

Ashby City Council Meeting – June 13, 2013

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members Ron Jaenisch, George Jordan and Marcia Koefod present. Absent was Jim Karl. Also present was Val Martin-Clerk/Treasurer, Richard Walton, City Attorney, Judy Helle, Deputy Clerk; and Thor Tollefson, Public Works & Police Chief. Visitors: Trent Froemming from TFC.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

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

Sanitary Sewer Project

A resident voiced some concerns regarding issues with the project, specifically his garden to a council member. The council member asked the resident to attend the council meeting but he declined. It was discussed that people are encourage to attend a council meeting if they have specific issues.

TFC Poultry

They are still waiting on the appraisal for the additional building. They continue to work on financing the full project. They are also continuing to work with a vendor on the DAF unit.

Visitors

None

Consent Agenda

Jordan moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month with amendment.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$16,702.04, Claims for Approval: \$40,652.02, Change is Claims List: -\$80 and additional Claims for Approval \$1962.31 for a total of \$59,236.37. Grover went through the bills and the bank statement ahead of time and gave prior approval. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

- Mayor's Meeting
- Sidewalk Meeting

Council Reports

Grover and Koefod viewed sidewalk replacement needs around the park. Two proposals were presented for replacement cost. The majority of the replacement is along city property with the exception of a portion on Nelson which is adjacent to an empty lot. The wear and tear on this portion of the sidewalk is due to city equipment use. This lot is used for storage of snow. Jaenisch moved to have Bitzan-Ohren replace the sidewalk as presented. Money will come out of the Equipment Replacement Fund. It must be done prior to Appreciation Days or they should wait until after that time. Jordan seconded. MCU They also met with Jerry Hennessey at the elevator to discuss the truck traffic on Larson and the future need for replacement, possibly as a 10-ton road. Hennessey will discuss with their engineers.

Administration

The Clerk/Treasurer's Report was accepted. The report details work done by the Clerk/Treasurer for May 8th – June 10th.

- Central Lakes Trail meeting and financials.
- Required posting and publishing for missing test results for water. Sent info to MDH.
- Liquor licensing – delivered off-sale, email Legion licensing to Karl and Walton.
- Clean-up Day – finalize plans and work during clean up.
- MCFOA Regional meeting in Richmond – finalized plans and attended training.
- Feasibility study – discussed with WCI and WSN.
- Arts Commission – firmed up details of photography class, press release, sent info in for brochure and poster.
- Water quality issues – continued to send info out as it comes in.
- Country View Estates – continued working on budget and financial advisor, met with budget committee.
- Pet clinic.
- Met with WCI regarding SRTS.
- Insurance renewal to Rylander Insurance.
- UBMax conversion for billing.
- Sewer project – continue to send concerns to Jeff Kuhn as they come in, sent general information to paper.
- Bush Foundation grant informational meeting in Moorhead.
- Met with WCI regarding GOGC for their newsletter.
- Waiting on customers, all financials including deposits, checks, reports; posting and publishing notices; payroll; minutes; updates to web-site and Facebook; policies, compiling and delivering agenda packets to council members and more.

Public Safety

Police Report:

- Agency Assist – 3
- Motorist Assist – 2
- All Other – 1
- Animal – 3
- Accident – 1
- Traffic Stop – 5

- Domestic – 1
- Family Service – 1
- Lost and Found – 2
- Criminal Damage to Property – 1
- Violations – 1
- Child Custody Dispute -1

Fire Department Report:

Ambulance Calls – 15, 1 in the City
 Fire Calls – 6, 0 in the City

Arrow EMS Report:

Arrow EMS received a donation from the Mark Hanson family towards the purchase of a Defibrillator trainer. Arrow EMS continues to conduct monthly training sessions with Ashby Ambulance service. They will need some volunteer help at future training sessions and ask the council and staff to volunteer.

Public Works

Public Works Report:

- Sludge judging has been completed at the ponds.
- Summer help has started with sealing picnic tables at the park, painting the park shelter, etc.
- Curbs and hydrants are being painted by someone that needs to do community service.
- Pond discharge has started and we have met limits ok.
- Tonka was in and met with Tollefson to go through some recommendations at the plant.

The park shelter doors need to be replaced. Prices were received from Lakeside Lumber and Zlotnick Construction. Jaenisch moved to replace 3 doors with a cost up to \$1500 total (\$500 per door). Koefod seconded. MCU

Old Business

EDA Report was presented. Martin presented some ideas for local businesses which will be put in place in the next few months.

The council requested that Martin set up a work session followed by a public hearing in August regarding the Capital Improvement Plan.

Country View Estates assessments were discussed and the possibility of reassessing all lots at the same price. Council agreed to move forward with the re-assessment process and to have Walton, Jaenisch and Martin meet with the current property owners receiving TIF to agree to a lower assessment in lieu of their TIF. With the lowered assessments, the council hopes to sell more lots, take in some money to help reduce the levy payment and to increase the property tax base for the city.

The new utility billing program conversion is almost complete. Residents will have the option of receiving their bill via e-mail. They will receive notice in the mail of this in the next few weeks.

Jaenisch moved to approve the date change for the Ribfest at the Legion from August 3rd to August 10th. Jordan seconded. MCU

Staff from WC Initiative will meet with council and any committee to do a “walking audit” of the city for future Safe Routes to School applications.

New Business

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2013-05 Accepting Donations as follows: \$1000 In Memory of Mark Hanson for Arrow EMS Training Equipment and \$200 from Ashby Community Club for Central Lakes Trail Membership.** Jordan seconded. Roll call vote: those voting for – Jordan, Koefod, Jaenisch and Grover, those voting against – none.

The Emergency Management Plan has been updated with current names and numbers with no other changes.

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

Koefod moved to approve an on-sale liquor license and additional square footage for Ruby’s City Restaurant. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Jordan moved to approve the hiring of Debbie Thormodson as City Assessor. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Martin discussed a grant opportunity that may fit for a feasibility study for the old nursing home building. Council requested that Martin set up a public meeting to discuss future use for the building will be set up for the end of June or beginning of July. Martin will meet with WSN on a price for the study and write the grant. The grant deadline is July 11th.

Information on sales tax exemption for cities was distributed to the council. This will be effective January 1st.

Koefod moved to adjourn. Jaenisch seconded. MCU Adjourn 7:55 p.m.