

**CITY OF SKYLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
February 9, 2015**

Present: Mayor & Fire Chief Travis Javens; City Clerk Cathy Dahl; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Council Members, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, Hans Schwanke; retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; resident Al Honermann

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes and agenda. Wayne Bishop, motion, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

15-Minute Public Open Forum – no forum.

City Clerk's Report - Cathy Dahl reported she needs salaries from treasurer to complete and return PERA report form. Resident from 3 Skyline Drive was sent a late water bill notice per certified mail with return receipt. Letter was signed for on January 31, 2015. Clerk gave letter from MN dept. of health to Samantha Erickson about water report.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for January. Annual fees were paid for Blue Earth County and Gopher State One Call. Quarterly fee was paid for County Attorney. He added \$806.09 for 2nd Xcel Energy bills and Neville Cleaning for \$30.00, one for \$10.97 for batteries for fire dept.

Decision whether or not to waive tort insurance limit for insurance with League of MN Cities. Motion to not waive the tort limit to keep coverage at \$500,000, Samantha Erickson, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Passed Unanimously.

Letter sent to Lon about no-fault sewer back-up coverage from League of MN Cities. Mayor and council members thought Skyline doesn't need this.

Resident at 3 Skyline Drive has paid up past due water/utility bills.

Lon mentioned Andy Johnson being overdue on water/utility bills. Meter readings seem to be high and Lon explained how the meter replacements are paid for – they pay if their fault, city pays if meter is faulty. Lon will ask Charlie to get a manual reading. No letters to be sent at this time.

Approval of city clerk's report and treasurer's report and to pay bills, motion Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department - Samantha Erickson reported she needs more time to look for a city water ordinance in old files. Mayor Javens will ask city attorney to look over ordinance as currently written in case old version cannot be found. She didn't hear from MRI (our new city plumber)

about putting a new meter in at Rick Sartel's residence but a bill for that should be coming any time. Hood residence has a working meter – they just have low water usage.

Mayor Javens talked about work needed on water tower valve vault. Bolton Menk is going to put together work specs so contractors can do maintenance work on water tower and prices can be collected.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf reported the Enventis cabinet is finished. Residents should show improvement on internet and television. Dean called AmLawn about the glare ice on Sunday but it was better by the time they got here with salt. New street sign will be coming soon after frost is gone for new house. Mayor Javens suggested waiting until driveway is paved before putting in sign and adding a phrase like "private drive" or "dead end." Dean will look into that.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop reported parks are quiet. Discussion of what kind of mouse traps to use in city hall. Javens Electric will be coming to fix light in front of city hall.

Public Safety Department – Hans Schwanke, nothing to report.

Fire Department Chief Travis Javens – nothing to report.

Motion to approve departmental reports, Wayne Bishop, Hans Schwanke, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mankato Fire and Police Department service to Skyline – everyone was emailed paperwork from City of Mankato. Wayne Bishop wondered what "regular and timely basis" meant in wording. Samantha Erickson recalled Mankato wanted to give Skyline more leeway on follow up instead of scheduling. Wayne Bishop said termination notification of 30 days in agreement seemed like a short amount of time. Hans Schwanke agreed and wondered what the alternative would be. Mayor Javens said South Bend Fire Department, N. Mankato, or return to our own.

Al Honermann asked what happens to the bill due to Mankato after the 2-year agreement at \$10,000 per year. Mayor Javens told him that today it would be about \$27,000 based on resident households in Skyline, but that amount may be lower by the time two years rolls around because of the new businesses coming into Mankato. Mayor does not foresee the increase being a problem for the City. Fee will be reduced by the amount they receive from the State of MN for Skyline fire aid.

Al Honermann said that he hates to see the Skyline Fire Department go, but we have to face the reality of not enough people available during the day. Roger Hermanson agreed. Mayor Javens would not like to see the fire department disbanded, but believes that it needs to happen. If current Skyline volunteer fire-fighters want to join Mankato volunteer fire department, they will be allowed to under this contract. Al Honermann thought we should hang on to the truck for 2 more years. No one is in a hurry to sell the truck. Cathy Dahl suggested getting a nice photo of truck and all fire fighters, past and current, this spring to hang up in city hall.

Pagers cannot be turned in right away until 911-call-center equipment is reset.

Dean Rengstorf, motion to accept the contract with Mankato as written, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Pass unanimously.

Clerk will draft a resolution accepting the contract to be sent to Mankato. Resolution 2015-1. Mankato City Council is voting on the two-year agreement tonight.

Skyline sewer/storm water code – discussed previously.

Redistribute roles of council members due to Public Safety being turned over to City of Mankato – Dean Rengstorf believes Samantha Erickson has more work than the other council members. He wondered if she had work to pass over. Samantha doesn't feel she needs help in the water department. Council members all believe there isn't a lot of activity. Samantha Erickson thinks possibly the mayor could delegate some of his projects. Hans Schwanke is happy to help wherever he can. Decision was made that Mayor Javens will delegate special projects as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Follow up on denial of conditional-use permit – Dean Rengstorf was confronted by resident involved and he told her she has to move on; the vote was taken. Mayor Javens doubts she will comply. If City Council gets another renter coming to the council meeting with complaints, they will be told they can move out – any lease is illegal and not binding to them. Future problems will be dealt with if and when they come up.

Blue Earth County agreement to give them \$100 a year for voting equipment, motion Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

MN Rev 2014 Fire Equipment Certification for State Fire Aid Payable in 2015 was signed by Fire Chief Javens and City Clerk. These funds will go to Mankato on our behalf.

Fire calls will still be going to Skyline fire-fighters for a while. No change in the fire department until everything has been set in motion with City of Mankato.

Dean Rengstorf asked if council was interested in the solar farm idea presented at last meeting. He mentioned putting a couple panels on the pump house. Mayor Javens wondered if this was something for the Skyline Coop Association to pursue. Coop hasn't scheduled their annual meeting yet.

Mayor Javens will be sending a newsletter to inform residents of vote on Mankato Fire and Police. He will ask about solar panels and invite them to come to a meeting. Wayne Bishop wondered if residents would rather receive newsletters by email.

Eye sore items at former Timm residence need to be dealt with by Skyline Coop Association.

Motion to adjourn, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date

Resolution 2015-1

City of Skyline Resolution to Accept Contract with the City of Mankato titled Agreement for Fire and Police Response Services

Whereas the City of Skyline requires police and fire department service for the public safety of its residents and it is difficult to find enough volunteers to cover 24-hours a day in the City of Skyline, the City of Skyline pursued an agreement to City of Mankato provide public safety coverage for two years.

Therefore, be it resolved the Council of the City of Skyline approves the contract for Agreement for Fire and Police Response Services as written.

Resolved on the 9th day of February, 2015.

Travis Javens, Mayor of Skyline

Catherine Dahl, Clerk, City of Skyline