

**CITY OF SKYLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
June 9, 2014**

Present: Mayor & Fire Chief Travis Javens; Clerk Cathy Dahl; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Council Members, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter, Dean Rengstorf; Retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson

Meeting called to order 6:45 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes and agenda. Motion to approve, Samantha Erickson, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Approved unanimously.

15-Minute Public Open Forum – no forum. Mayor Javens had hoped some residents would be at forum because he was given a petition against the home being annexed by Skyline and to stop building of new home near 130 S. Skyline Drive.

City Clerk's Report - Cathy Dahl reported Skyline Clerks Café on May 15th was not well attended. Newsletter notice seems needed to remind people. Sharon Hammerschmidt and Cathy will continue seeing if this works for a couple more months.

Mayor and two council member positions (Rebecca Carpenter & Wayne Bishop) will be up for election this fall. Information and forms will be available on July 1st for clerk to pick up from Blue Earth County. Clerk will find out exact filing dates for Mayor Javens to put in newsletter.

AT&T is now sending payments to our new street address.

Water shut-off letter for 57 Skyline Drive is ready for approval and signature before mailing with return receipt. Revision to letter suggested by Mayor Javens to add “submit to County as assessment at city’s discretion.” Decision by council was to leave letter as is. Late utility warning letters have been sent to 3 Skyline Drive, 136, 111, 101 S. Skyline Drive, and 219 E. Skyline Ct. No new letters to be sent at this time.

The auditor has asked for a copy of the letter for the tax levy approved in December, 2012. I have not been able to find it and asked Blue Earth County to send a copy. They will be emailing it to clerk soon – they promised it today but nothing yet.

Clerk still needs to remove PO Box number from permits for Dean Rengstorf.

State of Minnesota sent estimate of our 2013 population: 285 population, 112 households. Last year the numbers were low also, but we found it wasn't worth the time and expense of arguing the numbers if they are incorrect.

Southern MN Initiative Foundation information came in mail.

Dues increase letter was received from League of MN Cities. There will be an increase of \$37 for 2015.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for May. Council does not feel membership in MN Association of Small Cities is needed since we belong to the League of MN Cities.

Wayne Bishop wondered if fees for garbage pickup/recycle need to be raised. This will be discussed later in meeting. LJP says September 13th works for the City of Skyline bi-annual trash pick-up date. New recycle bins are available and can be brought up any time. LJP has flyers

available for each resident. Mayor Javens asked Lon to have them provide us with 120 flyers and we will send out with next newsletter. Samantha Erickson suggested Lon ask LJP about what to do with old green recycle bins. LJP will try to get new recycle bins to residents in July.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department - Samantha Erickson reported she talked to Corey Block about house to house inspections. He is not available now but is contacting someone who may be able to do inspections for Skyline. Mayor Javens researched and found City needs to come up with an ordinance to search residents' homes for compliance with rain water not being pumped into sewer system. It will be a process to get ready to do inspections. Mankato does not fine individual homes but anyone not in compliance must get their homes corrected. Corey estimated cost of \$40-50 per house to do this - hiring a plumber instead would be more expensive. Mayor Javens will email council members the Mankato ordinance to look over.

Samantha brought samples from Heyn Brothers for shingles and gutters. Mayor Javens heard from Brian Powers that we had some vandalism at the pump house. Gutters are damaged and they wonder if replacement is needed since kids will hang on them and damage the new gutters as well. Shingles are not in that bad of shape, but could be replaced for aesthetic value. Samantha Erickson and Cathy Dahl will decide on colors for shingles and fascia. There will be a couple of bids for this.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf reported Dustin Samuelson is back to help with miscellaneous street work. Dean hasn't had time to meet with others about sign work and getting Charter to follow through with street repairs from their work.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop reported smell in entry way will be investigated. He asked Mayor Javens for digital copies of No Poo signs for trash can as residents have started depositing dog waste there again. Wayne is still working on finding a swing replacement. Pump house signs – one is still okay. Another sign can go inside the pump house instead of on door. Wayne will look at door to see what needs to be done to repair holes on door when sign is removed.

