

Ashby City Council Meeting – July 9th, 2015

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Grover called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with council members Jim Karl, Ron Jaenisch, George Jordan and Marcia Koefod present. Also present was Jackie Schmitz- Clerk/Treasurer, Troy Johnson – Public Works, Jeremy Obright – Chief of Police, Judy Helle – Deputy Clerk; and Richard Walton– City Attorney. Visitors were Heather Rossum with the Ashby Community Club, Peter Hoff, Donna Jean Grover, Alden and Winnie Thompson.

Jaenisch moved to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Koefod. MCU

Visitors

Heather Rossum was present on behalf of the Ashby Community Club to request council approval for events in the park during Appreciation Days. Karl moved to block off Nelson Street for several events to take place in the street. Second by Jordan. MCU The Public Works Department will get more road blockades from Elbow Lake if possible. The street will be accessible if the Ambulance needs to drive through. Koefod made a motion to allow the Petting Zoo in the park. Second by Jaenisch. MCU

Consent Agenda

Jaenisch moved to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

*Approval of minutes from the previous month.

*Approval of bills: Prepaid Bills: \$21,652.81 Claims for Approval: \$36,016.44 Additional Prepaid Claims - \$0 and additional Claims for Approval \$0 for a total of \$57,669.25. Jordan went through the bills ahead of time and gave prior approval. Koefod seconded. MCU

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Grover reported that he held a staff meeting on 7/8/15.
- There is an interested party in the City Lot that is for sale on Main Street. The potential buyer is looking at putting in a combination of a car wash, laundromat, storage shed and an apartment above.
- The Nursing Home project is still in the planning process. The interested buyer has been in contact with Mayor Grover.

Council Report

Council Members Jim Karl and George Jordan informed the council that the Country View Estates Committee met to discuss how to move forward with selling lots. Several of the options that were discussed need to be reviewed by and discussed with the City Financial Advisor from Ehlers. Another committee meeting will be scheduled with Ehlers to verify if the options we are seeking are allowable. Peter Hoff reported that he met with the County Assessor and it was suggested by the Assessor to possibly have the lots appraised to get a clear picture on the value of the lots. This is something that would be costly to the City. More information will be provided at the August Council meeting.

Administration

- Clerk's Orientation Conference – Duluth 6/24-6/26
- Workers' Compensation Audit/Preparation 6/22
- Country View Estates Committee Meeting 7/8
- Appreciation Day's Preparation (Info on Website/Facebook)
- Red/White/Blue Parade (Info on Website/Facebook)
- Fire Department Relief Association Meeting 7/7
- Economic Development Meeting 7/8
- Farmer's Market/Movie's In the Park Preparation
- Prepared Information for Council Meeting

Public Safety

Police Report:

- Child Custody Dispute – 1
- Traffic Stop Warning – Speed – 6
- Traffic Stop Warning – Break Light Out – 1
- Agency Assist – 5
- Traffic Stop Warning – Center Line Violation – 1
- Motorist Assist – 1
- Police Information – 1
- Public Assist – 1
- Theft/Burglary – 1
- Animal – 2
- Traffic Stop Warning – Equipment - 3

Chief Obright reported that police activity has increased with summer. A Public Safety Meeting was requested by Obright to discuss police staffing. It is not going to be possible to use a County Deputy to staff Ashby's part-time needs.

Grant County and Elbow Lake will be here to assist with traffic control during Appreciation Days.

Fire Department Report:

- Ambulance –32 (in 30 days), 5 in City
- Fire & Rescue Calls – 4, 1 Grass Fire and 3 MVA's

Arrow EMS

- An Initial/Renewal CPR Instructor Course was held on 6/27/15. Two students obtained their CPR Instructor Certification allowing them to instruct CPR Classes. One Student renewed their certification. This will help make more instructors available when large classes require more than one instructor.
- The Ashby Ambulance continues to train monthly. The ambulance responded to a drill at the Pelican Lake Access involving Spinal Cord Trauma. This proved to be a valuable training exercise.
- Arrow EMS Education has been asked to conduct training for the Tintah and Campbell First Responders.

Public Works

- Johnson has been working on refreshing parking lines and the park for Appreciation Days. Picnic Tables have been sanded and re-coated and bathrooms have been painted.
- The lift station had problems on the 27th – 28th after a storm knocked out the power. The pumps and meters were re-wired and checked to make sure everything was working and there have been no problems since.
- The work order report was received.
- Johnson asked the Council what the process should be for Contractor Application Fee's. The Council agreed that the procedure has been for each contractor to pay the fee once per calendar year. All contractors must submit a new application for each project.

Old Business

Donna Jean Grover informed the Council that the recent project for the B & B has fallen through and will not be moving forward.

Donna Jean Grover also reported that there is a potential party interested in the Murphy's Pub property. This project could bring a gift shop, return of the laundromat and an eating facility.

New Business

Schmitz reported to the council that the City's Health Insurance Renewal is approaching and that rates will only be increasing 2.9%. There is no change to the City's already existing contribution.

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2015-14 – Resolution Allowing Transfer of Funds from the General Fund to the Donation/Special Fund**. Second by Koefod. Roll call vote: Those voting for: Karl, Jaenisch, Jordan, Koefod and Grover. Those voting against: None. MCU

Jaenisch moved to approve **Resolution 2015-15 – Resolution Accepting Donation from Peace Lutheran Church of \$100 and \$500 Grant from Ashby Equity and \$280 from Ashby Lion’s Club for Farmer’s Market/Movie’s in the Park**. Second by Karl. Roll call vote: Those voting for: Karl, Jaenisch, Jordan, Koefod and Grover. Those voting against: None. MCU

Jordan moved to approve the Outdoor Permit-Licenses Liquor Establishments Application request from the Ashby Legion for the Hospice Run on August 22, 2015. Second by Jaenisch. MCU

After the last storm that took power out in Ashby for several hours, the council discussed if there are any back-up options for the Tornado Siren in a case like this. We will look in to possibly hooking up the old generator once it is moved to City Hall/Fire Hall.

A letter was received from the Ashby Equity regarding the granting of a \$500 Grant from the Equity for Movie’s in the Park.

Jordan moved to deny the Transient Merchant Application submitted by Family Heritage Life Insurance. Second by Jaenisch. MCU

Jaenisch moved to adjourn. Second by Karl. MCU Adjourn at 6:35 p.m.

Jackie Schmitz, Clerk/Treasurer