

**CITY OF SKYLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2014**

Present: Mayor & Fire Chief Travis Javens; Clerk Cathy Dahl; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Council Members, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf; Retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; resident, Jasan Sandmann; Guests, Vickie Michels and Jesse Samuelson from LJP

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 –

LJP – recycling bins – Vickie Michels and Jesse Samuelson from LJP brought hand-outs. We can amend contracts for different length of time with cost saving with longer terms. Floor space for the new recycling bin is no more than the current green bins, but has much more space for recyclables. Dean Rengstorf doesn't think many people will have a concern over size. It's all or nothing – no choice of bins per each resident. The additional fee per month covers cost of bins, their maintenance and future replacement. Wayne Bishop mentioned recyclables blowing around out of small bins used now. These bins with single-sort recycling couldn't be offered before because single-sort had to be approved by Blue Earth County. They will send out flyers to residents. Travis Javens wondered about renewing a contract without taking bids. Vicki Michels said amendment to contract could be done. Bins cost \$62 each, which would be approx. \$11,000 for Skyline to purchase, but if purchased, Skyline would have to maintain and replace. Bins should be placed at least 3 feet apart at end of driveways – would be easiest for residents to just put one on each side. City contract lasts until end of April, 2015, but these can be added now. New bin holds 2.5 of the smaller green bins used now. Dean Rengstorf is in favor, Wayne Bishop likes idea. Mayor Javens said he's heard no complaints about LJP from residents. Council members reviewed amendment to contract. LJP will work with residents who may need more than one recycle bin. They will email information for Lon Whitehead to post on the City of Skyline web site.

Motion to accept contract extension with LJP at 5 years, adding new 64-gallon recycling cart, Dean Rengstorf, Samantha Erickson, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Mayor asked LJP representatives to consider dates for bi-annual city trash pickup. Possibly 9/13/14. He also informed them to tell drivers to no longer pick up additional bags of trash outside of bin. LJP will put a 'sorry tag' on bags not picked up. Residents need to purchase tags at \$2 each from City Clerk or Treasurer if they exceed weekly trash limit.

City of Skyline will be notified of time new carts are available.

Resident at 154 S. Skyline Drive would like to add on to garage and brought plans for city council to review. He has spoken to all neighbors who have no complaints about it. City council approved plans.

Council reviewed resident renovation plans dropped off for 223 Skyline Ct. City council approved plans.

City Clerk's Report - Cathy Dahl reported Skyline Clerks Café will be May 15th from 3PM – 6PM. Apparently, tape didn't work for the Clerks Café sign – ideas? 8 people visited.

Lon Whitehead received address stamp with correct City address from Insty-Prints.

Cathy went to the meeting at the Southern MN Initiative Foundation to choose paint colors. The date to pick up the 15 gallons of paint is Wednesday, May 14 at 11:10AM in Owatonna. Cathy is available if needed to pick up. Valspar representative was very helpful. The paint for the mural will have to be mixed – they are giving us quarts of primary and secondary colors along with white, black and brown. He did set us up with 1 gallon of the sky blue color to paint the background color. Main building color matches City Hall stone, with a dark color for trim that matches trim on city hall and medium color for both peaks. Paint will be stored in utility closet.

Mayor Javens, Rebecca Carpenter & Wayne Bishop positions will be up for election this fall. City clerk will get election information to everyone and this should be in the next newsletter.

Clerk needs to remove PO Box number from permits for Dean Rengstorf and mail weed report for Wayne Bishop.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for April that all lease payments have been received. AT&T is still sending to PO Box and clerk needs to correct this. Utility bills come for the city hall and separately for pump house. Somehow, pump house bill was not changed to new address so we were not getting 3 months' worth of bills. Lon paid all bills that were lost in confusion for the pump house. City hall bill hasn't been received for this month yet. City council will authorize payment of Centerpoint bill early. Wells Fargo credit card bill will be authorized ahead of time to avoid late fees. Mankato adjustment of Skyline utility bill of \$18464.81 for 2013. City would need to add on additional \$12 per month for each house to cover additional Mankato billing. Mayor Javens wonders if Mankato continued testing for the full year to come up with this amount and asked Samantha Erickson to get full 2013 testing data and flow reports. Mankato bill will be paid. 2013 audit is being processed and should be complete by the end of June. Lon asked if City Council wants the auditor to come and present. Council decided that unless there's an issue, auditor doesn't need to attend a council meeting.

Because of seriously overdue utility bills, City Clerk will send water bill hearing letters certified with return receipt so we have proof of delivery. 57 Skyline Drive will receive a public hearing letter. Reminder letters will go to M. Larson, 136 S. Skyline Drive, 219 E. Skyline Ct., 3 Skyline Drive, 101 S. Skyline Drive. No one knows who purchased Lillian Timm's house.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department - Samantha Erickson reported that MRI came in to look at water heater. Smell from bad water is from inside the pipes. On demand heater starts at \$1000, and isn't recommended. Softener would help quite a bit. Also asked about janitor sink in utility room – approx. \$1500 to proceed. MRI is not interested in doing a house to house inspection because of the time involved. \$50 per house was quoted by Cory Block, inspector – MRI said their charge would be at least \$200 per house. Time needed for coordinating with homeowners is the major part of cost. City needs teeth behind inspections if people aren't compliant. Mayor Javens will check agreement with Mankato for wording to back this up. Samantha will contact Cory, tell him we are going to do these inspections and ask for a current price quote. He will be provided with contacts and numbers. Wayne Bishop thought it could be put in next city newsletter. Cleaner will be asked to run both hot and cold water to flush pipes whenever she is here and see if this takes care of the stinky water problem before anything further is considered.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf reported he talked with Mankato and they will replace our bad signage. Samantha Erickson wondered if duplicate speed limit sign could be removed from her yard. Street sweeping and crack repair will be done by Locken. Dean looked into some mono-pole possibilities for leasing to companies needing additional antennae equipment. Mayor Javens said Skyline is in communication with Verizon right now to put equipment on water tower. They are going to map out railing and also see if their equipment may be placed on the legs instead of railing. Mayor Javens told Dean about repair needed across the street from city hall.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop reported he looked at swings but couldn't get back because of rain. Wayne will see about getting new warning signs for pump house. Mayor Javens will help him find companies to contact. There is a large crack in the tennis court. Dean Rengstorf thinks SMC put court in originally and they may know who to call about it, or Wayne can call school district to see who they use. Fall clean up would be a good time to clean out the pump house. Wayne will have Newville Cleaning flush water pipes.

Public Safety Department – Rebecca Carpenter absent. No report.

Fire Department Chief Travis Javens – There was a medical emergency in Skyline Saturday night. 3 pages went out and no one responded. Firefighter next door went directly over to residence without going to fire hall first to call in response.

Motion to approve departmental reports, Samantha Erickson, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Mentorship and job descriptions for council members – nothing new at this time.

Mankato Fire Department service to Skyline – Ken White met with City of Mankato lawyer and that's where this is right now. Maybe something can be completed in June. Public hearing was held and Skyline is free to move on this.

Enventis New Communications Cabinet – Thomas Tree and Landscaping will take care of work around it. Cabinet will be done in June or July.

Strengthening water tower for possible additions of equipment – nothing yet.

Bad-smelling water in City Hall – new city plumber – discussed earlier.

Potential annexation of residence – The house will be built no matter what – if we don't annex them, it will be under Mankato Township. Ken White is taking care of research. He has talked with Paul Vogel, director of development for City of Mankato. Orderly annexation exists between Mankato and Mankato Township. Mayor Javens read letter. It may be easier for Mankato to annex lot and then cede to Skyline - possibly amend orderly annexation agreement to add Skyline. This would make the process easier. The homeowner will have to buy grinder pump and pay for installation if needed, then city would take over maintenance. There may be some survey and easement fees involved. Total costs for annexing property would be minimal. No residents came to hearing last month about it and no one attended tonight to discuss any concerns.

No overnight parking signs for city hall parking lots – will not proceed unless it becomes a problem.

Quotes for fencing around water tower – Mayor Javens has contacted companies but not had time to meet with them.

NEW BUSINESS

A company (Unisen) contacted Mayor about taking over cell phone leases and do management for City. They get a percent and we get a percent. Information needed for them to make a proposal: Tenant name, rent and escalators. Dean Rengstorf is skeptical about this. Wayne Bishop wondered if we need permission from cell companies to give out info. It is public information. Ken White would have to be involved in this also – Samantha Erickson wondered if it would be worth all the time and cost to consider this. Nothing will be done with this now.

Pump house repair and painting scheduling logistics. Council discussed re-roofing before repainting. Need estimates on doing this. Need new gutters also – gutters are mangled. Samantha Erickson will check with Heyn Brothers for color ideas.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Submitted by Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date