

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
March 8, 2011

A regular council meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 with members Kurt Olson, Brad Ringnell, Jeff Ross, Carroll Behne and Robert Roesler present. Absent, none. Also present, City Admin/EDA Director Jamie Letzring and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

Motion by Ringnell to approve the agenda, second by Olson, carried.

Motion by Behne to approve the minutes as written and sent to each council member for study, second by Ross, carried.

Consent agenda including payment of bills was declared approved.

Motion by Behne to approve a building application submitted by Kent Meyers for basement improvements, second by Olson, carried. Ringnell abstained.

City Administrator Jamie Letzring informed the council that Martin County Ignite will be present at the March 21st meeting. Mayor Roesler explained the history of Martin County economic development and the groups that have existed over the years in an attempt to give representation to all of Martin County, as well as the costs associated with economic development groups.

Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2011-04 Accepting Donation of \$200.00 from the Fox Lake Conservation League for the Purpose of Purchasing Christmas/Winter Decorations, second by Olson. Olson, yea; Ringnell, yea; Ross, yea; Behne, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2011-04 approved.

Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2011-05 Accepting Donation of \$1500.00 from the Sherburn Community Chest for the Purpose of Purchasing Christmas/Winter Decorations, second by Olson. Olson, yea; Behne, yea; Ross, yea; Ringnell, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2011-05 approved.

Discussion was held regarding the March 2nd meeting with local township officials; the Sherburn Fire Department has been authorized to formulate a bid on a 2001 tanker to be submitted by March 25, 2011. Councilor Ross stated that this is an agenda item for the department's March 10th meeting. Also addressed were the various methods of determining per section township fees in a more equitable way.

Motion by Olson to approve a raze and remove order issued to RECA Ltd in Irma, South Carolina for the garage on property at 603 S Lake Street, contingent upon order to be amended to include the storage shed at same location, second by Ross, carried. Once the papers are served, owners will have twenty days to respond and sixty days to remove said buildings. If no response is received, the city must raze and remove the buildings and assess the costs to the property.

Mayor Roesler addressed on-going discussions regarding interpretation of IRS Publication 15-B Benefit Exclusion for Qualified Volunteer Emergency Response Organizations. The City will continue to defer to the advice and interpretations of auditors and League counsel, and all income will remain taxable.

Mayor Roesler disclosed for the record that during the closed session on February 7, 2011, administrator authorization of salary adjustments was discussed and considered a learning situation for all. He also reported that the legislature is targeting LGA, and how other sources of revenue could be more fairly applied. While the complicated LGA formula has evolved over the years and the money has ended up in areas without need, as yet no better formula exists.

Councilor Ross questioned the decision regarding denial of IRS Publication 15-B Benefits as interpreted; he also felt the township meeting went well and encouraged the continuation of such meetings.

Councilor Ringnell inquired about the Temperance Lake Ridge expansion study that was to be conducted; a 50-page draft copy of the study has just been received and has not yet been reviewed. Mayor Roesler shared the conclusions and findings page and asked for comments.

Motion by Olson to authorize City Administrator Jamie Letzring to convey council's favorable response to the project based on the conclusions and findings, and to expedite the next step in this expansion project, second by Ross, carried.

Councilor Ringnell also inquired about a second lift chair that had been purchased at Temperance Lake Ridge, tree-trimming in the next few weeks, and street light repairs to be completed before holiday lights are put up this fall.

Admin report:

- An EZ-lift chair was purchased for use at Temperance Lake Ridge when the need for a second chair was recognized.
- An OSHA required fire inspection by ECSI was conducted and installation of pull tabs on the fire alarms was recommended. Cost for five pull alarms is \$1900; pull cords are necessary to properly test the alarms. Installation can occur when ECSI is there to work on the resident emergency system. The purchase has been pre-approved in order to expedite the project.
- On site visit by PFA representative Anita Gallentine went well; single audit with Eide Bailly will be conducted on Friday, March 11th. City offices will be closed for the audit on that day.
- Casey's General Store has purchased the Cenex NuMart and plans on moving into that building within the next month or two. Beer and cigarette license applications have been made.
- Open Book meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Motion to recess by Ringnell, second by Behne, carried. At 6:32 p.m. council entered into closed session for the purpose of employee reviews. Council reconvened at 7:55 p.m.; motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Olson, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Irene Schlaphoff, Deputy Clerk