

Skyline City Council Minutes

May 14, 2012

Attendance: Mayor Mike Kluck, Council Members - Travis Javens, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, Rebecca Carpenter; Clerk Cathy Dahl; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; resident Emily Javens; representatives of I&S, Matt Brand, Brad Potter, and Bolton and Menk, John Peterson

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 PM.

Public Open Forum:

No forum.

7:00 PM I & S presentation. Matt Brand discussed emailed proposal. Mankato requires Skyline to measure flow and strength of waste water for billing. Recommendation and estimated costs found by talking to Mary Fralisch of Mankato. Full refrigeration not needed, but quarterly testing with a cooler may be used. Discussed constructing a manhole over a new manhole and establishing a flume to calculate flow. They will propose location. 4 properties on side of hill will be missed; Mankato is fine with this using another method to figure their usage. Mankato will install a data logger in manhole. Estimated cost of \$10,000 for equipment plus other expenses to total \$26,950.00. Can accuracy be guaranteed? They haven't had trouble with this type of equipment before. Perhaps solution is to put reader higher in the manhole. It's more difficult to measure a gravity system flow. Some other small cities have forced flow. The logger will check flow continuously so we will be able to identify storm water getting into system. Data will identify issues with any homes pumping storm water into system. We shouldn't need a permanent sampler station. Mankato will use temporary station quarterly. Ongoing maintenance should be scheduled with the flume. Data will be downloaded monthly for Mankato. Professional fees are design fees. Survey and observation fees will be additional and should be minimal. Right of ways issues need to be researched. Electrical hookup is necessary but not phone line. Flash drive can be taken to location for readings. 3-4 days approximately for completion. One lane of traffic will be kept open. City can contract for 9-4 working time to avoid heavy traffic. Brad Potter suggests taking cost from cash reserves for this project and discussed refinancing of current loan. He handed out information sheet. It would save approx. \$17,000. No other fees associated with this refinance. Currently we pay an administrative fee of \$431 per year which would be saved along with the lower interest rate. This goes to 2018. Keeps current term but lowers rates and may be prepaid at any time. We will need a motion to approve application. He will connect us with Rural Water representative if approved.

Approval of May 14, 2012 agenda and April 9, 2012 minutes

Motion to approve agenda, Dean Rengstorf, Travis Javens 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes, Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

City Clerk Report:

Center Point Energy has awarded the City of Skyline with a grant of \$2200 to be used toward a generator and will attend a council meeting to present check.

I have not had time to contact Rick Sartell about the printer in the office or Hickory Tech about the phone line. The printer is working again, but is not wireless. I will get to these things soon.

The League of MN cities clerk orientation June 20th, 3 days in Duluth. Cathy Dahl will look into being able to attend. Motion to cover expenses, registration and mileage for city clerk to attend training by Travis Javens, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Motion to approve City Clerk report, Rebecca Carpenter, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Lon Whitehead went over report for April 2012. Addition of \$107.70 bill for no parking signs for the park to Travis Javens. Purchased 6 signs. New shirts for fire department will be approx. \$300 coming up this month. Amount of up to \$400 to B. Stark for shirts when bill comes this month.

Motion to approve treasurer's report Dean Rengstorf, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Lon Whitehead talked with Burkhardt and Burkhardt. The auditors have no problem will proceeding with refinance discussed by I&S. It can be done before next payment due in November 2012. Motion to submit an application to refinance general obligation bond by Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

7:30 Bolton and Menk presentation from John Peterson. Option 1 – transducer unit to retrofit right into manhole and use ultrasonic sound to measure. Wiring and power for sampling can be done with minimal disruption to street. City will need some kind of structure off to the side in right of way. Option 2 – replace manhole and place flume into it. Base of manhole would be grouted for a constant flow. Homes on side of hill need to be negotiated with City of Mankato. Transducer maintenance cost about the same as a flume. Skyline needs to rewrite agreement with Mankato if anything is different to have in place with them. Data would be downloaded from small unit alongside of road. City of Mankato provides calibration once a year (need to verify who pays for that). There will always be an issue with readings on low flow. Transducer will shoot down for readings but since it is sitting above it should not get blocked. Estimate of total cost \$45-55,000 without using portable sampler. This amount would be rewritten if going with a portable sampler instead of a permanent sampler in Skyline. The next step is for city to hire them and then they will go to Mankato to work on getting best prices available for meeting requirements. Then they would contact contractors for bids.

Discussion – It seems that I & S was counting on Mankato providing portable sampler vs. Bolton & Menk basing cost on us having our own permanent sampler. This is more about choosing an engineering firm than knowing the actual cost of project at this time. Actual cost will come after finding contractors. Samantha Erickson feels decision cannot be made until Mankato has clarified what is needed as far as sampling equipment and then see if John Peterson from Bolton & Menk can give a better estimate of project cost. Samantha will contact Mary Fralisch (and ask for this in writing) for precise equipment

needs to enable a fair comparison at June council meeting. Emily Javens offered services to the city free of charge if we would like her to review information submitted as a civil engineer. Her opinion is that it would be better to avoid digging up the street. Her opinion is that I&S proposal is low and Bolton & Menk is high so we need to find the difference which seems to be equipment cost. Samantha suggested that Bolton & Menk is an estimate and I & S is a proposal – also a difference in the cost. Lon Whitehead commented that the main difference is one wants to install a new manhole and one thinks it's not needed. Research will be done and plan to make decision at June council meeting.

Water Department:

Samantha Erickson reports there was graffiti on the water tower at the end of March. Brian Powers, Mike Erickson, and Samantha Erickson are meeting prior to the council meeting to discuss who will clean it, cost, and insurance coverage. There is also a need to have the water jacket repaired. This was done approximately 10 years ago and is already showing signs of weakening/movement. When Rich from McGuire comes, Brian Powers will also ask him to take the ladder up one rung so it requires a ladder to get to it. This will hopefully deter more vandalism. We need to look at more limited access solutions. Curt Schunaman offered to look for painters who would do repair; city will consider this if contacted.

Greg Pipal had items stolen from his car a few weeks ago - backpack with technology equipment in it. There was a large group of teenage girls who were walking up the hill a few days in a row. They walk 5-wide on the hill and are not residents of Skyline. Samantha did check to see if they were headed toward the tower the other day but by the time she drove past, she didn't know where they were - haven't been seen again.

Lon Whitehead mentioned the danger of hedges that are too high and obstruct vision when coming around corners.

Samantha has the list of houses that were not reported to Blue Earth County to be abandoned. Unless the house has been sold in the last few years, homeowners are not aware that this has not been complete. It is also very likely that the homes were abandoned and not on record. Samantha had to contact Leon's Custom Backhoe as their own house was not reported. Samantha has the abandonment form that homeowners need to have completed by their contractor.

1	Schwanke
3	Gino Lowe
26	Krenz
27	Volk
33	Schueneman
57	Franzmann
59	Andring
64	Harriet Ramy
130	Eckert
140	
144	Anderson
163	Scearcy
217	Hood
219	Jensen
235	Fleming

It was determined this is a county issue and city needs to take no further action.

Corey Block is set to come to the meeting in June to help inform us on building codes.

Street Department

Dean Rengstorf reports cars are still digging up ground alongside street. Crushed rock allowed weed growth, spikes just get pulled out - we possibly need curb added to corners. Dean will look into options.

Parks Department

Travis Javens reported he filled out and sent in weed report to the county. Haven't had to run the sprinkler at all but may have to soon. 'No parking on the grass' signs for park were purchased. New Vetter Park sign will be delivered in about a week. We need to hire someone to remove old sign and dig a spot for the new sign and place some rock base. Skyline Coop Association has set aside money to pay this expense. We need to deter people from putting dog waste in park and city garbage cans. It gets very odorous in the heat. Travis will make laminated signs for trash containers for starters.

Public Safety

Rebecca Carpenter reported the siren has been repaired. The street light has been swiveled the other way to shine into the new parking area.

Roger Hermanson purchased new air compressor for brakes. Final test was completed for new people in fire department. Roger suggests thanking Drew and Shanna Hood for taking the course to join fire department. Everything is taken care of.

Motion to approve departmental reports as read, Samantha Erickson, Travis Javens, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Old business:

Dean Rengstorf - Marking going on in Skyline recently was for Charter Communication.

Resident parking trailers, etc. in water tower area was notified to stop by Travis Javens.

Skyline Coop Association officers to be invited by Mayor to June 11, 2012 council meeting to discuss setting up guidelines for realtors, contractors and residents.

Motion to approve voting districts email by Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

New business:

Mayor read letter reporting we are now part of a new Mankato urbanized area.

FEMA wrote that we are not included in coverage for special flood situations. Public safety will examine information to determine if there is a need.

Motion to adjourn, Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Cathy Dahl

Skyline City Clerk