

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 2012

A regular council meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 15, 2012 with members Robert Roesler, Jeff Ross, Carroll Behne and Brad Ringnell present. Absent, Kurt Olson. Also present, City Admin/EDA Dir Jamie Letzring, Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff and Nicole Steffensen.

Motion by Ringnell to approve the amended agenda, second by Ross, carried.

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

Consent agenda including payment of bills was declared approved.

At this time the Public Hearing for the adoption of final assessments for the W First Street/E Cargill Street improvements was called to order. City Engineer Greg Mitchell of Bolton & Menk was present to explain the assessable cost computations, recap the project and to review the assessment policy. Questions were answered regarding the sod on E Cargill that is in poor condition caused by late installation and drought conditions. It may be necessary for the sod to be replaced after the curb reconstruction is completed, which is to be done yet in 2012. Motion by Ross to adjourn the Public Hearing, second by Ringnell, carried.

The regular council meeting reconvened with a motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2012-25 Adopting Final Assessments for the W First St and E Cargill St Improvements, second by Behne. Ross, yea; Behne, yea; Ringnell, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2012-25 approved. Full or partial payment of assessments may be made without interest on or before November 15, 2012.

Discussion was held regarding the delinquent water/sewer utility at 211 Delana St upon which research was conducted to determine the amount of finance charges and base fees that had accumulated over a period of more than eight years. Concern was expressed about setting a precedent of waiving delinquent accounts and the consequences of doing so, rather than collecting the outstanding amount when the properties are sold, as has been done in the past. Motion by Ringnell to waive the finance charges accumulated on this property if it is sold, second by Behne, carried.

The issue of a contract signed with E-Dispatch for notification of ambulance and fire personnel when they are out of territory and cannot be reached by pagers was discussed as to validity of contracts signed by unauthorized persons, lack of communication with city hall, and budget adjustments that will be necessary to fund this expense. A decision was tabled so that Councilors Ross and Ringnell could discuss the necessity of E-Dispatch with fire department members at their October 18th meeting.

An updated weekly construction schedule for the Temperance Lake Ridge memory care expansion was distributed for council and staff information.

Motion by Ringnell to approve Resolution 2012-26 Hiring Nicole Steffensen as Deputy Clerk, second by Ross. Ringnell, yea; Ross, yea; Behne, yea; Roesler, yea; Resolution 2012-26 approved and effective upon the retirement of Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff on December 31, 2012.

Motion by Ross to offer two-year fire contracts to townships served by the Sherburn Fire Department charging \$220/section for 2012-2013, second by Ringnell, carried. A rough draft of the township fire contract will be prepared by City Admin/EDA Director Jamie Letzring and will be available for review at the November 5, 2012 council meeting.

Admin report:

- Leaf pick up has begun; a schedule has been prepared and will be advertised in posters, billboard, newspaper and utility billings. The public works department is asking that citizens rake the leaves as close to the street as possible.
- At Temperance Lake Ridge, curbs are poured on north and south driveway entrances and paving should start tomorrow. The storage garage is framed and shingled; the air unit has arrived.

In other business, a request was made for street sweeping near the recent water main break; further discussion was held regarding the necessity of raising water/sewer rates to compensate for the loss of income that would result from waiving delinquent accounts; and progress being made on siren repair or replacement.

A thank-you note was read from the MCW FFA for the use of the Community Hall for their recent events, and MCW students were recognized for their work in moving tables at the City Park and cleaning the bike trails during MCW Gives Back.

Motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Ross, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 6:14 p.m.; the next council meeting will be held November 4, 2012.

Irene Schlaphoff, Deputy Clerk