

**CITY OF SKYLINE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
February 8, 2016**

**Present:** Mayor Travis Javens; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Clerk Cathy Dahl; Council Members, Dean Rengstorf, Hans Schwanke, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson; Retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; Residents, Mark Piepho, Keith Purscell, Andrew Wilhelmi, Joanne Boettcher, Kathy Whitehead

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes and agenda. Motion to accept, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

Regular meeting closed to open hearing on animal ordinance. 7:50PM

**Public Hearing on Animal Ordinance –**

How will it be enforced? Enforcement of ordinance will be by City Council or Mankato police if animals are running loose. Mankato Police will be informed of ordinance if it passes.

How long are leashes allowed to go? 12 ft. Mayor gave a quick background of why ordinance is being considered. Keith Parscell mentioned he grew up raising chickens and has no problem with chickens in Skyline.

Council was thanked for allowing chickens by Joanne Boettcher. She suggested changes:

- Increase distance from homes

- 4 sq feet per chicken minimum in coop

- Ventilation needed in coops

- Deep litter method is good if done properly

- Drop “no composting” wording

- Possible exemption to have more than 6 hens if raising for neighbors (communal rule)

Public hearing closed at 7:11.

Reopened Council meeting.

**15-Minute Public Open Forum** – Resident asked about dog leash law being enforced. Kathy Hermanson is concerned the 12-foot leash length is too long. Keith Parscell noted that most residents have dogs on leashes with buttons to shorten leashes as needed.

**City Clerk’s Report** – Cathy Dahl reported she has the information from Lon Whitehead needed to complete the MN PERA exemption form and will have that in the mail soon.

A message was on machine to the City Council from MN Dept Health Community Water Supply, because of increased questions about water safety. Go to [www.health.state.mn.us/water](http://www.health.state.mn.us/water) to check on public water supply concerns. Or call 651-201-4700.

Julie Brinkman called. SEH(an engineering firm) needs base water rates and dollar amount per 1000 gallons. 507-237-8380 Mayor Javens will return call.

Also a call from Paradyme about fire department training. No need to reply.

A resident mentioned on the Skyline facebook page that she thought it would be helpful for newsletters, ordinances, council meetings, etc. to be posted there. She also mentioned making facebook events for council meetings, public hearings or any other city activities. Not sure how to find out who is on facebook to invite them to events. Clerk already puts a reminder for council meetings there. Mayor Javens said no because the facebook page is not an official city site. Residents need to go to [www.cityofskyline.com](http://www.cityofskyline.com).

Notice of Open Book Meeting for Skyline from Blue Earth County arrived in mail. Set for April 18-22, 9AM. Clerk will post on door and in Free Press. Residents wanting to go to the Open Book Meeting need to go to the Blue Earth County Taxpayer Services Office.

**City Treasurer's Report** – Lon Whitehead reported no checks received from AT&T in January or February. He will keep an eye on it. Well repair bill from Thein is complete but back-hoe will be billed separately. City Council will review overdue water/utility bills next month. Lon sent in required information for resolving movement of money to waste fund.

Approval of city clerk's report and treasurer's report and to pay bills, motion Wayne Bishop, Dean Rengstorf, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

## **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Water Department** –Samantha Erickson reported a substantial problem with well #2 which threw the chlorine off. It wasn't harmful. Replaced pitless adaptor, which was original. Everything is repaired, now back up and running. AmLawn removed snow so they could get to the site to dig. 56 and 64 Skyline Drive had huge usage on recent meter reads. Charlie Berg wondered if they should be billed minimum and then meters checked before billing higher. Mayor Javens said they should be billed for what is being read. Question on 4 Skyline Place - it doesn't have an initial reading so not sure how to bill. 120 S. Skyline is having an issue about water quality and pressure in their house. Sediment is coming through from somewhere and clogging their filter. Council doesn't think it is a city issue if blockage is from street to their house. Samantha Erickson wondered about inspector noting how many meters each house has when doing each house inspection. It will be added to inspection form.

**Street Department** - Dean Rengstorf reported not too much went on during past month. Tree and Landscape is going to give him a price on stones for cul-de-sac circles. Approximately \$100 each, probably \$1500 for all and he will check on any extra installation cost. Website from Cambria for selling fire truck to be fixed and sent to Central America is [mattermore.org](http://mattermore.org)  
Roger Hermanson suggested posting information in Dalmatian magazine for firefighters.

**Parks & Playgrounds Department** - Wayne Bishop reported not much going on with parks.

**Public Safety Department** – Hans Schwanke reported inspector has everything he needs to get started with inspections. He has a spreadsheet that he will mark off which homes are in compliance and which are not. Wayne Bishop asked if Hans could ask inspector to note number of water meters at each residence also. Samantha Erickson agreed. Hans will ask inspector to do this. Mayor Javens asked Hans to direct inspector to 50 Skyline for access to 52 Skyline.

Motion to approve departmental reports, Samantha Erickson, Hans Schwanke, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

MN Pollution Control Agency – MS4 – Skyline City Code for Storm Water Management – nothing new.

Fire truck and equipment – already discussed.

Animal ordinance – Resident contacted Mayor and asked that leaving your pet waste in another’s yard be made a petty misdemeanor, which means it could be a finable offense. Council didn’t know how that could be enforced.

Hans Schwanke asked if Skyline has a limit to number of dogs per residence. 3 dog limit was suggested. Mayor Javens asked if there should also be a limit on number of cats. 3 cat limit was suggested.

Chicken coop set back revision – 25 feet from any neighboring house.

4 Square feet per chicken minimum in coop and 10 square feet run space.

Discussion of raising limit from 6 chickens to 12 if housing for neighbors – Council is leaving limit at 6, no exception for communal chicken raising.

Discussion of allowing deep litter method if done with composting. If this is allowed, other things in ordinance will have to be changed.

**New Business - none**

Motion to adjourn, Dean Rengstorff, Wayne Bishop, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Cathy Dahl  
Skyline City Clerk

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Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

date

\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_

date