

CITY OF SKYLINE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 12, 2018

Present: Mayor Travis Javens; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Clerk, Cathy Dahl; Council Members, Dean Rengstorf, Samantha Erickson; Residents, Darlene Lee, Kris Beaumont, Paige Attarian, Chris Heimer

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of agenda and minutes. Motion to approve, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

15-Minute Public Open Forum –

Darlene Lee wondered why tennis net is still up and if the tennis courts would be locked for the winter.

Samantha Erickson mentioned light on Skyline sign needs repair. A resident had said he would take care of it. It will be brought up later.

City Clerk's Report – Cathy Dahl reported final water/sewer letters were sent out to 7 residences by certified mail to inform them balances will be placed on their property taxes. Several paid and one resident paid up today. Clerk has prepared resolutions 2018-2 and 2018-3 to place overdue bills on Blue Earth County property taxes for 41 Skyline Drive and 1716 Woodland Avenue. Mayor Javens noticed we also need resolution 2018-4 for 219 E. Skyline Court, which was created.

Congratulations to Mayor-Elect Paige Attarian, Council-member-elect Steve Romnes and re-elected council member Mary Dowd who will be sworn in at the January council meeting. I have the abstract from the election if anyone would like to see it.

Due to the holiday today, I couldn't ask who will swear in new candidates in January as a new city clerk hasn't been selected. I will have that at next council meeting.

City hall has a very old computer; clerk cannot update it or the printer. Perhaps the expense for a new computer and printer could be considered in next year's budget and allow the new city clerk to pick out what she would prefer. More to consider – when clerk hasn't been able to scan on this printer because it can't be updated, she has to scan at her house. And we do not have long distance on the city hall phone so when long distance city business phone calls need to be made, clerk uses her personal cell phone. You may want to tell the new city clerk about this.

Mayor Javens mentioned possibly a cell phone for the city hall that the clerk would keep at her house. Discussion of price. \$35.07 currently for phone service. Dean Rengstorf said option of long distance addition wouldn't be costly. Clerk will check into cost of adding long distance to city hall phone. And check into basic minimum cell phone plan.

Received annual update for League of MN Cities. Need to know new mayor and council person's preferred email and phone number.

Is there any interest in joining the MN Clerks and Finance Officers Association? We have never done this before. Council not interested in membership.

City Treasurer's Report – Lon Whitehead reported for October, 2018. Nothing out of the ordinary in the treasurers report. US Bank payment is final payment. Lon asked about double blacktop bill for manhole repairs and Dean Rengstorf said to hold off on payment until he verifies. Lon is unsure if there will be another mowing bill from AmLawn yet this fall. He asked about payment for water department staff to prepare for upcoming payroll. Samantha Erickson will get him a list.

Updated late utility/sewer list. One home on the list has been sold.

Approval of clerk and treasurer's report and to pay bills as presented, motion, Dean Rengstorf, Samantha Erickson, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Water Department – Samantha Erickson reported Mark Weber will be contact for water testing. He would like an increased stipend per year. Discussion as to if he is an employee or contractor. Samantha estimates the cost would be \$5000 to have City of Mankato take care of this. She would like to be able to tell Mark the amount if approved. His raise will be discussed and approved along with final budget in December.

She talked to McQuire and they offered 2 ways to inspect water tower. One will be an involved process. A sub will be sent up to inspect to make it easier with the cold weather. They will be coming on Friday to inspect. Someone needs to give them access at 11AM. They will be given the padlock code so no one will need to be here.

Skyline passed all drinking water inspections.

Street Department - Dean Rengstorf reported he picked up crushed bituminous to repair street edge and it's holding up so far. Thomas Tree not interested in bidding for snow removal.

Mankato Snow removal said they would take a look at it for a bid and never called back. New AmLawn snow removal contract - The only thing that went up a lot was salt. He recommends going with AmLawn again for another three year contract. Motion to approve AmLawn snow removal contract for three winters, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

Parks & Playgrounds Department - Wayne Bishop absent, but left city hall rental deposit with city clerk to turn over to treasurer.

Public Safety Department – Mary Dowd absent. She talked to Officer Kaiser about kids getting on top of pump house and she thought a fake camera would be as effective as a real one. She can advertise city clerk on Indeed for free if council wants to. City has one prospect at this time.

Mayor has had people discuss waiting for new council to hire. Current members do not want to

leave incoming council without a city clerk. New applicants would have to show interest by end of November. Interviews after December 10th meeting. Samantha is not sure it's good to open applications to everyone on a website when a resident is already interested. Lon mentioned that clerk and treasurer serve at the pleasure of the council, and if the new council isn't happy with choice, they can change it. Council decided they do not want to advertise further but if other applicants are interested, they will still be considered.

OLD BUSINESS

Water tower – Memorandum of Understanding from Mankato was sent to all council members from mayor. Dean Rengstorf wondered if anyone from Mankato has come up to look at the site. Mayor Javens is not sure if they have. Mayor Javens would like to have full council here to discuss further. On front page, thought one wording should be “if” not how and when. It says elsewhere it is not binding. Tabled until December meeting.

Water testing – discussed earlier in water dept.

NEW BUSINESS

New City Clerk Application – We have an applicant and will see if any others come in by December meeting. Clerk will call to see if city clerk part-time position has to be posted anywhere other than in the Skyline newsletter and for how long. Ad to be placed in The Free Press if League says it needs to be posted. Also, is the Skyline newsletter qualified as the way to transfer general knowledge to residents.

Preliminary 2018 City of Skyline Budget – Mayor Javens asked if anyone had anything to add for next year's budget. He asked for list of separate payments made to water department employees. Samantha will send that to mayor and treasurer. Nothing foreseen at this time for water department and street department. Mayor Javens will talk to Wayne about parks.

Fire and Police Contract with City of Mankato – This is for a 4-year period instead of 2 years. There is a formula to figure price. Table for full council next month.

Resolutions to submit overdue water/utility bill debt owed to the city to Blue Earth County property taxes:

Resolution 2018 – 2 RESOLUTION TO SEND OVERDUE WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE BILL FROM 41 SKYLINE DRIVE FOR COLLECTION WITH PROPERTY TAXES, motion, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd, Passed unanimously.

Resolution 2018 – 3 RESOLUTION TO SEND OVERDUE WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE BILL FROM 1716 WOODLAND AVENUE FOR COLLECTION WITH PROPERTY TAXES, motion, Dean Rengstorf, Samantha Erickson, 2nd, Passed unanimously.

Resolution 2018 – 4 RESOLUTION TO SEND OVERDUE WATER/SEWER/GARBAGE BILL FROM 219 EAST SKYLINE COURT FOR COLLECTION WITH PROPERTY TAXES, motion, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd, Passed unanimously.

Mayor Javens will take care of replacing solar light by city sign at crest of hill.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Cathy Dahl
Skyline City Clerk

Mayor

date

City Clerk

date