

CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 02, 2013

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, Jerry Phillips, Thomas Karels, Sr., and Chris Cousins. Council Members absent: Jason Weinandt. City Staff present: Mark Krenik, Public Works Supervisor; Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer; and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Connie Johns (St. Clair School Board liaison), Dan McGrane (Dakota Supply Group), Nancy Schleuter, and Ralph Buesing.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS

The minutes of the March 5, 2013 Regular City Council Meeting were approved with a motion by Phillips, seconded by Karels, and carried with all in favor. The invoices, bills, and vendor's claims for the month of March 2013 were approved with a motion by Weinandt, seconded by Cousins and carried with all in favor.

DAN McGRANE, DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP

Dan McGrane, Dakota Supply Group, was present to again discuss radio read water meters with the City Council. Mr. McGrane discussed a number of meter features, including data profiling, battery life, and meter cost. Cost was quoted at \$165.00 for the meter and the meter head and \$135.00 for the meter head only. The cost of the hand-held device was quoted at \$6,495.00. Software, on-site training, and phone support were also discussed. Meter installation was discussed. Mr. McGrane stated that Midwest Testing does the meter installation at a cost of \$50.00 per meter which includes sending letters to residents and scheduling appointments. Orientation of the meter was discussed. It was noted that some meters in town are installed vertically. Mr. McGrane stated that meters should be installed horizontally to ensure an accurate representation of the amount of water use. Mr. McGrane noted that radio read meters would save the City money; he further noted that radio read meters are fair and equitable to all customers. Public Works Supervisor Mark Krenik noted that many meters in town are original meters (60+ years old). Mr. Krenik stated that the City of Eagle Lake converted to radio read water meters and is now capturing 95% of water pumped. The Council discussed the matter at length. No decision was made.

OLD BUSINESS

The following Old Business items were discussed:

1. FIRE TRUCK BID OPENING – The bids for the new fire truck (chassis and apparatus) were opened and reviewed. The bids were as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>CHASSIS BID</u>	<u>APPARATUS BID (3,000 gallon tank)</u>
Westman Freightliner	\$98,508.00	
Forstner Fire Apparatus		\$77,335.00
Midwest	\$98,701.00	\$95,377.00

(Midwest also offered a \$1,000.00 deduct to the bid price if both the chassis and apparatus were purchased from them.)

2. GOLF CART ORDINANCE – The City Clerk-Treasurer presented an ordinance which includes golf carts, mini-trucks and ATV's. After review and considerable discussion the Council asked the City Clerk to invite Blue Earth County Sheriff's Deputy Tim Mohr to a Council meeting to further discuss the proposed ordinance. (It was noted that Deputy Mohr previously met with the City Council (09-06-2012) regarding the proposed Golf Cart Ordinance.)
3. PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE – The Council briefly discussed having a 'Spring Fling' at Memorial Park to gather ideas for playground equipment.

#### NEW BUSINESS

No new business items were discussed.

#### REPORTS

The following reports were presented:

##### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. There is an opening on the Fire Dept. The Fire Chief will meet with the City Clerk regarding placing an ad in the Lake Region Times.
2. Severe Weather Awareness Week is scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>. The Statewide Tornado Drill Day is Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>; sirens will sound statewide at 1:45 p.m. and 6:45 p.m.
3. Fire Chief Fitzloff noted that the Truck Committee will meet next week to review the bids received for the new fire truck and apparatus.

##### PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Mark Krenik reported on the following:

1. Crack Sealing was discussed. Mr. Krenik recommended that crack sealing be done in the Goodrich Addition. A crack sealing quote will be obtained.
2. Mr. Krenik reported on the Wastewater Operators Conference he attended on March 20 – 22, 2013.

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

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following

1. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) met in Pemberton on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. The training topic was Lock-Out Tag Out.
2. The Blue Earth County Emergency Management Team (Brenda Olmscheid, Mike Maurer, and Eric Weller), will be hosting a table-top meeting with Blue Earth County City Clerks and Administrators to discuss and review how to set up an Emergency Command Center (EOC). The meeting will be held at the Justice Center on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.
3. The annual American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Proclamation was presented and read by Mayor Westphal. Motion by Phillips, seconded by Weinandt to approve the proclamation, thereby proclaiming the month of May 2013 as Poppy Month. Motion carried with all in favor. Mayor Westphal then signed the proclamation.

##### EDA REPORT

The EDA Board met on March 12, 2013. Items discussed included City sign options and the City lot at 305 Main Street East. It was the recommendation of the EDA that the City retain ownership of the lot and keep the area as 'green space'. It was noted that the lot is well used by neighborhood children,

especially for ball games. It was further noted that since the lot connects to Memorial Park, it is a natural short-cut and walkway from Main Street to the park. Enhancing the lot with a park bench or something of that nature was also briefly discussed.

#### CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Mayor Westphal attended the March School Board meeting. Council Member Cousins will attend the April 22<sup>nd</sup> School Board Meeting.
2. Mayor Westphal reported on the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks meeting which was held in Madison Lake on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. Brad Potter (I & S Group) was the guest speaker. Mayor Westphal announced that the City of St. Clair will be hosting the next Mayors and Clerks meeting on Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. The speaker for the evening will be Blue Earth County Engineer, Al Forsberg.
3. Council Member Karels and Council Member Phillips discussed options for an ice skating rink at Memorial Park. Plumbing water to the rink location and having a 6" berm rather than boards around the rink were discussed, as well as possibly using the Pavilion as a warming house. They will continue to research ice rink options.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Ralph Buesing was present to again discuss the storm sewer inlet on his lot at 320 Front Street West. It was noted that the inlet is located in the City's road right-of-way and part of the City storm sewer system.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Weinandt, seconded by Cousins and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer