

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Douglas Westphal at 7:04 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, Jerry Phillips, Thomas Karels, Sr., Chris Cousins and Jason Weinandt. Council Members absent: None. City Staff present: Mark Krenik, Public Works Supervisor, Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Connie Johns (representing the St. Clair School Board) and Mark Frahm.

After calling the meeting to order Mayor Westphal welcomed all visitors and guests and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS

The minutes of the December 6, 2011 Regular City Council meeting were approved with a motion by Weinandt, seconded by Phillips and carried with all in favor.

The vendor's claims for the month of December were approved with a motion by Cousins, seconded by Karels and carried with all in favor.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. Dave Bonnefield has resigned from the St. Clair Fire Dept.
2. The Fire Dept. responded to 108 calls for 2011. Fire Chief Fitzloff will provide an outline of 2011 calls at the February meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Dept. Supervisor Mark Krenik reported on the following:

1. The new tires have been purchased and mounted on the John Deere 444H payload.
2. Mr. Krenik requested to attend the Wastewater Operators Conference being held March 21st – 23rd in Brooklyn Park. Motion by Weinandt, seconded by Phillips to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Fire Chief Fitzloff asked Mr. Krenik about the status of the hydrant by the School. Mr. Krenik will contact Ron McCabe (MN Pipe and Equipment) for parts, etc.
4. It was discussed that the Public Works Dept. will sand the walkway through Memorial Park as needed.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The 2012 Organization and Appointment Resolution was presented to the Council for discussion and review. Motion by Phillips, seconded by Karels to approve the 2012 Organization and Appointment Resolution. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. The Resolution Setting Compensations, Fees and Rates for 2012 was presented for review and discussion.

Motion by Cousins, seconded by Weinandt to increase the Election Judges pay rate from \$8.00 per hour to \$8.50 per hour. Motion carried with Cousins, Weinandt, Phillips and Westphal in favor. Council Member Karels abstained since he serves as an Election Judge.

Motion by Weinandt, seconded by Cousins to change the Animal License fee from \$10.00 for the life of the pet, to \$5.00 renewed annually. It was discussed that the additional revenue collected on pet licenses would be used to purchase pet waste bags and stations. The City Animal Ordinance will be amended to reflect the changes discussed. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion by Phillips, seconded by Weinandt to approve the Resolution Setting Compensations, Fees and Rates for 2012 with all compensations, fees and rates remaining as they were in 2011 with the exception of the Election Judge pay rate (increasing from \$8.00 per hour to \$8.50 per hour) and the Animal License fee (increasing from \$10.00 for the life of the pet to \$5.00 renewed annually). Motion carried with all in favor.

3. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) meeting and training will be held in Mapleton on Monday, January 23rd. The training topics will be the AWAIR Program, Employee Right to Know, Hazardous Communication, Material Safety Data Sheets and Labeling.
4. Verizon upgrade and amendment to the water tower lease agreement were discussed. Verizon is proposing an increase of \$210.00 per month. Motion by Phillips, seconded by Karels to ask Verizon for an increase of \$457.52 per month (for a total lease payment of \$1,300.00) due to Verizon adding 50% more antenna's to the tower and adding 6 additional 1 5/8" cables, thus utilizing a good portion of the underground conduit available. Motion carried with all in favor.
5. Due to MN Precinct Caucuses being held on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, the Regular City Council meeting will be held on Thursday, February 2nd at 7:00 p.m.
6. Clerk-Treasurer Seys requested to attend the MN Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MCFOA) Annual Conference being held March 20th – 23rd in St. Cloud. Motion by Weinandt, seconded by Cousins to approve the request. Motion carried with all in favor.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

The City Business Directory was briefly discussed.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. The Old Fashioned Christmas in St. Clair and Donuts with Santa and Mrs. Claus was held on Saturday, December 10th in the St. Clair School Small Gym and Commons Area. The event was very successful and well attended. Over 85 children visited with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Ken and Tina Thoennes were the winners of the Christmas spirit contest.
2. Council Members Cousins was unable to attend the December School Board meeting. He will attend the next School Board meeting on January 23rd.
3. The Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks didn't meet in December. The next meeting will be January 12th in Eagle Lake.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Phillips, seconded by Karels and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer