

**CITY OF SKYLINE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2015**

Present: Mayor Travis Javens; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Clerk Cathy Dahl; Council Members, Dean Rengstorf, Hans Schwanke, Wayne Bishop; Retired Fire Chief Roger Hermanson; resident Jennifer Wettergren

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of minutes and agenda. Motion to accept, Dean Rengstorf, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

15-Minute Public Open Forum –

Jennifer Wettergren with New Star Realty purchased 111 S. Skyline Dr. property. Purchased August 28th, closing company contacted Blue Earth County about unpaid assessments or bills or interest and penalties. Previous resident had a deferment to pay special assessments with County. Outstanding water/utility was paid at closing. \$3185.37 of penalty and interest is owed to the County from property and home buyer was not told of this before purchase. Lon Whitehead had copies of amortization schedule for assessments. Lon was never told of deferment granted by County. County will not release assessment payment until penalty and interest is paid. Mayor Javens doesn't understand way this is being put on the buyer. House was going into foreclosure at time of purchase. Lon's opinion is that the title company didn't do a thorough job of research. From here on out, Skyline will not get any more losses. Jennifer said deferments are granted for types of disabilities. Mayor's opinion is that Jennifer is not responsible for this. City should get information to whoever drafted the title and have Ken White draft a letter to them. Bank is US Bank and she doesn't believe they will pay it. Wayne Bishop wonders if there are any other deferments out there the City is not aware of. Mayor asked what the County needs from City to clear it for her. She asked for City to ask Ken White to have power to ask the County to cash the check now. Mayor said we will get this going for her. Perhaps Ken White knows about deferment as he was mayor in 2005.

City Clerk's Report – Cathy Dahl reported the Fire Department photo and meeting was moved to Tuesday night, October 27th and heard it was successful, even though she couldn't make it at the last minute. Photos are posted on City of Skyline Facebook page and will be touched up, names added, and sent to all requesting copies. Clerk will frame for City Hall.

First letter about cleaning up of exterior of home was sent to 21 Skyline Drive and 2nd letter about unmoved/unlicensed van went to 57 Skyline Drive. Mayor heard back from 21 Skyline Drive and situation is resolved. Hold on any more letters about van until next month.

I will be out of town from November 29 – December 12. Weather permitting Cathy will be at the next council meeting.

League of MN Cities Directory Update – Clerk asked council members to please fill in any changes.

South Central Service Cooperative about solid waste processing – looks like nothing needed from Skyline at this time. Also letter from MN Waste Processing about a contract and tipping fee is what the county charges for dumping anything each time. Will check with LJP about this. Center Point Energy asked if the city wants notification of gas shut offs on residences and the council agreed to receive that information.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for October. There was nothing out of the ordinary for income. No letters for overdue bills yet.

Lon was thinking about the deferments and didn't see a need for it. Mayor Javens doesn't know how Blue Earth County can approve deferments of Skyline's money.

Mayor thinks bill payable to Mankato for wastewater is a base amount that will be adjusted after readings come in January.

Lon mentioned Mayor Assn. membership. Mayor Javens will look at Mayor Association information and decide if he is interested in becoming a member.

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

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department –Samantha Erickson absent but sent report. Al and Dianne Honermann cleaned and pressure washed the City of Skyline sign which was very nice of them.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf reported sign for Skyline Place is ordered. It's for mapping and emergency vehicle information. Mayor Javens suggested adding yellow sign below it saying private drive. Wayne Bishop wondered where sign can go when driveway isn't in yet. Mayor says it can't get any bigger than it is. Mankato can decide placement of signs. Dean will get a City Hall with forward arrow sign to put on street sign to direct people to city hall. Dean will have major budgeting issues to divide between 2 years.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop reported tennis court is closed and locked up. He trimmed tree in front of city hall and had to replace flag. He will give damaged flag to Mayor for proper disposal. Port-a-john is gone and sprinklers were blown out and shut off. The closets with no ventilation are causing mold on chairs. Mayor said new chairs will be purchased that will not have cloth.

Quilting ladies who rent hall monthly asked about limiting keys to city hall. Concern about safety of machinery left in hall overnight. Wayne suggests rekeying city hall. Mayor said to look into finding who did keys originally to do rekeying. Hans Schwanke thinks it would cost about \$120. Wayne wants only 2 versions of keys - one for all doors, one for front door and storage closets only. Clerk will look for book about who did keying. If former work was done by out-of-town company we will go locally for keying.

Public Safety Department – Hans Schwanke, no report.

Motion to approve departmental reports, Dean Rengstorf, Hans Schwanke, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-2, sending overdue water/utility bill for collection with property taxes, motion to approve, Wayne Bishop, Hans Schwanke, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

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

Fire truck and equipment – nothing new.

Animal ordinance – After last meeting, Mayor Javens has made revisions but not finalized yet. He will send out in next couple of weeks for council and attorney to approve.

NEW BUSINESS

Verizon Contract Lease amendment – basically changing placement of antennae from original contract. Structural analysis was done. Motion to approve amendment #1 with Verizon with placement of antennas on water tower, Dean Rengstorf, Wayne Bishop, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Confirm final 2016 tax levy by December meeting –

Preliminary 2016 City of Skyline budget – see attached. Discussion of raising sewer rates because of increase in billing from City of Mankato. Raise \$1 or \$1.65. Sewer rates have to go up. 2014, charges were \$19,744. Mayor Javens will put in newsletter before bills change. Rate hasn't been raised since 2005.

Wayne Bishop wondered if we can get a year-end report of calls to Skyline for fire, etc. from City of Mankato. Hans Schwanke will call.

Dean Rengstorf will check on seal coat price.

Residents have asked for yearly clean up instead of every 2 years.

5% raise for treasurer, clerk and water workers.

Mayor Javens has worksheet of other cities to send out to council members to compare with Skyline. 2018 will be the end of bond payments for 1999 water main project and city will save \$50,000 per year after that. Water tower maintenance could be paid out of savings and start to recoup money after bond is paid in 2019. City Council will take water bill increase into consideration in 2017 if necessary.

Clerk will write resolution for consideration next meeting to raise sewer rates from 2.01 per unit to 3.65 per unit, 10 unit minimum per month.

Clerk will also write a resolution next month for consideration of final tax levy of 2.074% increase. \$50,150.00.

Motion to adjourn, Wayne Bishop, Hans Schwanke, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM.

Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date