Wayne researched water fountains. There are 2 basic styles – square or round. It costs \$700 more for freeze-proof kind. To save money, it can be plumbed with a shut off valve. Mayor Javens thinks water fountain should be attached to pump house. Dean Rengstorf suggested signage that says pump house is under surveillance to avoid vandalism to new fountain and/or pump house. Mayor Javens asked if City Council thinks park water fountain should be done or not. Possibly the \$1000 from the Skyline Coop Association for park improvements could be used elsewhere. Samantha Erickson will call MRI to find out cost of a small attached water fountain after recent vandalism has been addressed. Sand is needed for park playground area. Blue Valley Sod, Earthworks, SMC will be contacted – they can give an amount needed by measurement of playground area. Suggestion that maybe a new picnic table or paint the table would be a better use of Coop money. Rebecca Carpenter said tennis courts need signage – gates need to be closed because dogs, deer and turkey are getting in there – no skates, skateboards, etc. Rebecca said that

coop money was also meant for replacing trees. Policing of park after 10PM would help end vandalism. Wayne will get new locks for tennis court to use over winter.

Public Safety Department – Rebecca Carpenter reported some residents are having problems with mail disappearing from mail boxes.

Fire Department Chief Travis Javens – There were a couple medical calls last month in middle of day that were not well responded to. Gold Cross is always dispatched at same time as fire dept. If no response for fire calls after 3 times, it would go to Mankato Fire Dept. because of mutual aid.

Motion to approve departmental reports, Dean Rengstorf, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mankato Fire Department service to Skyline – Mayor Javens feels that Mankato will be very negotiable in an agreement. City should be hearing back on this soon. Currently, Ken White is in contact with Mankato on wording.

Enventis New Communications Cabinet – it's going to happen this summer.

Potential annexation of residence – Mayor Javens spoke with Ken White. He asked him what costs City would incur for annexation – other than legal fees, there will be filing fees with county and state. If a grinder pump is needed, homeowners would have to purchase and install, then City would take care of maintenance. A cost of \$200-300 for writing an easement and filing fee would be incurred. Mayor is waiting to hear from Ken White on more details. Mayor Javens will contact buyers to let them know where everything is standing at this time. Even though a petition was turned in, no one has come to a City Council meeting to express concern on this issue. Mayor Javens hopes to have everything nailed down on this topic at next month's meeting.

Quotes for fencing around water tower – One quote is in and waiting for another. Mankato Land Shapes is \$1117.14 for 6-foot chain link. Property survey will be done to assure fence is on City property. Some brush will need to be cleared out before fencing is done. Tile line for water tower dump has pipe separation and there's a washout to the ravine that needs repair. Mayor Javens asked if Dustin Samuelson would be able to do this work. Dean Rengstorf will see who residents at 239 W. Skyline Ct had do their work.

Pump house repair and painting scheduling logistics – Shingling work needs to be done before painting. After next meeting, dates can be figured out. Separate newsletter will have to go out to seek volunteers – or make phone calls. Wayne Bishop suggested Clerk start a log for when all work is done in park.

NEW BUSINESS

Interconnection agreement with Mankato – a copy was sent to Ken White to look over – it is basically the same as previous agreement. Skyline rates will be going up. Flow calibrator will be

taken care of through Mankato. We will continue supplying batteries. Monthly sampling will go away and change to once or twice a year. Skyline will be notified when this is done to allow for line flushing. There will be a \$500 hook-up fee for new homeowner if they are annexed by Skyline. New agreement is for 5 years. If Skyline stays within its allocated percent of plant's capacity (.5 %), we will be paying \$35689. Allocation will be adjusted on a 5-year basis. Mayor Javens will check numbers to see if resident rates will have to increase. Water tower lease income helps with Skyline expenses – Lon Whitehead will check with auditor as to how lease money may be used. If Mayor Javens gets numbers to Lon, he will have auditor review. This may incur some extra cost.

City Clerk asked Council if the Skyline City Hall may be used for a USO barbeque. City Council approved the USO event.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM.

Submitted by Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date