

City of Skyline

August 2019 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: August 12, 2019

Call meeting to order

Paige called the meeting to order at 6:45

Pledge of Allegiance

Completed

Approve Agenda and Minutes

Steve Romnes approved. Mary Dowd seconded.

Public Open Forum

Joy Leafblad with Mankato Marathon came to discuss 2019 route changes. The Marathon will be coming through West Mankato, Woodland Avenue will be a part of the route. Joy provided maps to the council members. The map includes timing and detours to assist in planning to local residents. Joy also states that there will be officers placed at roadways to assist with traffic. She is also requesting volunteers for race day. So far comments have been positive from the residents regarding the new route. Paige voiced concern about planning the route and then notifying residents. Joy assured her that it has been an arduous task in planning and that all procedures have been followed. Joy will be attending our Night to Unite to help answer questions and address concerns. She left her card for council members.

City Clerk Report

Update on utility bills, they were mailed on July 18. Marnie will move forward with Gmail Accounts for council members. These accounts will allow board members easier viewing and sharing of documents.

City Treasurer Report

Lon reviewed receipts and payables. There was a discussion about Borgen street repairs. There are some concerns with the street repairs. Payment will be held until satisfaction is achieved. Corrections were made to reflect a discrepancy in the balance. Mary Dowd moved to pay the billing and approve the treasurer's report. Steve Romnes seconded the motion.

Water and garbage bill list

Lon reviewed the letter from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding statewide increases in water usage fees. Paige will review the letter and determine if changes to Skyline billing will take place. The aging summary was given to Marnie, she will follow up on overdue water/sewer bill payments with a reminder letter.

Departmental Reports

❑ Water Department

Sam was absent. She reports that she and Paige will be meeting on Wednesday, August 28th at noon with the City of Mankato to discuss the possibility of a new water tower in Skyline. Brian Powers has been invited to that meeting as well.

❑ Street Department

Dean was absent. Lon or Paige will ask him to follow up with Bargen, Inc. (Street repair). The work that was done by Bargen to smooth cracks and manhole covers appears to need some follow up due to its appearance, wavy and rough.

❑ Parks and Playground Department

Steve states that he turned on the sprinkler system. He also states that he was continuing safe weed control. He states that he will weed prior to Night to Unite on August 19th.

❑ Public Safety Department

Mary states that the community Night to Unite will take place next Monday, August 19th. Signs have been placed around Skyline to encourage participation. Mary states that there will be booths, food and community fun!

Old Business

❑ **Property Zoning concern (Zernechel). Handouts will be provided at city council meeting.**

Mary explained that a resident had contacted her inquiring about the process for addressing zoning issues beyond easement questions of building a larger garage, which were discussed at previous council meetings. There is a concern about a new addition being built for use as a large attached “workshop” which might be against the ordinance that states that you cannot have a commercial business in a residential zone. Mary noted that existing businesses are small home offices that do not affect neighbors, or grandfathered-in properties. Paige spoke to City attorney, Ken White, informally, and based on what Paige described, Ken did not think the addition would violate city of Skyline ordinances. Steve suggested that we talk to attorney Wally Gates, the Co-Op president about Co-Op rules that might apply, and invite Ken White come to the next meeting to explain what the ordinance states.

Cody provided a design schematic for members to visualize the new addition. Paige and Mary asked Cody questions about whether any business would be conducted at the site. Cody stated that no business would be transacted, or otherwise operated out of his property. Cody stated that the workshop was being built to store his construction tool trailers and it would be soundproof. Cody said that he did not seek permission to build a

new garage and workshop before buying the property because he had heard that Skyline zoning ordinances are looser than those of Mankato.

Shirley Piepho voiced concerns about the looseness of Skyline ordinance enforcement, and recommended a discussion on how to create tighter rules and publicize existing rules on business ownership, zoning, etc. Paige will speak to the Co-Op officials, Kristi Powers and Wally Gates, to make sure that this construction is within guidelines set forth by the Co-Op. The matter did not come to a vote for a variance as no infraction of current ordinances was found based on information available to the City Council.

New Business

- ❑ Replacement of city council member (Streets Department)
Mary will list the vacancy for a council member in the newsletter. Marnie will check with Kevin at the League of Minnesota Cities into the legal procedure for replacing the member properly.

- ❑ Light on the water tower
The new light was not replaced by Skyline. It was presumably replaced by one of the renters's on the tower. Paige will email the company to see if the light could possibly be repositioned. As noted earlier in the minutes, Sam will also follow up on the placement of this light.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm. Steve Romnes motioned, Mary Dowd 2nd