

CITY OF ST. CLAIR  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 07, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Marvin More 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 More, Jerry Phillips, Tom Karels, Sr., Jason Weinandt and Cindy Glamm. Council Members absent: No Council Members were absent. City Staff present: Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer; Mark Krenik, Public Works Supervisor; and Bill Fitzloff, Fire Chief. Others present: Nancy Thompson (St. Clair School Board Liaison), Tim Miller (Blue Star Power Systems), two (2) students from MSU-Mankato, Ralph and Winnis Buesing.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND BILLS – The minutes of March 3, 2015 Regular Council Meeting were approved with a motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Glamm, and carried with all in favor. The invoices, bills, and vendor’s claims for the month of March 2015 were approved with a motion by Council Member Weinandt, seconded by Council Member Phillips and carried with all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The following unfinished Business item was discussed:

DOWNTOWN STREET LIGHT OPTIONS – The City received an estimate from Randy Kemnitz (Xcel Energy Outdoor Lighting Services) for replacement of the 16 downtown street lights. Two (2) options were included in the estimate:

Option 1 – Installation of Pre-Pay Option Cost: \$270,480.04

Option 2 – Leased Option Cost: \$80,982.42

Due to the cost of replacement the City will seek bids for repair of the existing street lights and repair of the underground electrical to the lights. Bill Fitzloff (Fitzloff Electric) will meet with Jeff Domras (City Engineer – Bolton and Menk) to develop a scope of work for the project. Bids for the Street Light Repair Project will be opened and reviewed at the regular June City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2015.

DESIGNATED PREDATORY OFFENDER RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS ORDINANCE – The Ordinance was approved by the City Council on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 pending review by the City Attorney. The City Attorney has completed his review of the Ordinance noting only a few minor changes. Clerk-Treasurer Seys presented the Designated Predatory Offender Residency Restriction Ordinance with changes recommended by the City Attorney highlighted. The Ordinance will be published and will be in full force and effect.

PEDDLERS, SOLICITORS AND TRANSIENT MERCHANTS ORDINANCE – The Council discussed the proposed Peddlers, Solicitors and Transient Merchants Ordinance. It was discussed that the City hasn’t had issues with peddlers/solicitors/transient merchants and adopting an ordinance might deter vendors from participating in St. Clair Days activities/events. No action was taken on the proposed Ordinance and the item was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS – The following New Business items were discussed:

ANNUAL POPPY PROCLAMATION – Council Member Karels requested that Mayor More read the Poppy Proclamation. After reading of the proclamation a motion was made by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Glamm to approve the proclamation designation the month of May 2015 as ‘Poppy Month’. Motion carried with all in favor.

PROPOSED GENERATOR FOR THE CITY WATER TREATMENT FACILITY (WTF) – Tim Miller (Blue Star Power Systems) was present to discuss the proposed generator for the WTF. Mr. Miller’s presentation included discussion regarding natural gas options with LP backup and diesel options, and repair, maintenance and emergency services.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES – The City continues to receive complaints regarding unkempt, nuisance properties. The City Attorney has reviewed the City Nuisance Ordinance and found the Ordinance to be in order. The City Council will request that the City Attorney send ‘clean-up’ letters to owners of nuisance properties.

324 FRONT STREET WEST – Ralph Buesing expressed concerns about the following items: unlicensed dogs, the drain under his driveway, the street in front of his property encroaching on his yard, and the tile on his property. Mr. Buesing became increasingly agitated. Mayor More attempted to maintain order. Mr. Buesing became more and more agitated, making inappropriate remarks and derogatory comments. When attempts to restore order failed, Mayor More and the Council repeatedly asked Mr. Buesing to leave the meeting. Mr. Buesing failed to leave and the Council instructed the Clerk-Treasurer Seys to call 9-1-1. Mr. Buesing left the meeting.

#### FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT

Fire Chief Bill Fitzloff reported on the following:

1. The St. Clair, Eagle Lake and Madison Lake Firefighters Dance will be held on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Eagle Lake American Legion.
2. The Fire Dept. has advertised the 1969 International pumper/tanker and the 1977 International tanker for sale. Bids for the sale of the trucks will be opened and reviewed at the Regular May City Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

#### PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. REPORT

Public Works Supervisor Mark Krenik reported on the following:

1. The City has been awarded the OSHA Safety Grant for a 4-gas monitor and line locator. The total cost of the two (2) pieces of equipment is approx. \$5,000. The grant will cover 50% of the total cost.
2. Estimates have been obtained from Display Sales for 16 new Christmas decorations (snowflake shape with white LED lights). Display Sales sent a 3’ decoration for Council consideration. Mr. Krenik noted that the sales price of 15% (which was in effect until March 31<sup>st</sup>) will be honored. Motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Glamm to approve the purchase of 16 – 5.5’ Christmas decorations from Display Sales. Motion carried with all in favor.
3. Sidewalk Snow Removal was discussed. Motion by Council Member Karels, seconded by Council Member Glamm to earmark the revenue generated from the City shoveling sidewalks towards the purchase of a generator for the Water Treatment Facility. Motion carried with all in favor.
4. The proposed generator for the Water Treatment Facility was further discussed. After discussion a motion was made by Council Member Weinandt, seconded by Council Member Phillips to request bids for a generator. Bids will be obtained for both diesel and natural gas with LP back-up. Bids will be opened and reviewed at the Regular June City Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2015. Mr. Krenik will contact Jeff Domras (Bolton and Menk) for specs for the generator bids.

### CITY CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

City Clerk-Treasurer Catherine Seys reminded the Council of the following meetings:

1. The Banyon Fund Accounting and Payroll programs are up and running and the training has been completed.
2. City Building Official, Dan Murphy will conduct the residential rental property inspections the weeks of April 20<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup>.
3. Severe Weather Awareness Week is next week, April 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, with the statewide Tornado Drill on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. Sirens will sound statewide at 1:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m.

### CITY COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

1. Mayor More and Council Member Glamm attended the March 23<sup>rd</sup> School Board Meeting. Council Member Phillips will attend the April 20<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting.
2. The Blue Earth County Mayors and Clerks met on Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Historical Society in Mankato. The speaker for the evening was Jessica Potter from the Historical Society. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in Good Thunder.
3. The City sign was discussed. Mayor More noted that he feels that money might be better spent in other areas rather than towards a City sign, especially since the water tower (with the City name) can be seen from all directions and is well lit at night. Council Member Glamm concurred stating that money might be better used towards a generator for the Water Treatment Facility or other City needs. The City sign was tabled.
4. Council Member Weinandt suggested installing a 3-way STOP at the intersection of Main Street East/Main Street West and County Road 28 South. Council Member Glamm noted that having a 3-way STOP in that location might create a problem for semi's and large farm equipment trying to make that corner. Since Main Street East/West and County Road 28 South are County roads the suggestion will be discussed with the Blue Earth County Engineer.
5. The City property at 222 Main Street West was discussed. Council Member Weinandt suggested making the area a quiet green space with possibly a flag pole and a picnic table or bench. ADA requirements were also very briefly discussed.
6. Nancy Thompson (School Board liaison) requested that the basketball poles/hoops at Memorial Park be put at regulation height.

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

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Phillips, seconded by Council Member Karels and carried with all in favor.

Catherine Seys, City Clerk-Treasurer