

Ashby City Council Meeting – June 11, 2015

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members Ron Jaenisch and Marcia Koefod present. Absent Council Members: Jim Karl and George Jordan. Also present was Jackie Schmitz- Clerk/Treasurer, Troy Johnson – Public Works, Jeremy Obright – Chief of Police, Judy Helle – Deputy Clerk, Val Martin – Previous Clerk/Treasurer; and Richard Walton– City Attorney. Visitors were Todd Hagen from Ehlers and Associates, Donna Jean Grover, Elden and Winnie Thompson.

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

Visitors

Todd Hagen of Ehlers presented the council with the results of the bond sale for the refinancing of the Country View Estates bond. The purpose of the bond refinancing is to receive an immediate savings and assist with cash flow. There were 3 bids received with the best bid coming from United Bankers Bank, Bloomington. All of the bids were comparable. Rates came in a little higher than anticipated but still allowing a significant savings for the City. The City maintained its A Rating with S & P. The bond closing will take place on July 15th.

Jaenisch moved to approve Resolution 2015-14 Providing For the Issuance And Sale of \$1,180,000 General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2015B, Pledging For The Security Thereof Special Assessments and Levying A Tax For The Payment Thereof. Koefod seconded. Roll Call Vote: Those voting for: Jaenisch, Koefod, and Grover. Those voting against: None. MCU

Donna Grover was present to discuss the sale of the lots at Country View Estates. The current covenants were discussed and the council requested that a meeting be made with the Country View Estates Committee to discuss new ideas on promoting development and to bring their ideas to the next council meeting.

Consent Agenda

Koefod moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

*Approval of minutes from the previous month.

*Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$6,044.17 Claims for Approval: \$27,428.52 Additional Prepaid Claims - \$0 and additional Claims for Approval \$0 for a total of \$33,472.69. Jaenisch went through the bills ahead of time and gave prior approval. Jaenisch seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Grover reported on a recent meeting that was held to discuss a Proposal for an interested party to purchase the Nursing Home. There was a business proposal presented to the council. Currently the property is in a tax forfeited status.
- Mayor Grover met with Pelican Lake Township.

Council Report

Mayor Grover and Council Member Marcia Koefod met with Country Heating & Air regarding the air conditioning issues at City Hall. Some maintenance was done on the unit but it is still not functioning properly. New sensors have been ordered. Once they arrive they are to be installed.

Administration

- ARMER Radio Training – Elbow Lake
- Clerk/Treasurer Training with Val
- Reading through Policies/Ordinances

- Wellhead Protection Meeting
- Meeting regarding Nursing Home Proposal
- Follow-up regarding B & B Liquor License Info & Equity Propane Contract Pricing
- Conference Call/Preparation for Bond Refinancing

Public Safety

Police Report:

- Missing Person - 1
- Traffic Stop Warning/Speed – 5
- Agency Assist – 1
- DARE – 3
- Animal – 2
- Motorist Assist – 5
- Public Assist – 1
- Traffic Stop Warning/Equipment – 5
- Traffic Stop Citation – 1

Chief Obright reported that Officer Joshua Whiting has begun employment with the Alexandria Police Department. The busy season is here and there is more activity for the Police Department. Officer Obright took the DARE group to the Twins game on June 7th. The trip was a success. Currently there are letters being sent out requesting extra donations for DARE as the expense account is down.

Attorney Walton and Chief Obright recently distributed the bad check report to Ashby businesses. There will be a training provided to all businesses on how to handle bad checks and how the process works.

Fire Department Report:

- Ambulance – 27, 7 in City
- Fire & Rescue Calls – 1 Fire Rescue, 0 in City

Arrow EMS

- Kelci Roberts, EMT Initial Course Student recently passed her initial Emergency Medical Technician NREMT Exam and hopes to be involved with the Ashby Ambulance Service and Arrow EMS Education.
- CPR Instructor Course to be held in June to get additional Instructors on board.

Public Works

- The school city-wide clean-up day was once again a success. Students worked on curb/hydrant painting, clean-up in the parks and streets. Thank you to Mr. Tappe, Ashby Teachers and all of the students who were involved with the project.
- Mackenzie Ecker is our summer help and is sanding and refinishing all picnic tables in the City Park.
- Sprayed for weeds in all of the parks and some other city maintained areas.
- Water Tower cleaning service was here for one day but were unable to finish due to weather. They will return to complete the project.
- Preparations are being made for spring discharge from the ponds.
- The work order report was received.

Old Business

Jaenisch moved to approve a contract with Ashby Equity for 100% Pre-Pay for LP for the 2015-2016 Season. Koefod seconded. MCU

New Business

Val Martin informed the Council that there are a few donation funds that are in the negative and the City should look at them and consider transferring funds from the General Fund to clear out the negative accounts. A resolution will be prepared at the July meeting to clean up these accounts.

The Council discussed the current set back requirements for accessory buildings. It was discussed if there should be a change made to this Zoning Ordinance or not. The Council wishes to do more research on the topic before they would consider any changes.

Koefod moved to approve **Resolution 2015-13 – Accepting Donation from Johnson-Nelson Masonry of \$330 for Movies in the park**. Jaenisch seconded. Roll call vote: Those voting for: Jaenisch, Koefod and Grover. Those voting against: none. MCU

The Council was presented with an offer from Kayla Johnson for the Ness Property that is owned by the City. Jaenisch moved to deny the offer. Koefod seconded. MCU

Koefod moved to donate \$500 to the Ashby Summer Recreation Program. Grover seconded. MCU

There was some discussion from a resident regarding a complaint about a neighbor. The complaint is currently being handled by Chief Obright.

Jaenisch moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm. Seconded by Koefod. MCU

Jackie Schmitz, Clerk/Treasurer