

MINUTES OF OPEN BOOK/PUBLIC HEARING/COUNCIL MEETING
April 20, 2009

The Annual Open Book Meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler on Monday, April 20, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. with councilors Kurt Olson, Robert Roesler, Jim Poirot, Carroll Behne and Brad Ringnell present. Also present, City Admin/EDA Dir Jamie Letzring and Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff.

Deb Eversman and Mike Sheplee of the Martin County Assessor's office were present to explain this first step in the valuation appeals process and to answer any questions:

Jim Poirot inquired about the solid waste fee that appears on the tax statement and was informed that this is for Prairieland Solid Waste and is assessed to everyone.

Randall Stahn questioned the increase in his valuation over the past three years. The first increase was due to the reappraisal year and the last increase was based on sales of like homes. The assessor offered to view the interior as required by law every five years.

Floyd Olson asked if the valuation of his building was in line with similar buildings, since his was not heated, insulated or cemented. The assessor will study recent sales, and informed Mr. Olson that the building could not be reclassified from commercial, as Sherburn has only three classes of properties.

Todd Amborn questioned the values placed on this home and commercial property. Improvements and recent sales caused the increase and the assessor will make an appointment to review the property. Mr. Sheplee suggested combining the separate commercial parcels into one parcel.

Richard Zehms inquired about the date of the last house sold in this period (September 2008), and inquired about the classification of agricultural lands. The assessor will view his land and if qualified, will lower it to Class C. Mrs. Eversman also explained that some cities define ag lands within city limits as rural service districts that have lower tax rates.

At 5:34 p.m. the regular council meeting was called to order. In Public Comment, Carroll Behne asked when the bike path will be repaired and Richard Zehms stated that the new culvert on South Street was crushed during the winter.

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

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

Consent agenda including payment of bills, fence permits for Stephanie Markquart and Amanda Cain, and City clean up and appliance dates was approved.

Resolution 2009-03 Accepting Preliminary Report for South Manyaska Street Project was presented for approval: Olson, yea; Roesler, yea; Poirot, yea; Behne, yea; Ringnell, yea; Resolution 2009-03 approved.

Pursuant to MN Statute 429, a Public Hearing to receive comments regarding the South Manyaska Street project was called to order. Engineer Greg Mitchell of Bolton & Menk reviewed the existing conditions and outlined the proposed improvements of the one block section from East Front Street to Warehouse Avenue, which includes a seven-inch concrete surface on a nine-ton design with six-inch aggregate base, four-inch underdrains, and a concrete railroad crossing per railroad request. Total project cost is estimated at \$220,960, of which a minimum of 20% must be assessed according to statute. City share of this project cost is calculated to be 71%. Plans and specifications will be presented at the May 18th council meeting with bid opening scheduled for May 29th.

Questions were answered regarding railroad assessments, placement of catch basins, availability of stimulus money, and benefit to property versus value of property. A preliminary assessment roll will be prepared and distributed.

Resolution 2009-04 Authorizing Plans and Specifications for the South Manyaska Street Project was presented for approval: Ringnell, yea; Behne, yea; Poirot, yea; Roesler, yea; Olson, yea; Resolution 2009-04 approved.

Motion by Ringnell to close the Public Hearing, second by Poirot, carried.

Motion by Ringnell to approve pulltab distributions to Ducks Unlimited Greenwing Event in the amount of \$100 and to Dollars for Scholars in the amount of \$100, second by Poirot, carried.

Follow-up discussion was held regarding future repairs and maintenance of streets, with Bolton & Menk Engineer Greg Mitchell and Public Works Foreman Travis Schuett present to answer questions regarding televising infrastructure prior to any mill and overlay work on qualifying streets. Camera equipment purchased by the Joint Powers entity is not equipped to obtain the necessary information to determine which streets are candidates for mill/overlay; however, camera technology that will walk through water and log all service lines is available for hire. Mr. Mitchell stated that the comprehensive street study done in 1997 can be updated using the latest camera technology. City Admin Letzring will seek costs and budgeted dollars will be reviewed.

Mayor Roesler reported that federal stimulus dollars are not available for cities under 10,000 population, and state stimulus dollars are available for projects ready by June 15, 2009 for cities in poor financial condition.

Administrative report:

- The soil injector recently declared as excess property has been sold for \$5,000 to Cortland Waste.
- Quotes are being sought for an automatic push-button door opener for Temperance Lake Ridge, and a schedule of upcoming events was shared.
- Quotes for gravel, patching and crack filling have been requested.
- Revolving Loan Fund deadline is May 1st and the drawing will take place on May 4th.
- It has been learned that a retention pond to alleviate water issues would need to be extremely large and still would not solve drainage issues on N Manyaska Street. Alternate solutions include tying in sewer lines on W Fourth Street and N Main to flow north, and cleaning out a sediment buildup in Ditch 81 near the City shop entrance. It was cautioned that doing so could cause back flow into the sewer system.

Motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Poirot, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Irene Schlaphoff, Deputy Clerk