

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2010**

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, Julie Spear, Mike Hughes, Jerry Phillips and Tom Karels, Sr. Council Members absent: None. City Staff present: Deb McCollum, Catherine Seys and Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff. Others present: Jeff Domras, Mark Frahm, Paul Bertino, Tracy Heinbaugh, Cole Heinbaugh and Jeff Adams.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS**

The minutes of the February 1<sup>st</sup> Regular City Council meeting and the February 9<sup>th</sup> Joint City Council/ School Board meeting were approved with a motion by Spear, seconded by Karels and carried with all in favor.

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

**HICKORY TECH**

Paul Bertino, Hickory Tech, was present to discuss that upgrades to Hi-Def and DVR are now available. As of February 15<sup>th</sup> customers may subscribe to these additional Hickory Tech Cable TV features. Mr. Bertino further explained to the Council that changes to a new platform and an overlay with other services have made these upgrades possible in St. Clair.

**WATER PROJECT UPDATE**

Jeff Domras, Bolton and Menk, reported that Dave Webb (General Construction Services) was on site and met with the Dennis Seys and Deb McCollum (Public Works Dept.) and Gary Meyer (Bolton and Menk) and completed all punch list items except for turf restoration. Mr. Webb has obtained an estimate from Affordable Lawn Care for the turf restoration. As soon as the final pay estimate is received from General Construction Services, Mr. Domras will contact Jennifer Sass, Rural Development, and schedule the final inspection. Mr. Domras will also prepare a change order extending the project completion date. The Council directed Mr. Domras to prepare a list of additional expenses incurred by the City. The Council will review the list and further discuss the assessment of liquidated damages.

**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The Fire Dept. received one (1) application for firefighter.
2. Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, ten St. Clair firefighters will participate in sectional training with the burning of the MEI house.
3. Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff, Assistant Chief Nate Mace, City Clerk Catherine Seys and Mark Frahm attended Radio Board meetings in February. The approximate cost for St. Clair is \$70,000. The new radio 800 MHz system must be in place by 2013.
4. Fire Chief Fitzloff presented the list of Fire Dept. Calls for 2009. There were a total of 79 calls and one (1) Mutual Aid received.

CITY/TOWNSHIP	FIRE	MEDICAL	CO	1052	FIRE ALARM	TOTAL
CITY OF ST. CLAIR	0	15	0	0	2	17
DECORIA TOWNSHIP	4	12	1	3	2	22
LeRAY TOWNSHIP	1	1	0	1	0	3
MANKATO TOWNSHIP	8	14	0	5	4	31
McPHERSON TOWNSHIP	2	1	0	1	0	4
MEDO TOWNSHIP	0	2	0	0	0	2
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>79</b>

5. Fire Chief Fitzloff noted that he reviewed the City Emergency Operations Plan and made several additions and changes.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT**

Public Works Dept. employee Deb McCollum reported on the following:

1. Blue Earth County was in town last week and cleared snow from the County Roads. The snow was hauled and piled at the area adjacent to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
2. The Public Works Dept. opened storm sewer intakes throughout the City.

#### **CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT**

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The Council received copies of the Emergency Operations Plan for their review. The City Clerk also discussed the Emergency Manuals and the information included in the manual (phone lists, address lists, government officials list, local and area businesses, State Duty Officer information, procedure lists, maps and MnWARN information). The City Clerk will make changes to the Emergency Operations Plan as noted by the Fire Chief and Council Members. The City Council will receive the updated Emergency Operations Plan with the April agenda packet.
2. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) will meet in Vernon Center on Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. The training topic will be trenching.
3. The City Clerk registered the City for participation in the National Night Out 2010. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, August 3, 2010. Information about the National Night Out event it will be included in the City Newsletter and on the City website as it becomes available.
4. The Bestmann property was briefly discussed. Mayor Westphal recently had a conversation with Steve Bestmann regarding the Bestmann family request for Rural Service District designation. (This matter was previously discussed by the City Council in July 2009 and January 2010. The Council denied the request for a Rural Service District.)

#### **ST. CLAIR DAYS REPORT**

It was reported that the February 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Clair Days meeting was poorly attended and that due to lack of volunteers the Parade and Kids Day are questionable for 2010. Council Member Hughes reported that Cathy Hughes has offered to do the Parade for 2010. Tracy Heinbaugh offered her help at the Kids Day event. The next St. Clair Days meeting is Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### **CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

1. The Economic Development Authority (EDA) met on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Items discussed included St. Clair Days, Local Government Aid (LGA) cuts and possible additional services (dog park).
2. Council Member Spear attended the February School Board meeting. Numerous items were discussed including weighted grades. Council Member Hughes will attend the March 22<sup>nd</sup> School Board meeting.
3. Mayor Westphal and City Clerk Catherine Seys attended the Mayors and Clerks meeting in Good Thunder on February 11<sup>th</sup>. The speaker was Al Roehm with the United Way. Mr. Roehm discussed Youth Voice in Local Government. The next Mayors and Clerks meeting will be in Madison Lake on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Hughes, seconded by Spear and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer