

December 28, 2011 Special Council Meeting

The Ashby City Council held a special council meeting on December 28, 2011 at Ashby City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss street reconstruction associated with the sewer project, budget approvals for 2012 and a GASB 54 Fund Balance Policy. Mayor Thomas Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members George Jordan, Jim Rylander, Jim Karl and Ronnie Jaenisch present. Also present was Val Martin, Clerk/Treasurer; and Richard Walton, City Attorney. Visitors were Jeff Kuhn, WSN and Cheryl Waskosky, property owner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Ms. Waskosky had a few questions on the street reconstruction both on County Road 4 and Birch Ave.

Jeff Kuhn discussed the possible street reconstruction for both North Cedar and Birch Ave. Cedar is not necessarily any worse than many other streets in the City. Although the assessment policy states that street reconstruction is assessed at 30% with 70% coming from the City, the council should take into consideration the affordability of the project. The policy is a guide and many things come into play when considering assessments. Does the City want to take on this additional debt at this time? Are you setting precedence with a request from the property owners? Would the City do this every time there is a request from residents? Birch is a different situation. It is in bad shape and if the council decides not to reconstruct, it would likely end up with gravel on the outer edges as it would be impossible to patch. The Council should consider the assessment policy in this situation.

The council determined that Cedar would not be done with the project. Council's request to property owners was to present a petition for the improvements with a determination of what the property owners were willing to pay by this special meeting. No property owners were present from North Cedar.

A suggestion was made to consider Birch Ave. between County Rd. 4 and County Rd. 10 as a higher traffic/volume street. Should the council consider a lower percentage for the assessment for this reason? Kuhn made a suggestion that the public works commission discusses all of the streets within the city that would have that label and the council could further discuss this option.

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2011-23 Resolution Ordering Improvements on Birch**. Rylander seconded. Roll call vote: Those voting for – Rylander, Jordan, Karl, Jaenisch and Grover. Those voting against – none. MCU

A general look at payback options for the sewer project. This will be discussed in detail at the January council meeting. Martin will put an article in the paper with this information.

Jordan moved to approve the budget for Fire Department, Ambulance Department, Arrow EMS, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Storm Sewer Fund and Garbage Fund. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

A GASB 54 Fund Balance Policy was presented. Jaenisch moved to approve. Jordan seconded. MCU

Adjourn 7:15 p.m.

Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer