

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 6, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brian Lynch at 7:02 p.m. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room of the St. Clair City Hall, 304 Main Street West, St. Clair, Minnesota. Council Members present: Mayor Lynch, Doug Westphal, Julie Spear, Michael Hughes and Sharon Miller. Council Members absent: None. City Staff present: Deb McCollum, Catherine Seys and Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff. Others present: Mark Frahm.

The minutes of the regular April meeting and the April 28th Special meeting were approved with a motion by Hughes, seconded by Miller and carried with all in favor.

The bills for the month of April were approved with a motion by Westphal, seconded by Hughes and carried with all in favor.

The City is in receipt of pay estimate #12 from Di-Mar Construction for \$23,982.94 for the Water Treatment Facility Project. Motion by Spear, seconded by Hughes to approve payment of pay estimate #12 in the amount of \$23,982.94. Motion carried with all in favor.

PERSONAL-USE WIND TURBINES

Elizabeth Weinandt presented information on personal-use wind turbines. Such wind turbines are the vertical (egg beater) style and are neighborhood friendly, bird friendly and silent. Ms. Weinandt noted that her research uncovered numerous success stories including (6) wind turbines installed on the roof of the Duluth Government Center (with plans to install 16 more). The City Clerk will research personal-use wind turbines with other cities on the LMC List Serve.

ZONING PERMITS

The Zoning Permit application submitted by Kris Olinger, 525 Hiawatha Drive to build a concrete driveway extension. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Miller to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.

The Zoning Permit application submitted by Nathan and Rose Street, 105 Agency Street to build a 28' X 32' detached garage. Motion by Miller, seconded by Hughes to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.

WATER TOWER PROJECT

Representatives from Rural Development have scheduled a groundbreaking ceremony for the new water tower on Friday, May 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. All Township Fire Contracts have been approved and all contracts have been signed except LeRay Township. A LeRay Township Board Member is expected to sign the contract in the near future.
2. The new fire truck is at the Fire Station but will not be in service until training is complete.
3. The Firefighters Dance (April 19th) was very successful with over 200 in attendance.
4. The City Clerk will attend a Bike Race meeting on Wednesday, May 7th at the Alltel Center. The Bike Race is scheduled for June 14th.
5. The siren at the water tower site was discussed. The existing siren is 33 years old and wiring changes need to be made if it's going to be connected to power at the new Water Treatment Facility. It was also discussed that although existing siren is functioning fine it has no battery back-up. Fire Chief Fitzloff and Mark Frahm presented siren options from Federal Signal and Whelen. Motion by Westphal, seconded by Hughes to approve purchase of a new siren from Federal Signal for \$11,000.00. Motion carried with all in

favor. Fire Chief Fitzloff will check to see if the existing pole will be sufficient for the new siren or if a new pole is needed.

STREET REPAIR BIDS FOR 2008

Three (3) bids were received, opened and reviewed for 1 ½" overlay of the Goodrich Addition and miscellaneous patch areas. Bids were as follows:

SMC	\$ 96,419.54
WW Blacktopping	\$103,085.84
M & W Blacktopping	\$142,012.00

Following Council discussion a motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Miller to reject all bids, since the bids came in well over the 2008 Street Repair budget. After discussion with Public Works employee, Deb McCollum, it was determined that Pilgrim Street and Winnebago Circle are in most need of repair (overlay). The project will be re-bid to include Pilgrim Street, Winnebago Circle and the miscellaneous patch areas. Bids will be opened and reviewed at the regular June meeting. Motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Employee Deb McCollum reported on the following:

1. Water main flushing was done throughout the City the week of April 21st.
2. Street sweeping will be done later this month (May).
3. Park vandalism has been reported to the insurance company. Public Works employees and the City Clerk have met with the insurance adjuster and repair estimates are being obtained.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The St. Clair School SADD organization is staging a Mock Crash on Friday, May 9th at 1:30 p.m. at Memorial Park.
2. Adoption of the State Building Code was discussed. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Spear to adopt the State Building Code effective July 1, 2008. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Motion by Westphal, seconded by Hughes to appoint Dan Murphy, Building Inspection Services, LLC, as the Building Inspector for the City. Motion carried with all in favor.
4. Motion by Miller, seconded by Hughes to adopt the building permit fee schedule (for new homes, garages and other structures) based on valuation from the 1994 Uniform Building Code and adopt a fixed permit fee schedule (for decks, re-roof, re-side, windows, fencing, furnace, water heater, etc.) based on the building inspector recommendation. Motion carried with all in favor.
5. The City has received information from Brandon Mace regarding City participation in the purchase of a digital sign for the School. After Council discussion it was determined that such an expenditure is not in the City budget.
6. Motion by Spear, seconded by Miller to approve the annual "Poppy Proclamation". Motion carried with all in favor.
7. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Westphal to approve a Special Use Permit for the Uptown Tavern for St. Clair Days activities to include live music Friday and Saturday night and food stands. Motion carried with all in favor.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Council Member Westphal reported on the EDA meeting held on Monday, May 5th. Items discussed included personal-use wind turbines, farmer's market, playground equipment, promoting the City, banners and information relating to accessory dwelling units.

2. Council Member Westphal attended the April School Board meeting. Items discussed included budget cuts, the upcoming roundtable discussion (May 13th) and the resignation of the elementary principal. Mayor Lynch will attend the June 19th School Board meeting.
3. Mayor Lynch reported on the Foreclosure Crisis Summit he attended in St. Cloud on April 29th.
4. Council Member Miller suggested holding an Open House at the new Water Treatment Facility during St. Clair Days.
5. Council Member Miller also discussed “hometown pride”, supporting local businesses, buying local, supporting our School, supporting local organizations (4-H, Home Extension, Early Childhood, Community Ed, etc.) and promotion of what our City has to offer. The Council discussed a City “promotion packet” and developing a City brochure.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Hughes, seconded by Miller and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer