

Ashby City Council Meeting and Public Hearing for Ashby Farmers Elevator-Conditional Use Permit – July 14, 2011

A public hearing was held on the conditional use permit request for the Ashby Elevator. Mayor Grover called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following council members present: Jim Rylander, Jim Karl, and Ron Jaenisch. Absent was George Jordan. Also present Val Martin-Clerk/Treasurer, Richard Walton, City Attorney; Thor Tollefson, Police Chief and Public Works, Matt Cederberg, Police Officer and Dennis and Judy Helle. Visitors included Gayle Langlie, Jerry Hennessey, Jonas Schwardt, Darlene and Marlo Nordlund, Cathy Cronen and Associates form Lexstar Realty, Trent Froemming, Jeff Kuhn from WSN, Jim Risbrudt, Chad Smith and others.

The mayor opened up the hearing for discussion. Jerry Hennessey, Manager of the Ashby Farmers Elevator presented the plan for a new building on their property located on Larson and going east. The building will be totally enclosed with truck access on the east side. It will be used to store feed, seed and equipment. There will also be a heated workshop in the building. A few general questions were answered. Karl moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit for the Ashby Farmers Elevator as presented. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Mayor Grover called the regular meeting to order following the public hearing.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Visitors

Cathy Cronen from Lexstar Realty, along with a couple of associates was present to discuss the assisted living facility. They wanted the City's opinion on what use that building may have. They are aggressively trying to sell the building. She gave a packet of information to the council. Martin will send her TIF information, etc.

Jim Risbrudt and Chad Smith gave an update on the Ashby Fire Department and Arrow EMS Education. They also discussed the roof replacement on the ambulance side of the building with the council. A committee of council and fire department should meet to discuss type and color of roof as the rest of the building will also need to be replaced at some point and should be the same.

Trent Froemming and Jeff Kuhn were at the meeting to discuss the possible changes to their production that should reduce the levels of BOD, etc. going to the sanitary sewer. They will start construction in July and will be done by September 30, 2011 Trent will attend council meetings in this time period and keep the council updated on what's going on. The council does not wish to extend the interim period at this point but would be willing to consider this after some of the changes have been made and testing results would indicate some reduction in BOD.

Jeff Kuhn gave the council an update on the sewer project. They are still working on design – a fair amount of work has been done. Things are going as scheduled.

Jaenisch moved to approve the agenda. Rylander seconded. MCU

Consent Agenda

Jaenisch moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
 - Approval of bills: Jaenisch went through the bills and the bank statement ahead of time and gave prior approval.
- Rylander seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

Regional Mayor's Meeting in Elbow Lake with Legislators

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:

- Balance of grant paperwork for squad application.
- Grant Application and background work for Safe Routes to School.
- Explore funding options for TFC pretreatment.
- Several items related to conditional use permit for elevator.
- Volunteer time for Red, White and Blue Parade.
- Meeting with Grant County Economic Development group.
- Items related to Art Grant – posters, registration forms, info to paper, etc. Majority of this time was voluntary.
- Prepared Region III MCOFA training information and sent to members.
- Background information on interim financing for sewer project.
- Worked on grant application with Hoffman rep for Grant County Economic Development group.
- Posted forms and information on web-site for Appreciation Days.
- Health insurance renewal information for council.
- TFC invoices.
- Background information regarding TFC and possibly changes.
- TIF reporting.

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:

- Speed – 8
- Animal Complaints – 1
- Welfare Check – 1
- Harassing Communications – 1
- Attempt to Locate – 1
- Unsafe Equipment – 3
- Stop Sign – 2
- Seat Belt Violation – 3
- Open Doors – 1
- City Ordinance Violation – 1
- Property Check Requests – 2
- Property Checks – 10
- Report of Property Lost – 1
- Found Property – 2
- Person Taken Home – 1
- Sick Cared For – 3
- Court Order PBT and UA Checks – 4

Trent Froemming commended the police department for helping out when they had a broken garage door late one evening.

Fire Department Report:

Ambulance Calls: 15 – 7 in City

Fire Calls: 1 Mutual Aid/Dalton

Arrow EMS Report:

Arrow EMS will be participating in the Ashby Lions Pancake feed on Sunday. They will be displaying equipment and discussing classes they have to offer. Arrow EMS will be conducting training in Sunburg. Dates for upcoming training for Ashby ambulance were set for the winter season.

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2001-11 Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Ashby on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department**. Karl seconded. Roll call vote – those voting for: Rylander, Karl, Jaenisch and Grover. Those voting against: none. Jordan absent. MCU

Public Works

Public Works Report

- DOT Tree Planting – 18 trees left to plant and continue to water the trees as needed.
- Wastewater Ponds – Daily checks and weekly measurements are being done. Pond transfer will start July 15th. Weeds have been pulled in the rip rap getting ready for the possibly MPCA inspection.
- Main Lift Station – has been cleaned and annual service has been done.
- Water Treatment Plant – Continue to do weekly water tests, city hall and City shop. The reclaim tank has been cleaned.

The possible lawn mower purchase was tabled.

The council discussed the sewer jetting schedule. This will not be done with the exception of the problem areas that need to be jetted every year.

Joe Hoff has been watering the trees and plants on the edge of his property that is part of the MnDOT project. Joe has a hose meter and he will be credited for both water and sewer out of that meter.

Old Business

Martin and Walton gave an update on the Country View Estate committee. They will continue to work on promoting the property.

Martin gave an update on the arts commission. All projects will be showcased during Ashby Appreciation Days.

The Grant County Economic Development group met in Hoffman and wishes to pursue a grant with West Central Initiative for a facilitator to work on setting goals. Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2011-09 Authorization of Application of Grant Funds for WC Initiative**. Rylander seconded. Roll call vote – those voting for: Rylander, Karl, Jaenisch and Grover. Those voting against: none. Jordan absent. MCU

The Central Lakes Trail shelter is complete and an article was submitted to the paper rather than a dedication in Memory of Justin Woldahl by request of the family. There will be a need for a new picnic table as the one in the shelter is in poor shape. This will be discussed later in the year.

The Board of Appeals training was cancelled due to the state shut down.

New Business

Jaenisch moved to approve an outdoor liquor permit for the Legion on July 23rd for a motorcycle run. Rylander seconded. Karl abstained. MCU

Rylander moved to approve **Resolution 2011-10 Accepting Donations for Ashby Lions Club - \$200 for Central Lakes Trail membership and \$100 for Porta-potty at Memorial Park and also \$1000 from Park Region Telephone for the Ashby sign.** Karl seconded. Roll call vote – those voting for: Rylander, Karl, Jaenisch and Grover. Those voting against: none. Jordan absent. MCU

Jaenisch moved to approve the insurance renewal will Medica. Rylander seconded. MCU This is renewal only and discussion of employee cost will be done during negotiations.

The council discussed the possibility of extending the due date for utility bills. The public works commission will meet to look into this further.

Rylander moved to adjourn. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Adjourn 8:30 p.m.

_____ Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer