

**CITY OF SKYLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 10, 2014**

Present: Mayor & Fire Chief Travis Javens; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; City Clerk Cathy Dahl; Council Members, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, Rebecca Carpenter; Retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; residents Gil Harrison, Niquoia Thurber, Angela Bertino

Meeting called to order at 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 –

Renter from 136 S. Skyline Drive said they believe it is an illegal apartment. She wonders what can be done to get out of lease. Skyline Coop Association has rules that home must be owner occupied. Home is not up to fire code - no smoke detector and dangerous sump pump area. There are bats in attic. They have approached owner to mutually break lease and owner was not agreeable. Today owner was verbally abusive because renters were using fireplace. Mayor Javens found that conditional use permit is required. He has no knowledge that a permit has ever been approved for the homeowner. Mayor Javens will contact city attorney to discuss what can be done.

Gil Harrison wished that Sinsel Electric from Sleepy Eye would have attended meeting to talk about grants that Xcel Energy is extending for community solar. Gil's house was looked at and he was told he has to cut down a tree to get solar. He asked about getting permission to cut down a tree. Mayor and council said permission is not needed. He asked about tree being in boulevard area – still no problem. He researched references from people using this energy source and believed it would be a good deal. He thinks it would be placed on the roof on the south side obscured from view but doesn't have exact answer for that yet. Lon Whitehead suggested checking with Skyline Coop Association first. Mayor Javens said if it is within building codes it should be fine. Gil hasn't checked with neighbors yet. He will come back with more specifics. Home at 204 Westwood Drive is close to Skyline and has this system if anyone wants to see it.

Nequoia Thurber asked about starting a day care. She has remodeling that must be done before she can have it in her house. She is looking for a partner in this business and asked if anyone knows someone else in Skyline that may be willing to use their house. She was wondering about using city hall but isn't sure if that would be suitable without a nap room. Wayne Bishop mentioned the state requirements. Wayne thought city hall isn't child friendly and considered liability issues. Mayor Javens said there are things in the rules about needing a conditional use permit from the City and Coop needs to be asked also. He told her to call Wally Gates from the Skyline Coop Assn to ask about this.

City Clerk's Report - Cathy Dahl thanked Samantha Erickson for taking minutes in her absence last month. .

We need to fill out and return a form to the MN Department of Administration along with a description of the boundaries of the annexed area. A map would be helpful. Mayor Javens will deal with this.

Cathy asked if there is anything else needed from city clerk having to do with the annexation. Annexation is completed on new home becoming part of Skyline.

Brian Powers dropped off the contract from Maguire Iron. Clerk will file in office.

City Council members all signed thank you notes for volunteer painters of the pump house.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for month of October. Mayor Javens needs to get a list of fire dept. events to Lon. Lon will not be at December city council meeting. Mayor Javens reminded Lon that Mark Weber and Brian Powers – water dept. - got raises for 2014. Samantha Erickson will check with Brian Powers about needing additional meter reader.

Clerk is authorized to send overdue water/utility letter to 134 S. Skyline Drive again. Motion, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, 2nd. Approved unanimously.

Clerk is authorized to send overdue water/utility letter to letter to 111 S. Skyline Drive, which was approved at last city council meeting.

Lon Whitehead asked about a blanket approval of paying bills for next month since he will not be attending the council meeting. Mayor Javens asked him to leave as much as he could complete in the office before he leaves.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department - Samantha Erickson reported Brian Powers wanted to talk to Mayor Javens about water tower maintenance being done separately. Mayor Javens will call him back. Samantha will get the meters and pads ordered. Water mains were flushed. Some water outage happened when maintenance was done to water tower. Next time, if we know the date, Skyline will give notice to residents in newsletter.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf absent, but reported some rip rap was installed at bottom of water tower and manhole lids were fixed.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop reported porta potty is gone from park but will be reinstalled April 1st. Mr. Carpenter took tennis nets down for season. Wayne will be getting combination locks for courts. Mayor Javens suggested getting good high quality brass locks and add a third for the fence around the water tower. Some people asked Wayne about semis being parked in Moran City Park while working on new house. Mayor Javens will take care of this. One of the swings at the park was broken. Wayne will take it down and order a new one. It was broken by a teen standing in the swing. A resident suggested a sign with park rules, but Wayne doesn't think a sign with park rules would do any good.

Public Safety Department – Rebecca Carpenter reported nothing new.

Fire Department Chief Travis Javens – nothing to report.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mankato Fire and Police Department service to Skyline – In Mankato’s court right now. Mayor Javens talked with Pat Hentjes to encourage this to move faster.

Status of fencing around water tower – Mayor Javens asked company if they will be getting to this yet this fall. They asked if it could wait until spring and Mayor Javens said yes.

Pump house repair and painting scheduling – Cathy Dahl received help from Gary and Bonnie Faue to finish the outside wall painting started by Travis, Emily and Kendra Javens, and Karina Rose helped by painting antennas on butterflies to finish by deadline. It was disappointing to have no help from other Skyline residents. There is a fair amount of paint left over and supplies in the pump house. Perhaps someone would want to paint the picnic table in the spring. Cathy still needs to paint the word Skyline on the water tower but that will have to wait for spring. Rebecca Carpenter completed and sent in final grant paperwork.

Interconnection agreement with Mankato – nothing new. Some other cities do not care for the thought of assessment charges per linear foot of Mankato pipes that will have to be replaced.

Skyline sewer/storm water code – Mayor Javens has pared down the Mankato code to fit Skyline, sewer, storm water, refuse pick up, etc. All industrial information that doesn’t apply to Skyline has been taken out. He’s hoping to get it finished and email to council members and city attorney for review soon.

Storm water issue – property along Highway 66. Person making flow restrictor hasn’t gotten back to Mayor Javens on this yet.

Verizon contract – Mayor Javens made print -outs, highlighted corrections, scanned and returned to them. Verizon asked for copy of Sprint’s easement. Revised plans should be coming soon to hopefully be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirm final 2015 tax levy by December meeting – Clerk will type up resolution about tax levy for next meeting. Council may raise levy by up to 3% for next year.

Preliminary budget – discussion about possibly raising water rates. This will be discussed more at next council meeting. Mayor Javens will email council members copy of preliminary budget. Clerk will type up resolution for 2015 budget.

Samantha Erickson asked Mayor Javens to add trimming bushes by water meter pads for next newsletter.

Samantha Erickson asked Wayne Bishop to check into water meter readings that seem off at 217 E. Skyline Ct. (low). 47 Skyline Dr. and 26 Skyline Dr. have no meter pads since construction. Mayor Javens will contact resident at 47 Skyline Dr.

Motion to adjourn, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date