

## **Ashby City Council Meeting July 8, 2010**

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members George Jordan, Carl Ulrich, Lynn Jensen and Ron Jaenisch present. Also present was Val Martin-Clerk/Treasurer, Richard Walton, City Attorney, and Dennis Helle. Visitors: Jeff Kuhn, Pat Conroy, Brian Bye and from WSN, Tom McSparron from West Central Initiative.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

### **Visitors**

Tom McSparron from West Central Initiative gave an overview of their programs and what they have to offer. He made a request for a pledged donation such as what has been done in the past. Jaenisch moved to pledge \$500/year for the next two years to WC Initiative. Ulrich seconded. MCU He also discussed the status of the Ashby Community Growth Fund and the need to review its use. Martin will work on getting the committee together to discuss the future of the Fund.

Jeff Kuhn from WSN was in attendance to discuss the possible sewer project. The preliminary engineering report is almost complete. After doing the testing at TFC, levels are high and pretreatment may need to take place. There are some possible grant opportunities for this type of project and this will be pursued. We will need to meet again with TFC to discuss possible options. They have also said that they may be able to make some changes to bring the numbers down. Conroy discussed the grant application and how we need to move forward with that.

### **Consent Agenda**

Ulrich moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid: \$73,188.44 and Claims for Approval: \$93,157.92 for a total of \$166,346.36. Jordan went through the bills ahead of time and gave prior approval.

Jaenisch seconded. MCU

There was one outstanding utility bill. Martin will call and discuss it with them.

### **Mayor's Report**

The mayor reported on the following:

- Attended regional Mayors' meeting.
- Held a staff meeting.
- Attended a Wellhead Protection Plan meeting at City Hall.

### **Council Reports**

None

### **Administration**

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

- Housing Rehab audit.
- Many items related to Red, White and Blue Parade – meetings and parade were done voluntarily.
- Background information on assessments/interest accrual, etc.
- Attended Community Club meeting to present Arts Commission information (volunteer time).
- Arts Commission meeting.
- Background information related to new employee – research for free lot, etc.
- Application and information for Murphy's Ribfest.
- Set up meeting for MnDOT tree program.
- Wellhead Protection Plan meeting.
- Monthly bills and reports.
- Utility bills and receiving payments.
- Web-site and Face book Page updated.
- Waiting on customers, all financials including deposits, checks, reports; posting and publishing notices; payroll; minutes; policies, compiling and delivering agenda packets to council members and more.

### **Public Safety**

#### **Police Report:**

The Police Report was as follows:

- City Ordinance Violation – Fire
- Animal Complaints – 2
- Public Assist – 6
- Drive After Suspension – 1
- Speed – 1
- Inebriate Took Home – 1
- Seat Belt Violation – 1
- Suspicious Activity – 1
- Unsafe Equipment – 1

- Vehicle Checks – 1
- Driver After Revocation – 1

The council discussed the police position. Tollefson is doing background checks on the top two candidates and is still working on that. The police commission informed the council that either of the candidates would be a good choice. Jordan moved to allow Tollefson the authority to hire the officer of his choice. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Jordan moved to approve Ben Johnson as probationary member of the fire department. Ulrich seconded. MCU

There was a discussion on a letter received from a property owner that was billed for a fire call and felt that he should not have been charged. The council received a copy of the letter sent to him from the Fire Chief explaining the bill and costs involved in the fire.

**Public Works**

The Wellhead Protection Plan needs to be reviewed and renewed for the next ten years. Ulrich moved to approve the Wellhead Protection Plan committee as follows: Tom Grover, Thor Tollefson, Val Martin, George Jordan, Randy Catoe and Richard Walton. Jordan seconded. MCU

**Old Business**

The council tabled the issue of offering a lot at Country View Estates to the new employee. More information is still needed to make a decision. Martin will get that information prior to the next council meeting.

Martin gave an update on the Arts Commission Committee. There will be a session for the Arts commission on July 28<sup>th</sup> at Lake Region Arts Council offices. A group from the metro area will work with the commission to fine-tune some of the ideas for the grant.

**Housing Rehab Update:**

The status of the applicant households:

**Ashby Households:**

- 5 jobs have been completed
- 5 construction jobs are in progress.
- 2 additional homes have been inspected. The jobs are out for bids and will be awarded shortly.
- 5 households: incomplete applications.
- 8 applicants have been found to be over-income, ineligible, or have withdrawn their applications

**Wendell Households:**

- 5 jobs have been completed
- 6 additional households are on the waiting list
- 1 applicant withdrew her application

Maximum grant money per job is \$22,000.

**New Business**

The Central Lakes Trail shelter is almost complete. The council will discuss when to do a dedication after everything has been done.

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2010-12 – Accepting Donations as follows:**

- \$500 from lake Region Election Coop for the Fire Department
- \$100 from Ashby Community Club for Porta-potties at Memorial Park

Adjourn 7:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer