

CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
OCTOBER 6, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Douglas Westphal 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 Westphal, Mike Hughes, Jerry Phillips and Tom Karels, Sr. Council Members absent: Julie Spear. City Staff present: Dennis Seys, Catherine Seys and Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff. Others present: Leon and Roxie Depuydt (Leon's Custom Backhoe), Matt Maes (Waste Management), Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk), MSU-Mankato Students (Nathan Bartell, Melissa Enter and Samantha), Mark Frahm and Ralph Buesing.

The minutes of the September 1, 2009 Regular City Council meeting were approved with a motion by Karels, seconded by Hughes and carried with all in favor.

The bills for the month of September were approved with a motion by Phillips, seconded by Karels and carried with all in favor.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT RENEWAL**

Matt Maes was present to discuss the renewal of the Waste Management contract for garbage and recycling collection service. Waste Management is requesting a renewal of the garbage and recycling collection service for three (3) years (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012). Contract services include weekly garbage and recycling collection service. The contract also includes (at no additional cost) a dumpster at City Hall with weekly collection; and two (2) six-yard containers for St. Clair Days. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve the renewal of the Waste Management three (3) year contract as presented. Motion carried with all in favor.

**WATER PROJECT UPDATE**

Jeff Domras, Bolton and Menk, was present to discuss the status of the Water Tower Project.

1. The Cellular providers (Verizon and AT&T) have removed their equipment from the old water tower.
2. Interior electrical work on the new water tower has been done.
3. Concrete bases for the exterior lighting have been poured.
4. Demolition of the old tower has not taken place. The contractor (General Construction Services) is currently working in the Red Lake area.
5. Dave Webb (General Construction Services) has contacted Public Works Supervisor Dennis Seys and Mayor Douglas Westphal with an update on the demo status. The contractor needs to make arrangements to move a crane on-site for the demo.
6. Public Works Supervisor Dennis Seys discussed a list of things that need to be completed on the Water Project.
7. General Construction Services has submitted Pay Estimate #7 in the amount of \$20,306.25. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve Pay Estimate #7. Motion carried with all in favor.
8. A Construction Meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the St. Clair City Hall.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The week of October 5<sup>th</sup> is Fire Prevention Week. The Fire Dept. will host five (5) Fire Prevention classes at the Fire Hall on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. A class will also be held at 9:00 am on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and the evenings of October 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.
2. Chief Fitzloff made a request to transfer funds received from the Township Fire Contracts in the amount of \$5,000.00 to the Fire Dept. Relief Assoc. Motion made by Karels,

seconded by Phillips to approve the transfer as requested. Motion carried with all in favor.

3. The area Radio Board will meet on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>.
4. Forstner will be at the Fire Station doing pump maintenance this month.
5. The Bulk Water Fill Station was discussed. The Council has discussed the Fire Hall and the Waste Water Treatment Plant as options for the location of the Fill Station. Mr. Fitzloff discussed that it would be more cost effective to locate the Fill Station at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Cost was estimated at approximately \$800 plus the cost of the pole. Mr. Fitzloff stated that he hopes to find a used pole. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve construction of a Bulk Water Fill Station at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. The Fill Station will be operational by summer 2010. Motion carried with all in favor.

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Dennis Seys reported on the following:

1. Nielson Blacktopping has been in town to complete the annual street repair/ overlay project. The work has been on-hold the last couple days due to the rain.
2. Mr. Seys discussed the cleaning out of the Storm Water Drainage Ditch on the east end of town. Mr. Seys has met with contractors, Harold Drummer and Leon Depuydt (Leon's Custom Backhoe), and obtained estimates for the project. It was Mr. Depuydt suggestion that the City consider cleaning out the south half (approx. 375') of the ditch only and leave the established cattails on the north end of the ditch. Cost estimates submitted by Mr. Drummer and Mr. Depuydt were opened and reviewed. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Karels to accept the estimate submitted by Leon's Custom Backhoe in the amount of \$987.00 for cleaning out the south half (approx. 375') of the Strom Water Drainage Ditch. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Fall water main/ hydrant flushing will be done Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup>.
4. Annual sludge hauling will be done in November after corn has been harvested from the approved land site.
5. The Public Works Dept. employees cut trees in the area of the Water Tower to accommodate the outside lighting/poles. Melchior Tree Service was in and completed the stump removal. The area was leveled with dirt and seeded.

#### CITY CLERK'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. City Wide Clean Up Day was held Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. 42 tags were sold for appliances and electronics.
2. The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church CCW requested approval of the Charitable Gambling application to conduct a raffle during their annual Winter Festival to be held on Saturday, December 5, 2009. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2010 was discussed. Motion by Phillips, seconded by Karels to approve the 2010 liquor license renewal for the St. Clair American Legion Club (Club and Sunday Liquor Licenses) and the Uptown Tavern (On-Sale, Off-Sale and Sunday Liquor Licenses). Motion carried with all in favor.
4. Blue Earth County Emergency Management is working on an Emergency Management Hazard Mitigation Planning Grant.
5. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) Meeting and Training was held in Eagle Lake on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The topics included: Emergency Procedure, Fire Safety and hands-on Fire Extinguisher Training.
6. The annual employee review will be held Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. The Regular November City Council meeting will follow the employee review at 7:00 p.m.

7. The MSU-Mankato Urban Studies Class is working on the City Brochure. The class plans to make their presentation to the City Council at the December 1<sup>st</sup> Regular City Council meeting.
8. St. Clair will be hosting the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks meeting on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### **COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

1. The Economic Development Authority (EDA) met on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. The Safe Routes to School grant was discussed. Nancy Schleuter reported that funds have not been appropriated for the program at this time. EDA members also toured the Bell Tower.
2. Council Member Karels will attend the School Board meeting on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
3. Mayor Westphal attended the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks meeting in Eagle Lake on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Judd Schultz, MVAC Housing Services Director was the speaker.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Cross walk signs have been requested for Co.Rd. 43 and Co.Rd. 28 So. The City Clerk will contact Joe Styndl (Blue Earth County Public Works Dept.) to discuss obtaining signs for the County Roads.
2. Ralph Buesing was present and expressed concerns regarding unlicensed dogs, low hanging tree branches and cracks on Front Street West/South.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Hughes, seconded by Phillips and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer