

**CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 4, 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: Mark Frahm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS

The minutes of the April 6, 2010 Regular City Council meeting were approved with a motion by Phillips, seconded by Hughes and carried with all in favor.

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

ZONING PERMITS

Jerry and Laurie Thorstad, 229 Main Street West, submitted a building permit application for a detached garage. It was discussed that due to height and setback a variance is required. A motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Spear to schedule a Variance Public Hearing for Tuesday, June 1, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried with all in favor.

WATER TOWER PROJECT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported the following, per phone conversation with Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk):

1. The hydrant near the Water Treatment Facility was lowered on April 28th.
2. Bids for the spillway north of the Water Treatment Facility were due by noon on Friday, April 30th at the Bolton and Menk office. Construction of the spillway should be underway in the near future.
3. John Graupman (Bolton and Menk) met with Public Works Supervisor Dennis Seys on Thursday, April 29th regarding some warranty work that needs to be done (painting, etc.) at the Water Treatment Facility. Mr. Graupman will be contacting DiMar Construction.
4. The City Clerk also reported meeting with Austin Riemann. Mr. Riemann expressed frustration and concern that nothing is being done with regard to the drainage issue between his property and the Water Treatment Facility.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. Fire Dept. Officers interviewed and recommend David Bonnifield and Kyle Froehlich to fill the two (2) positions open on the St. Clair Fire Dept. Motion by Karels, seconded by Phillips to approve hiring David Bonnifield and Kyle Froehlich to the St. Clair Fire Dept.
2. Fire Chief Fitzloff and Assistant Fire Chief Nate Mace attended the Blue Earth County Radio Board meeting.

STREET REPAIR BIDS

Three (3) bids were received for the annual Street Repair Project. Bids were received from SMC, WW Blacktopping and Nielsen Blacktopping. The City sought separate request for bids for the following projects: 1) bituminous overlay of Palmer Drive and Winslow Circle; 2) bituminous walking path through Memorial Park (from Park Street South through the water tower property and through Memorial Park to the parking lot by Miller Lane). After opening and reviewing the bids the Council discussed the bids and project areas involved. Council Member Spear stated that although it would be nice to do both projects this summer, she felt that the City should wait with the walking path through Memorial Park until the City knows for sure what the LGA cuts for 2010 will be. A motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to accept the bid from Nielsen

Blacktopping for bituminous overlay of Palmer Drive and Winslow Circle for \$22,822.00. The Council will further discuss the walking path through Memorial Park after the legislature makes a final decision on the LGA cuts. Motion carried with all in favor.

BITUMINOUS WALKING PATH FROM CHURCH STREET TO MITT'S BP

The Council reviewed a proposal from Blue Earth County for a walking path from Church Street to the BP along Co.Rd.28 South. The walkway would be approx. 520' long X 8' wide (4,160 sq. ft.). The County has asked that the City pay half of the cost of materials for the project. The total materials cost is estimated at \$4,338.60 with the City share being \$2,169.30. Blue Earth County will pay the remaining half of the materials cost (\$2,169.30) and the labor cost (\$2,469.44). Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to approve the proposal from Blue Earth County for a walking path from Church Street to the BP along Co.Rd.28 South, with the City cost share of \$2,169.30. Motion carried with all in favor. The project is expected to be completed this summer.

2000 – 52" TORO GROUNDMASTER LAWN MOWER

Sealed bids for the sale of the 2000 – 52" Toro Groundmaster Lawn Mower were opened and reviewed. The City received six (6) bids for the lawn mower. Motion by Spear, seconded by Phillips to approve the bid submitted by Kevin Depuydt for \$2,350.00. Motion carried with all in favor.

ADVERTISING IN CITY NEWSLETTER

Nancy Schleuter Manager of the Bell Tower Suites was present to discuss buying advertising space on the City Newsletter. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to sell advertising spots on the City Newsletter for \$10.00 per month. Motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Employee Deb McCollum reported on the following:

1. A 2010 Exmark Zero-Turn 60" Lawn Mower was purchased for the Public Works Dept.
2. Cody and Sons did the street sweeping on curb and gutter streets throughout the City on April 28th.
3. Bargaen, Inc. did crack sealing on April 21st.
4. The Public Works Dept. did the spring water main/ hydrant flushing on April 13th.
5. The Memorial Park Pavilion was opened for the season on April 8th.
6. The Bulk Water Station (to be located near the Wastewater Treatment facility) will be completed in the near future.
7. A bid has been obtained from Bob Vogel for \$1,150.00 to paint the control buildings at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Motion by Hughes, seconded by Phillips to accept the bid submitted by Bob Vogel for \$1,150.00. Motion carried with all in favor.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. City Clerk-Treasurer Seys and School Superintendent Tom Bruels met on April 28th to discuss the City Emergency Management Plan and the School Crisis Plan.
2. Council Member Spear will be working to organize the National Night Out in St. Clair.
3. St. Clair will be hosting the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks on Thursday, May 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the St. Clair City Hall. The speaker will be Jerad Bach from the Blue Earth County Soil and Conservation District.
4. The Uptown Tavern has submitted a request for a Special Use Permit for Bike Night and St. Clair Days 2010 activities. Bike Night will be held on Monday evenings from May 17th through the mid/end of August. Bike Night will not be held on Memorial Day (May 31st) or 4th of July weekend. Bike Night will have the same format as in the past with picnic tables set up in the parking lot area. Brats, burgers and beverages will be served. Weekly sponsors will be similar to those in the past. St. Clair Days 2010 activities will be as in the past with live music in the parking lot area from 8:30 pm to 12:30 am on Friday and

Saturday night. Food Stands and picnic tables will also be located in the parking lot area and adjacent to Co. Rd. 28 South. Motion by Spear, seconded by Hughes to approve Bike Night and St. Clair Days 2010 activities. Motion carried with all in favor.

5. City Council Members and the City Clerk have toured the City and identified properties where nuisances exist (unkempt yards, unlicensed/inoperable vehicles and accumulations of rubbish, tires, brush, etc.). Residents will be asked to clean up their property in accordance with the City Nuisance Ordinance.

ST. CLAIR DAYS UPDATE

The St. Clair Days Committee met on Tuesday, April 13th. A flyer with St. Clair Days events and activities will be included with the May Newsletter. St. Clair Days info is also available on the City website www.stclair.govoffice2.com

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Council Member Hughes reported on the EDA meeting held on Monday, May 3rd at 5:00 p.m. Items discussed included National Night Out to be held on Tuesday, August 3rd.
2. Council Member Hughes attended the April School Board meeting. Items discussed included the resignation of Sheila Opsal as Community Ed Director. Council Member Phillips will represent the Council at the May 24th School Board meeting.
3. The Council briefly discussed the request from the Bestmann family for detachment from the City. It was noted that the City Council would support the detachment of the property on the other side of Hwy. 83 (to the southwest of Hwy. 83). The City Clerk will contact the attorney for the Bestmann family.

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

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer