yes. Motion Carried.

There was a discussion on allowing the Grant County Probation Officer the use of council chambers for meetings with his clients. The council was in agreement that is was okay and will give him a key. He will only have access to that room.

There has been a request for ideas, etc. to promote Career Discovery Day in Fergus Falls. The council felt that the career day that is held at the Ashby School is a great opportunity for students to find out about careers in our area.

There have been some concerns regarding the fire department. Councilmembers have heard complaints from the public such as unauthorized personnel on the scene and in the fire hall. Walton will send a letter addressing the liability concerns that the City council has.

Jensen moved to donated \$100 to the Grant County Historical Society. Fick seconded. MCU

Fick moved to adjourn. Ulrich seconded. MCU Adjourn 8:20 p.m.

Valerie Martin, Clerk