

Ashby City Council Meeting – October 11, 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; Thor Tollefson, Public Works & Police Chief; Richard Walton, City Attorney. Visitors were Trent Froemming from TFC; Nick and Jeff Kuhn and from WSN.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

Wastewater Project

- Rylander moved to approve Pay Estimate 3 as presented. Jaenisch seconded. MCU
- Change Orders 1 and 2 were reviewed with Jeff Kuhn explaining the changes. Jaenisch moved to approve both change orders contingent on RD approval and documentation from Riley Brothers Construction.
- Lift station pumps are ordered and will be here in about 8 weeks with the control panel coming in about 10 weeks.
- There was a question on a resident's sump pump draining into an alley. The inspector will be asked to take a look at this and see if there is a way to move the direction of the water.
- Multiple hook-ups to the sewer main on a single piece of property were discussed. The assessment policy states each hook up will receive an assessment. Council was in agreement that this should stand as is. Their reasoning was that there is a cost to hook up each section to the main and to be fair to all property owners, the policy should remain as is.
- The council discussed a possible RV hook-up and if it is legal and/or a possible problem. Jeff Kuhn did not see it as a problem as long as there are not large amounts of chemicals going into the sanitary sewer. The property owner will be asked to keep a lock on it to avoid someone dumping anything down the system.

Wastewater
project

TFC Poultry

Trent from TFC was at the meeting. He stated that some changes have come up and has requested a public works meeting next week and possibly a special council meeting to look at options.

TFC

Consent Agenda

Karl moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$247,652.16, Claims for Approval: \$57,145.99, additional Prepaid Bills: \$8446.85 and additional Claims for Approval \$3870.09 for a total of \$317,115.09. Jaenisch went through the bills and the bank statement ahead of time and gave prior approval. Jordan seconded. MCU

Consent
Agenda

Mayor's Report

Regional Mayor's Meeting

League of MN Cities Meeting in Perham

Mayor/Clerk Meeting in Elbow Lake

Post Office Meeting @ City Hall – There were 4 people present at the meeting. Hours of the post office will be reducing to 6 per day and it will be open from 7:30 to 1:30 daily and it will not close at noon for lunch. Saturday hours will remain the same.

Mayor

Council Reports

Jordan & Martin reported on GrOw Grant County. GOGC held their first meeting without the facilitator last night and subcommittees were set up with the core group deciding which subcommittee they wanted to be a part of. Chairs were determined for each subcommittee and additional residents will be needed to serve on those subcommittees. A general meeting for the public is scheduled for November 14th at Dreamweavers in Elbow Lake at 6:30 p.m.

Council

Administration

The Clerk/Treasurer's Report was accepted. The report details work done by the Clerk/Treasurer for September 7th– October 5th :

- Central Lakes Trail financials and meeting.
- Project – pay estimate, items to RD, questions from residents, Work with inspector and engineer, web-site update, easements, letters to residents – service replacement.
- Personnel committee – prepared information and attended meeting.
- TFC – testing results and fine invoicing, sent information request to them, prepared spreadsheet with fines billed and expenses related to pretreatment, prepared spreadsheet on usage and comparison to city wide usage, participated in conference calls, additional information on possible project costs.
- Prepared levy form/sent to auditor.
- League of MN Cities Regional meeting.
- Information sent to City assessor.
- County Mayor/Clerk meeting in Elbow Lake.
- Research forfeiture process – former nursing home building.
- GrOw Grant County – prepared items, attended meeting in Herman.
- Construction meeting.
- Public works meeting.
- 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.

Clerk

Public Safety

Police Report:

Jeremy Obright presented the Police Report was as follows:

- Burglary/Theft – 1
- Motorist Assist – 4
- Unsafe Equipment – 3
- Open Door – 1
- Driving Complaints – 1
- Speed (Warning) – 1
- Sudden Death (unattended) – 1
- Attempted Suicide – 1
- Suspicious Activity – 1
- Traffic Direction – 2

Police Report

Walton stated that Lakeland Hospice would like to thank the City and the police department for a great job done at the Lakeland Motorcycle Run in September.

Thanks from Lakeland Hospice

Fire Department Report:

September: Fire & Rescue – 2 calls with 0 in the City: 3 grass fires, 1 attempt to locate and 1 grain truck fire. Ambulance – 18 calls with 0 in the City. In addition – 2 crews for 2 days at Dalton Threshing and 4 crews at 4 football games.

Fire Dept

Arrow EMS Report:

Arrow EMS will again be instructing a Heartsaver Pediatric First Aid Course for a group of Head Start teachers in Alexandria in October/November. Lynn and Chad attended a meeting in Perham regarding the new EMS Education Standards. There will be an informational meeting on November 26th for anyone interested in taking an initial First Responder course.

Arrow EMS

Public Works

- Parks – Bathrooms will be winterized and locked up for the season. Park shelter will soon be closed up.
- Wastewater – Biobugs application continues; main lift station pump 2 continues to run good – it was cleaned again removing a large amount of feathers and grease.
- Water – Reports have been mailed.

Public Works

Old Business

The sidewalk ordinance was discussed, along with the assessment policy and sidewalk plan. The council was in agreement that the current ordinance is poorly written and outdated. Martin will get some samples for the street and sidewalk commission to review.

Sidewalk ordinance

Notice was received from MN Department of Health that the amendment to the Wellhead Protection Plan was approved.

Wellhead protection

The council again discussed the proposal of a break on sewer rates due to additional watering for sewer service replacement. The council stands on its original decision and there will not be a break in utility rates for watering grass.

Watering grass seed

New Business

Council pay was discussed and will remain the same.

Council pay

A representative from Aflac presented insurance options available through payroll.

Aflac

Rylander presented a written resignation for his position on the council effective immediately. Rylander left offering the council time to discuss their options. After a great deal of discussion, the council recognized the resignation effective immediately and will proceed with the technical process at the next council meeting. Research will be conducted for the proper procedure on recognizing the vacancy and how to fill it.

Rylander resignation

Jaenisch moved to purchase a soft cab and frame for the mower/snow blower at not more than \$2000. Karl seconded. MCU

Lawn mower cab

Adjourn 7:55 p.m.

Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer