

Ashby City Council Meeting – August 9, 2012

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members George Jordan, Jim Karl, Ronnie Jaenisch and Jim Rylander present. Also present was Val Martin-Clerk/Treasurer, Jeremy Obright, Police Officer; Richard Walton, City Attorney. Visitors were Kim Embretson from West Central Initiative; Mike Walker, Darrin & Trent Froemming from TFC; Nick Olson, Jim Risbrudt Mark Zlotnick from the Fire Department and Craig Torgerson from WSN.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Jordan moved to approve the agenda as amended. Karl seconded. MCU

Visitors

Kim Embretson from West Central Initiative described their programs and what they have been doing over the last year and asked that the council consider budgeting the donation of \$500 each year for 2013 and 2014 as the council has done in the past. Jaenisch moved to approve. Jordan seconded. MCU

Wastewater Project

Craig Torgerson from WSN gave an update on the wastewater project:

- Everything is on schedule.
- Televising personal service lines is being done after the clean-out at the property line has been installed. Property owners with poor service will be notified that they may want to consider replacing their service. Information will go out in the paper and possibly the newsletter to let people know that a video and report for their line will be available upon request.
- Council discussed sidewalk replacement when someone decides to do their service line. The ordinance will be followed that states the sidewalk will have to be restored. This brought up the discussion of the need for a sidewalk replacement plan. Martin and Tollefson will bring a recommendation to the streets and sidewalks commission on what sidewalks should remain as part of a sidewalk master plan.
- The first pay estimate was presented to the council. There was a discussion on the need to have more time to review the paperwork. Jaenisch moved to approve the pay estimate. Karl seconded. Motion was passed with Rylander voting no.
- Martin suggested that the council give the authority for the mayor to sign the pay estimate after the construction meeting moving the process along faster to get payment to the contractor sooner. The pay estimates are reviewed by the inspector, engineer and Rural Development. Once the paperwork is signed by WSN, Riley Brothers and the City, it is sent to Rural Development for final approval prior to the bill being paid. The council will still need to approve the actual bill as presented during the council meeting. No action was taken.

Nick Olson, Jim Risbrudt and Mark Zlotnick requested the council consider allowing the Fire Department to move their Relief Association funds to the PERA plan which needs council approval. They will give more information to Martin to put in council packets. They also said they are considering submitting a grant application for a fire truck to FEMA and wanted the council to be aware and get their approval. Zlotnick will do the application with assistance from Martin on the financial portion. Council was in agreement that they should move forward. They are also planning on meeting with township officials on this issue.

The City's siren needs to be narrowbanded to work with the new county radio system at a cost of approximately \$350. Jordan moved to approve. Rylander seconded. MCU

TFC Poultry

Darrin and Trent Froemming were both present from TFC Poultry. They introduced Mike Walker as their new plant manager. He is helping them to deal with some of the day to day issues. The discussion moved to the pretreatment and levels that are still being sent to the ponds. We are not where we should be at this point in the plan. BOD levels continue to be high even with the changes that have been made. The Council is concerned about the condition of the ponds right now. TFC is working with two different companies on a plan for aeration out at the ponds. They will try and get this information and move as quickly as possible to get it to WSN. We will also request that WSN respond as quick as possible to get something done prior to the next meeting. The council also requesting that TFC pay their fines within a 30 day period of receipt of the invoice.

The public works commission reported on the Capital Improvement Plan. Once the report is complete, there will be a public meeting to get input from the residents.

Consent Agenda

Rylander moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$54,356.58, Claims for Approval: \$49,549.45 and additional Claims for Approval: \$4,060.37 for a total of \$107,966.40. Rylander went through the bills and the bank statement ahead of time and gave prior approval. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

Regional Mayor's Meeting
DEED Meeting regarding former nursing home building
EDA Meeting
Construction Meeting

Council Reports

None

Administration

The Clerk/Treasurer's Report was accepted. The report details work done by the Clerk/Treasurer for July 10th – August 6th.

- Election training in Elbow Lake.
- Capital Improvement Plan/Public Works Meeting
- Research – Larson Ave. change to weight of road.
- Research – golf cart ordinance, prepared ordinance and discussed with Tollefson/Obright for changes.
- GrOW Grant County – sent items to Elbow Lake for fair – also included Ashby items.
- Appreciation Days – prepared items for talent show. Volunteered time during Appreciation Days.
- Central Lakes Trail financials and meeting.
- Made arrangement for Jim Klobuchar bike event in 2013.
- TIF reporting.
- Prepared MCFOA newsletter
- Made arrangements and attended MCFOA Regional meeting in St. Cloud with SOS Mark Ritchie.
- Police training reimbursement paperwork submitted.
- Sanitary sewer project- answered questions, worked on easement, worked with Craig Torgerson and Jeff Kuhn, addition paperwork submitted to Rural Development.
- Monthly construction meeting.
- EDA meeting.
- Posted and published election notice.
- Meeting with DEED – nursing home building.
- Reviewed assessment report.

Public Safety

Police Report:

Jeremy Obright presented the Police Report was as follows:

- Traffic Direction Escort – 3
- Motorist Assist – 5
- Property Check Request – 1
- Property Checks – 3
- Sick Cared For – 1
- Open Door – 2
- Home Accident – 1
- Inebriate Took Home – 2
- Welfare Check – 1
- Court Ordered PBT – 1
- Fire – 1

Arrow EMS Report:

A moulage drill was recently held for the Ashby Fire and Ambulance and went really well. Future training needs continue to be evaluated for the Ashby department.

Public Works

- Parks – Mowing and trimming
- Wastewater ponds – Primary 1 in brown in color and should be green. Primary 2 is green and that is good. Weeds are being pulled on primary 1 and 2. Bio bugs are in and will be applied 100 pounds per pond. Sludge is Primary 1 is 14 – 16 inches deep.
- Main lift station – Generator is repaired and runs great. Pump one is not working and will be evaluated and repaired.
- Water treatment plan – reports will be mailed August 10th.
- Streets are in better condition.

Council discussed the shape of the tractor tires and requested that they be replaced. Martin will let Tollefson know.

Old Business

Grover, Jordan and Martin along with Lori Risbrudt from the Ashby Living Center and Kathy Sletto, grant writer met with a representative from DEED regarding the former nursing home building. Dependent on what type of funding they get, an application can be made for partial demolition, asbestos removal, parking lot and sidewalk repairs. They will not fund reconstruction of the building itself. The project would be better if it was privately owned and the City owned the parking lot, etc. It will be looked at again in the spring.

A report was received from Nagell Appraisal for the sanitary sewer project. The report gives the City a general overview of the benefit to properties receiving assessment and the report states that the possible benefit to properties is above the proposed assessment amount.

New Business

Jaenisch moved to donate \$500 to Ashby Summer Rec program. Rylander seconded. MCU

A report was received on the EDA meeting.

The League of MN fall meetings are coming up with the closest being held in Perham on September 20th. Martin and Grover will attend and council members will let Martin know if they would also like to attend.

Jordan moved to name the following as additional official depositories (interim financing for sanitary sewer project): Glenwood State Bank, First Business Bank of Milwaukee and BlackRidge Bank of Alexandria. Karl seconded. MCU

Second quarter financials were distributed.

Adjourn 7:55 p.m.

_____ Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer