

CITY OF ST. CLAIR
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 07, 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, Tom Karels, Sr., and Chris Cousins. Council Members absent: Council Members Jason Weinandt. City Staff present: Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer, Mark Krenik, Public Works Supervisor and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Connie Johns (St. Clair School Board Liaison) and Marvin and Alicia More.

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 September 2, 2014 Regular Council meeting and the September 8, 2014 Special City Council meeting were approved with a motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Phillips, and carried with all in favor. The invoices, bills, and vendor's claims for the month of September 2014 were approved with a motion by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Cousins and carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The following unfinished Business item was discussed:

SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER – Scheduling a joint School Board/ City Council meeting with Chief Deputy Mike Maurer to discuss the possible Liaison Officer position was previously discussed by the Council. It was determined that a joint meeting is premature at this time.

NEW BUSINESS – The following New Business items were discussed:

2015 LIQUOR LICENSE RENEWAL – Renewal of Liquor Licenses for 2015 was discussed. Motion by Council Member Cousins, seconded by Council Member Karels to approve the renewal of the St. Clair American Legion Liquor Licenses (Club and Sunday Licenses) and the Uptown Tavern Liquor Licenses (On-Sale, Off-Sale and Sunday Licenses) for 2015. Motion carried with Council Members Cousins, Karels and Mayor Westphal all in favor and Council Member Phillips abstaining.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. Blue Earth, Nicollet and LeSueur Counties as well as the cities within those counties are part of a Mutual Aid Agreement. The agreement expires December 31, 2014 and is due to be renewed. Through mutual aid, personnel and equipment of Fire, Police, EMS, Public Works and others as necessary are shared during a disaster. Motion by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Karels to approve renewal of the Blue Earth, Nicollet and LeSueur County Mutual Aid Agreement, effective January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2024. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. The new fire truck is in Luverne Minnesota at Midwest Fire. The installation of the apparatus has begun; installation progress can be followed on the Midwest Fire website.
3. Mitt's BP is again hosting the St. Clair Fire Dept. Pizza Fundraiser during Fire Prevention Week. The event is scheduled for this coming Thursday, October 9th from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
4. The Fire Dept. is presenting Fire Prevention programs to Kindergarten, 1st grade, Early Childhood and Pre-School children this week (Fire Prevention Week).

5. The Fire Dept. has responded to 99 calls to date in 2014.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Mark Krenik reported on the following:

1. The fall watermain/hydrant flushing has been completed.
2. A water meter will be installed at the Mobile Home Park next week.
3. Annual sludge hauling will be done next week.
4. Mr. Krenik has secured a different sludge hauling site for 2015. The site is owned by Steve Kruse. There will be no rental fee for the site and the sludge will be hauled at a reduced cost.
5. Mr. Krenik noted that he's received complaints about the street lights that are not working on Main Street. The lights have not been operating for some time. Bill Fitzloff stated that there is a 'dead short' in the underground line. Mr. Fitzloff stated that his business is tied up right now doing work for farmers; he will contact Kunkel Electric about doing the street light repair work.
6. Replacement of the Christmas decorations (mounted on street lights) was discussed at the September budget meeting. The City plans to replace the Christmas decorations in time for the 2015 holiday season.
7. A possible second vehicle for the Public Works Dept. was also discussed at the budget meeting. Mr. Krenik noted that a 1-ton dump truck would be an asset to the Public Works Dept. The mater will be further discussed at a later date.

CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reported on the following:

1. The Council was presented with a Data Practices Inventory. Due to changes in the law relating to Data Practices the comprehensive inventory was developed. The inventory will be included as part of the City's Data Practices Policy. Motion by Council Member Cousins, seconded by Council Member Phillips to approve the comprehensive Data Inventory. Motion carried with all in favor.
2. Motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Cousins to schedule a Special City Council Meeting for Tuesday, October 21st at 5:30 pm to discuss the City Nuisance Ord. and nuisance property issues with Blue Earth County Deputy Rich Murry. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. St. Clair School is participating in National Walk to School Day tomorrow (October 8th). Buses will drop students off at Memorial Park and volunteers will walk to School with the students.
4. On Friday, October 3rd, Clerk-Treasurer Seys met with FEMA representative Ron Hepler to complete the FEMA paperwork relating to the June 2014 flood (DR-4182). The City will be reimbursed for \$13,049.43 in expenses incurred during the flood event.
5. Clerk-Treasurer Seys is continuing to pursue possible funding available for flood mitigation (i.e. the trash pump for the WWTP, etc.) through the FEMA 404 Program. The 404 Program is administered by the State of Minnesota using funding made available from FEMA.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Mayor Westphal attended the September 22nd School Board Meeting. Council Member Cousins will attend the October 20th School Board Meeting.
2. The Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks met in Amboy on Thursday, September 11th. The topic was domestic terrorism and the speaker was a representative from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension, as well as Dan Davidson and Paul Barta from the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Dept. The next meeting will be held in Pemberton on Thursday, October 9th.

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

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Cousins, seconded by Council Member Phillips and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer