

City Council Meeting Minutes

April 12th, 2021/ 6:45 PM / Skyline City Hall

ATTENDEES: Jason Hammond (Acting Mayor in Mayor Attarian's absence), Steve Romnes, Eric Manske, Shirley Piepho, Lon Whitehead, Marnie Kortuem

Guests: Mary Dowd, Alan Honerman, Edward Kortuem, Gina Selly, Kathy Whitehead

Via Google Meet: Charlie Berg, Dustin Jones, Jay Sallstrom

Agenda:

Meeting called to order by Jason Hammond (Acting Mayor) at 6:45 pm

Pledge of Allegiance performed by all present

Public Forum:

DEER PERMIT TOPIC: Mary Dowd expressed a concern about completing a bow hunting season in the City of Skyline. She feels that the city council could incur legal implications without having a formal policy. She feels that it is important that the public be aware of decisions and discussion that come up at meetings. Gina Selly also voices her concerns about a potential deer hunt. She feels there are many variables and things that can go wrong with this potential hunt. Jason Hammond addressed the concerns of the public and states also that there is definitely an overpopulation of deer in the City of Skyline. He clarified that this potential decision is in the beginning stages of discussion and no decision has been made. He explained that all hunters would have to go through a training course prior to obtaining a permit. He stated that the council's intention was not to make a harsh or quick decision. Alan Honerman addressed the council and members of the public and stated that he has been a resident of Skyline for 50 years and that Skyline has allowed this season in the past. He states that it is becoming dangerous for drivers and that the deer eat all of the gardens and greenery and that it is nearly impossible to keep a garden. Shirley Piepho expressed that the council will not make a hasty decision and assures that if this becomes a reality the council will be thorough in planning such a permit to be granted and that no decision has been made by the council. Jason Hammond reiterated that the council will inquire with the proper authorities before anything progresses. A google meet member asked if the public will be notified if and when this hunt would occur. Eric Manske stated that this is in the very early stages and was surprised at how much chatter this topic has generated and reminded everyone

that the question was asked if a hunt could happen and the council simply stated they would look into it. No further discussion or decisions were made by the council at that time.

WATER TOWER TOPIC: Alan Honerman states that he had a question about what the cost of maintenance in just leaving the current water tower in place to house the antennas. He wondered if the tower could just stay there, not as a water tower but just to hold the antennas. Jason Hammond expressed that the current water tower is not a long term structure for housing the antennas and that the current weight of these antennas is really too much for the current structure. Mr. Honerman also asked if there is a possibility of losing the cell phone tower revenue. Jason Hammond stated that there is the potential for the cell phone tower companies to back out of there contracts.

Shirley Piepho explained that the water tower project will need to create sub-committees for finance, etc. and extended that opportunity to all those present in person and on Google Meet.

Gina Selly asked if she could create a flower pot to place near the Vetter Park sign. The Coop will have to approve any planting of flowers in the park, so the Council will pass that onto them.

Approve Agenda and Minutes approved by Shirley Piepho approved and Steve Romnes seconded. Passed unanimously.

City Clerk Report: MDH Water Report has been posted on the City Hall entrance door for the public to view. Skyline Cooperative purchased a beautiful bench for the tennis courts near Moran Park.

City Treasurer Report. Lon states that the receipts this month are the \$10,166.89 for cell tower usage, water/garbage receipts and interest income. Payables are \$5221.40. Bills approved by Shirley Piepho, seconded by Eric Manske, passed unanimously.

Water and garbage bill list. The list was long because bills have not been received, there are five households that are over 90 days overdue. Letters will be sent to these individuals. Shirley Piepho expressed that there should be a greater consequence for the delinquent bill payers. The verbiage of the letters has been changed to strenuously encourage the delinquent bill payers to pay on time.

Departmental Reports

Water Department - Jason Hamond: Jason is working on the required MS4 permit for the City of Skyline. The permit is due on April 15th, 2021. He is working with Nick from the Minnesota Department of Health. He did inquire if the City of Skyline could potentially file for a 30-day extension to assure that the permit is filed properly.

❑ Street Department - Eric Manske: Eric has contacted two companies about gaining quotes for street repair. He followed up about the manhole cover near Vetter Park and if further repairs are needed. He will also follow up with Amlawn if charges are incurred with the manhole cover since the damage occurred while plowing snow this past winter.

❑ Parks and Playground Department - Steve Romnes: Steve states that he is going to do some seasonal maintenance at Vetter Park when the weather improves a little. It was mentioned that the baby swing has been broken. Steve will work on getting the swing replaced. Shirley brought up that the Skyline Cooperative would assist in the swing repair. Shirley also expressed that the Cooperative is an understated group and that the Coop should come to a meeting or have a blurb in the newsletter to explain their role within our community.

❑ Public Safety - Shirley Piepho: Shirley states that multiple mailboxes have been hit due to excessive speed and lack of paying attention in the neighborhoods, especially in the front Vetter Park area. Shirley stated that the Public Safety will ramp up their patrols in Skyline to hopefully catch some of the speeding drivers.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 pm by Shirley Piepho, seconded by Eric Manske. Passed unanimously.