

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 2, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Brian Lynch at 7:00 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, Mike 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 August City Council meeting and the August 18th Special meeting were approved with a motion by Hughes, seconded by Miller and carried with all in favor.

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

WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Jeff Domras, Bolton and Menk, submitted a letter to the Council with regard to the Water System Project outlining the following:

1. Repairs to Well #1 (1978 Well) were required before it could be put back into operation. All work on the well was completed in August. Bergerson-Caswell Well Construction cleaned the well using an air-lifting method. The well was then tested. It was determined that a flow rate of 100 – 110 gallons per minute (gpm) is the highest flow rate the well can sustain. Bergerson-Caswell also installed a new pitless unit and adjusted the piping between Well #1 (1978 well) and the Water Treatment Facility. The old well at the former pump house was sealed. The backup well in the Fire Hall will be sealed within the next week.
2. Foundation for the water tower is completed and the site is ready of tower erection. The tower contractor is in the process of completing in-shop fabrication and is expecting to begin erection sometime in September.
3. Alltel, AT&T and HickoryTech have been contacted regarding the new water tower construction and the need for them to relocate their respective antennae and equipment from the old tower to the new tower. AT&T currently has a small cabinet for their ground equipment. They would like to construct an 11.5' X 20' building to house their equipment and are inquiring as to the likelihood of obtaining a building permit to make this change. The Council will request a site plan from Mr. Domras with regard to placement of the AT&T proposed equipment building. If tower construction proceeds quickly the telecommunications equipment could be moved in late October (at the earliest). Mr. Domras stated that realistically the tower won't be ready for equipment installation until next spring.

The City is in receipt of the Final Pay Request in the amount of \$69,469.51 from Di-Mar Construction for the Water Treatment Facility and Well. Included in the Final Pay Request is \$30,342.75 for Change Order #2 for repairs to Well #1 (1978 Well). Motion by Westphal, seconded by Hughes to approve payment of \$30,342.75 (Change Order #2) the balance of \$39,126.76 will be withheld until the storm water runoff issue is addressed and solved. (Storm water runoff from the new Water Treatment Facility is causing problems on an adjoining property (104 Park Street South). Motion carried with all in favor.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The Fire Chief and the City Clerk did a walk-through at Northtown Auto on August 11th. A number of items need to be addressed. The City Clerk has sent a letter to Northtown Auto asking them to address the issues.
2. The civil defense siren has been installed and was tested the first Wednesday of August.

3. The Fire Dept. will host its annual Fire Prevention Day on October 8th. Students in Pre-School, Kindergarten and 1st grade will participate.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works employee Deb McCollum reported on the following:

1. Contractors have been on-site to seal the "old Creamery well" (the back-up well located in the back of Fire Dept. Shop). Proper documentation of the well sealing will be obtained when sealing is complete.
2. A check valve was replaced at the lift station by the Post Office.
3. Cracks in the new blacktopping overlay on Pilgrim Street and Winnebago Circle was discussed. The Public Works Dept. called SMC and according to the SMC representative "stress cracks" are normal and unavoidable. Often, when overlaying, cracks will occur directly over an existing crack or an area where a crack was filled.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The Council received copies of the 2009 Proposed Budget with revisions as discussed at the August 18th Special City Council meeting.
2. The Clerk is preparing a Site Lease Agreement for communication antennas and equipment to be located on the new water tower. The Site Lease Agreement will be submitted to the City Attorney for review.
3. Due to the General Election on Tuesday, November 4th, the Regular November Council meeting will be held on Thursday, November 6th at 7:00 p.m.
4. The Council discussed a City Forum for the City website and will not pursue a City Forum at this time.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Due to the Labor Day Holiday the EDA meeting will be held Monday, September 8th at 5:00 p.m.
2. Council Member Miller attended the August School Board meeting. Council Member Spear will attend the September School Board meeting on Sept. 23rd.
3. The City Clerk will contact the School District Secretary and schedule a joint School Board/ City Council Workshop for October.
4. Hardwood trees for Memorial Park were discussed. Mayor Lynch has access to obtaining a number of nice size hardwood trees. Areas for planting trees was discussed as the backstop area, the walkway between the parking lot and the pavilion and the area below the plumb trees. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Miller to allocate \$5,000.00 from the Park Fund for the purchase of hardwood trees for Memorial Park. Motion carried with all in favor.
5. Bill Fitzloff asked the Council about regulations for outdoor wood burning stoves. The City does not currently have an ordinance that addresses outdoor wood burning stoves, however, the structure would require a Zoning permit.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Hughes, seconded by Spear and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer