

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 06, 2014

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 Jason Weinandt. Council Members absent: Council Member Chris Cousins was absent. City Staff present: Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Krenik, Public Works Supervisor and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Ralph Buesing and Connie Johns (St. Clair School Board Liaison).

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS – The minutes of April 01, 2014 Regular Council Meeting were approved with a motion by Council Member Weinandt, seconded by Council Member Phillips, and carried with all in favor. The invoices, bills, and vendor's claims for the month of April 2014 were approved with a motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Phillips and carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The following Unfinished Business items were discussed:

1. CITY ATTORNEY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) – The City requested proposals for a new City Attorney. Proposals were received from Chris Kennedy (Kennedy and Kennedy Attorneys at Law), Andrea Lieser (Maschka, Riedy and Ries Law Firm), and Wade Abed (Farrish Johnson Law Office). Motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Weinandt to accept the proposal submitted by Chris Kennedy (Kennedy and Kennedy). Motion carried with all in favor.
2. RADIO LINK INTERNET – Daniel Petsinger from Radio Link Internet was not present and has not contacted the City since the April 1st City Council meeting. The item was tabled.
3. CITY HALL KITCHEN REMODEL PROJECT – The project was approved by the City Council at the April City Council meeting. Cabinets, countertops, flooring and appliance have been ordered.

NEW BUSINESS – The following New Business items were discussed:

1. PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE REPORT – The Playground Committee recommended purchase of 'Tot Lot' playground equipment and 'Multi-Age' playground equipment for Memorial Park from Miracle Recreation Equipment Company. Miracle offered a 40% discount on the equipment (20% through the State contract and an additional 20%). The total cost of the equipment is \$48,499.20. Motion by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Weinandt to purchase the equipment from Miracle Recreation Equipment Company. It was noted that the equipment will be paid through the Park Fund. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. 324 FRONT STREET WEST – Ralph Buesing was present to discuss a problem he has been experiencing with air in his water lines. The problem occurs every 3 to 5 days. It was suggested that he unplug his water softener for a couple weeks and see if the air in the lines might be caused when his water softener re-cycles.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. Fire Chief Fitzloff discussed the Fire Contracts. Fire Chief Fitzloff met with all five (5) of the townships served by the St. Clair Fire Dept. (Decoria, LeRay, Mankato, McPherson and Medo) to discuss renewal of the Fire Contracts. All of the Township Boards have reviewed, approved and signed the contracts. Motion by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Karels to approve the contracts. Mayor Westphal will sign the contracts on behalf of the City. The new contracts will run for three (3) years (until 2017). Motion carried with all in favor.
2. The City siren has been down. A new receiver disk has been ordered and will be installed this week.
3. It was noted that complaints have been received regarding Fire Fighters driving too fast when driving to the Fire Hall in response to a Fire Call.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Mark Krenik reported on the following:

1. Crack sealing by Bargain, Inc. has been completed on Miller Lane, Hilton Drive, James Drive and the Wastewater Treatment Plant road. Bargain, Inc. will come back for street sweeping.
2. Public Works Supervisor Krenik repaired the roof of the old control building at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
3. Street patching will be done in early June.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The South Central Safety Committee (SCSC) meeting on Thursday, April 17th in Mapleton. The topic of the training was chainsaw safety.
2. Motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Weinandt to schedule the June City Council meeting for Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Clerk-Treasurer Seys presented the Sign Retroreflectivity Policy, as well as an inventory of all City signs. Motion by Council Member Weinandt, seconded by Council Member Phillips to approve the policy. It was noted that all cities are required to implement a sign retroreflectivity policy.
4. City Wide Clean-Up Day was originally scheduled for June 14th, but due to a number of graduation parties that weekend it has been re-scheduled for Saturday, July 12th.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Council Member Weinandt attended the April School Board Meeting. Items of interest discussed included the retirement of Deb Hart and Susan Owens. Mayor Westphal will attend the next School Board meeting being held on Monday, May 19th.
2. St. Clair hosted the Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks meeting on Thursday, April 10th. The speaker for the evening was Dan Davidson with the Blue Earth County Drug Task Force.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no comments from the public during this portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Weinandt, seconded by Council Member Phillips and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer