

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

May 19, 2008

A regular council meeting was duly held on Monday, May 19, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. Members present, Carroll Behne, Jim Poirot, Robert Roesler, Kurt Olson and Brad Ringnell. Absent, none. Mayor Roesler presided. Also present, City Adm/EDA Director Sack Thongvanh and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

Nathan Behne, Richard Behne, Dorothy Behne and Cindy Ford were present for Public Comment to object to the new City Park policy of locked restroom doors and refundable deposit for use of the shelter house, citing inconvenience and unfriendliness. It was agreed that security and vandalism is a problem that must be addressed by the entire community. A letter was received regarding the same issue. Heloise Caven asked what could be done with abandoned trailers on her court property and Richard Behne pointed out a sink hole near his business property.

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

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

Consent agenda including payment of bills and a sign permit for Cenex C Store was declared approved.

Four bids for the West Fifth Street improvements were received, opened and tabulated according to law: Southern Minnesota Construction, \$463,471.03; GM Contracting, \$476,029.28; Beemer Companies, \$494,008.25; and MR Paving, \$530,442.31. Greg Mitchell of Bolton and Menk recommended awarding the contract to SMC, which was 12% below engineer's estimate. Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2008-13 Receiving Bids and Awarding the Contract on the West Fifth Street Improvement Project to Southern Minnesota in the amount of \$463,471.03, second by Poirot. Behne, yea; Poirot, yea; Roesler, yea; Olson, yea; Ringnell, yea; Resolution 2008-13 approved.

Financial advisor Shannon Sweeney of David Drown & Associates advised the council that the assessments have been recalculated according to updated figures and that a competitive bond bid process will take place in order to get the best possible interest rates.

Kirk Yahnke of Bolton and Menk was present to advise the council regarding replacement of the bar screen at the wastewater treatment plant. Quotes for two different types were received and reviewed, with advantages and disadvantages detailed. Motion by Poirot to approve the purchase of a Muffin Monster as presented from Electric Pump in the amount of \$26,490, not including tax and electrical, with installation to be performed by KHC Construction in the amount of \$3,800, second by Behne, carried.

Motion by Olson to authorize the Mayor and City Administrator to sign subordination documents for deferred loans under the Small Cities Grant Program when appropriate, second by Poirot, carried.

Discussion was held regarding the City Park restroom policy with regard to the objections to locked restrooms and \$50 deposit requirement. Council agreed that valid points were made by the citizens and it was not the intention, nor is it desirable to prevent the community from using the park, especially when the many improvements are the result of their donated dollars. Vandalism history has been well-documented and there is grave concern for the unsupervised activity that occurs. Consensus is to open and unlock the shelter and restrooms in the morning and lock doors at 8:00 p.m. Charges will be pressed against any and all who are caught vandalizing.

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Admin report:

- Advertisement has been placed for sealcoat and patching.
- City Park repair, maintenance and upgrades are nearing completion; painting is in progress, and the park will be opened on Memorial Day.
- Letters have been sent to delinquent utility accounts informing them of payment options and restoration fees that will be collected. Costs of shut-off installation must be determined in order to follow through on a number of accounts.
- Additional issues to be addressed include the Capital Improvement Plan and equipment replacement, and authorization to hire a firm that is able to provide total project estimates for the projects listed in the CIP.
- Specifications for the radio read meters should be ready this month.

Motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Behne, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff