

Ashby City Council Meeting – November 13, 2014

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members George Jordan and Marcia Koefod present. Absent were council members Jim Karl and Ronnie Jaenisch. Also present was Val Martin-Clerk/Treasurer; Troy Johnson, Public Works; Jeremy Obright, Chief of Police; and Richard Walton, City Attorney. Visitors: Kevin Fick and Hunter Fick

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Jordan moved to approve the agenda. Koefod seconded. MCU

Visitors

Mayor Grover presented a proclamation to Hunter Fick as follows:

- WHEREAS, over the past several years, Hunter Fick has shown leadership skills and achieved a number of accomplishments worthy of recognition;
- WHEREAS, Hunter Fick traveled to Las Vegas to compete in a powerlift competition on November 6, 2014;
- WHEREAS, as mayor of the City of Ashby and on behalf of our city, I commend Hunter Fick for setting a bench press world record in the Junior Division on November 6, 2014 in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- THEREFORE in honor of this achievement, I am proclaiming November 13, 2014 Hunter Fick Day.

The council congratulated Hunter on his achievement.

Consent Agenda

Jordan moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the previous month.
- Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$226,549.43, Claims for Approval: \$23,018.03, Additional Prepaid Claims - \$0 and additional Claims for Approval \$0 for a total of \$249,467.46. Koefod went through the bills and the bank statement ahead of time and gave prior approval. Koefod seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

- Attended Regional Mayors' meeting

Council Reports

- Koefod reported on the League of Minnesota Cities Regional meeting that she attended with Martin.

Administration

- EDA Meeting
- Santa Day/Showcase – meeting with committee, layout for the event, prepared posters, prepared advertising and press release, updates on Facebook, prepared and printed materials for the City and Grow Grant County. Volunteered time setting up event and attending.
- Grow Grant County - Several conference calls with Center from Small Towns to establish ground work for inventory per grant application
- Central Lakes Trail financials
- Attended Business Retention and Expansion training in Fergus Falls
- Funding for water plant – prepared application and submitted, prepared items for council meeting
- MCFOA – set up training for Region 3 training in Starbuck, attended MCFOA board meeting in Dassel.
- Grant County Leads – sent e-mail to council requesting names of prospective attendees, sent a letter (Tom signed) to the prospective attendees, sent letter with information to organizations, put the information on Facebook and the website.
- Tobacco renewals delivered.
- Several issues with utility billing – continued to work with UBMax.
- Prepared and updated budgets – sent to committee members.
- Met with Troy on equipment replacement – made changes and included actual costs for past years.
- Prepared several year-end items for council meeting.

Public Safety

Chief of Police Report:

- Josh and Mike are still doing well.
- Call/ICR's are up
- Two thefts and two burglaries have occurred
 - Not just isolated to Ashby – numerous others in surrounding jurisdictions.
 - Possible suspect in storage shed burglaries – working with Grant Count and Elbow Lake PD
- Continued everyday patrol

Police Activity Report:

- Traffic Stop, Warning/Equipment – 10

- Public Assist – 5
- Domestic (Verbal) – 1
- Traffic Stop-Warning/Speed – 9
- Agency Assist – 3
- Accident – 1
- Traffic Stop – Warning/Expired Plates – 1
- Theft – 2
- Traffic/Parking Complaint – 1
- Traffic Stop-Warning/Stop Sign – 1
- Burglary – 1

Jordan asked about parking in front of a mailbox. There are students doing this by the school, making it difficult for the mailman to deliver the mail. Walton will do some research on this.

Obright will post the “no snowmobiling” signs for some of the sidewalks and in the parks.

Fire Department Report:

- Ambulance Calls – 22, 5 in City
- Fire & Rescue Calls – 3

Arrow EMS Report:

Jon Danner from Grant County Sheriff’s office was a guest speaker for the Ashby ambulance training. He spent time reviewing safe practices when responding to calls. Arrow EMS instructed a continuing education class for the Brandon Fire Department. West Central Community Action is again having Arrow EMS instruct a CPR/First Aid Course for their employees on December 12th in Ashby.

Public Works Report:

- Still looking for a place to store the mower
- Fall pond discharge is complete
- Met with Grover and Ness Backhoe to discuss use of the loader for snow removal
- Streets sweeping was completed before the first snowfall
- Dennis went through the Christmas lights and they are ready to be hung up
- Snow removal equipment was readied for winter
- Repairs/maintenance was done on some manholes and water stops
- DMR will be completed this week
- Working on getting the ice rink ready for use

Koefod moved to rescind the following motion made at last month’s council meeting and to accept the quote from Quality Control. *“Two quotes were received for the replacement of the control panel, computer and software at the water plant. Jaenisch moved to reject both quotes because of the cost. Koefod seconded. MCU”* Jordan seconded. MCU

The work order report was reviewed.

Old Business

Discussion on the Utility Billing Policy was tabled until the full council is available. Martin will also do some more research and provide this information to the council.

The council felt the business meeting held on October 28th at the Legion went well.

Martin will set up e-mail addresses for council to use for City business rather than using their personal e-mail.

New Business

Grover moved to approve **Resolution 2014-14 Resolution to Certify Election Results**. Jordan seconded. Roll call vote: those voting yes: Jordan, Grover and Koefod. Those voting no: none. MCU

Results were as follows:

Mayor:

Tom Grover – 185
Write-ins – 20

City Council:

Marcia Koefod – 171
Jim Karl – 154
Write-ins – 49

A letter was presented from Ruth Benson requesting credit for the sewer portion of her water bill. She left the outside hose on and had a much larger utility bill than normal. This was tabled until the full council can discuss.

Koefod moved to approve **Resolution 2014-15 A Resolution Approving Liquor and Tobacco Licenses for 2015**. Jordan seconded. Roll call vote: those voting yes: Jordan, Grover and Koefod. Those voting no: none. MCU

December 6th is set for Santa Day and Ashby Area Showcase. Koefod, Grover, Jordan and Martin all plan on attending and assisting.

Martin presented material on a Grant County Leadership training program. A list of names will be put together and a letter from the council, signed by the Mayor, will be sent to prospective attendees.

Third quarter financials were presented.

Walton and Martin reported on the EDA meeting. They are working on some business incentives and asked the council if a decision on the length of time to give free water and sewer to a business would be an EDA decision or a council decision. A list of parameters and additional information will be provided to the council at a later date.

Adjourned 7:05 p.m.

_____ Valerie Martin, Clerk/Treasurer