

## JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – April 14, 2015

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, April 14, 2015 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Lisa Rodman, Pete Johnson, Karen Damman & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Jen Burris; Others in attendance: Quinton Johnson;

Mayor Baustian called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

Community Concerns:

-No residents were in attendance; however, Kounkel did mention some requests made by residents. A resident in Rock County requested the council to consider allowing her to house chickens in her backyard. The council mentioned that the area she lives in is not zoned for agricultural purposes. Therefore the request was denied;

-Individual requesting to dig his brother's grave for a May 23<sup>rd</sup> burial. The council unanimously decided against the request due to liability issues. The council believes that if they allow a non-professional individual to dig the grave, they will be setting precedence for everyone. Motioned to reference this discussion in the future due to liability issues. Motioned by Damman, seconded by Leslie, all ayes, motion carried;

Review & approve the minutes from Regular Meeting, March 3, 2015, Rodman motioned to approve the minutes from the March meeting, Damman seconded, all ayes, so carried;

Review & approved the March Claims to date: Johnson motioned to approve March claims, Leslie seconded. All ayes, motion carried;

Review & approve the March Receipts to date: Damman motioned to approve the March receipts, Rodman seconded, all ayes, motion carried;

Review of Quarterly Reports: Johnson motioned to approve the first quarter reports, Damman seconded, all ayes, motion carried;

Delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage account report:

-2 accounts on the delinquent report just pay for service as water is not connected to residence. These amounts are from December 2014 to present;

-1 account will be turned off on April 16<sup>th</sup> due to no payments since October, as the Cold Weather Rule expires on April 15<sup>th</sup>;

-1 account promised to pay March 23<sup>rd</sup> but never came through;

-2 accounts have moved out of town. 1 of the said accounts went into foreclosure so the bill will be forwarded to the loan company in Iowa. The other account will be forwarded to the property owner if the previous tenant does not pay;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

New Business:

- 1) The council has set Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup> as the drive thru day;
- 2) Kounkel requesting permission to attend Clerk Orientation Training in Duluth June 24-26, 2015. Permission granted;
- 3) Council reviewed Chapter 1 of the City Code. Damman motion to approve Chapter 1 Ordinances, Rodman seconded, all ayes, so carried. Chapter 2, pages 4-15 will be reviewed at the council meeting in May;

Old Business:

- 1) Kounkel discussed the intersection of Hwy. 23 and Hwy. 269. She contacted MN DOT which stated that they own only 10 feet of the parking property. Contacted BNSF Railroad but was told that the land was leased to an individual who is currently seeking to abandon the lease, which would mean the property would go back to BNSF Railroad. If that is the case, BNSF will be placing "No Parking" signs at the area. Baustian advised Kounkel to obtain a copy of the lease so we know who is responsible for the property as of this time. Independent individual leveled off the area;
- 2) Council revisited the options of copiers for City Hall. Council agreed that Century Business Products had more to offer in the long run due to the technology they offer. Motioned by Johnson to purchase the copier with fax capabilities from Century Business Products, seconded by Damman, motion carried;
- 3) Council revisited the options Sam's Club and Costco Membership Fees. Thode mentioned that council members also have the option of obtaining a membership card through the city. Kounkel will look into pricing on each and will discuss this at the May council meeting;
- 4) Discussed alleyway reconstruction between the Lingen & Garcia properties. Gillen previously suggested putting an inlet in DeJough's backyard as that is where most of the water collects. A drainage pipe will not be enough however. Baustian, Thode and Shorty will check the elevation of the alleyway with a laser and will report their findings at the next council meeting in May. A plan of action will then be decided;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

- 1) Designated areas for the roll-offs during Spring Cleanup. Both dumpsters will be placed on 4<sup>th</sup> street, one in front of the Lingen residence, the other in front of the Ptak residence. These dumpsters need to be monitored as some resident's throw prohibited items into the dumpsters;
- 2) Thode presented the council with bids pertaining to the fence at the new yard waste site. Bids were presented by All State Fencing (Harvey Rozeboom) and Rodman Lumber. All State Fencing's proposal included labor, whereas Rodman's did not. Both bids included the cost of materials. Motioned by Johnson to accept All State Fencing bid, seconded by Rodman, all ayes, motion carried.
- 3) Barga, Inc. approached Thode about a new option for the seal coating the streets. Thode explained to the council that the product is an oil film that saturates into the road. This process is more costly but the city may be able to "piggy-back" with other towns to get the job done. Ellsworth has done this type

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of seal coat last year. Thode will talk to the public works superintendent of Ellsworth and inquire about the oil film. He will also look into the pricing of each option of seal coating, presenting his findings at the next council meeting;

4) Thode proposed hooking the old generator from the lift station up to the Emergency Services Building. The generator will need a new transfer switch which costs roughly \$1400.00. Olsen Electric has stated they could hook up the generator for \$2100.00, which includes labor and the transfer switch. Advised to consult with the Rural Fire Dept. Board and see what their input is as of installation will be split 50/50. This topic will be discussed at the next council meeting in May;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

1) Thode and DeSchepper sorted through the debris from the old yard waste site. They got approximately a ½ pickup load of metal from the old site. Thode also proposed the use of Baustian's excavator to take out the rocks at the current site. Thode stated that he would like to have this completed before the grass grows;

2) Kounkel will be looking into pricing for new city magnets as the current ones are outdated. She will discuss this at the next meeting in May. Kounkel will also order DeSchepper some public works t-shirts;

3) Dean Stoltenberg from Stoltenberg Auctioneering donated a sound system to the city for use at Memorial Hall. This will need to be kept in a safe area while not in use. Stoltenberg's only wish with this donation is that if the city ever gets rid of the system, he would like it back;

4) Several applause from residents on the new yard waste site. Discussed the gravel road leading up to the site. Thode will be taking care of this with the gravel projects funded by FEMA;

5) Neighbors of the park have reported juveniles throwing items on top of the park shelter such as bike tires, garbage, rocks and tree branches. It appears to be the same kids doing this. Neighbors are advised to contact the Pipestone County Sheriff's Dept. Brian knows who the kids are and will inform Quinton on where they live. The council discussed suspending the juveniles from the park if they are found vandalizing property again;

6) The parks will be open soon. Brian is waiting for warmer weather before he turns on the bathrooms. They will work on getting the picnic tables down and garbage dumpsters out;

Upcoming Meetings: 2015 Local Board of Appeal & Equalization Hearing Thursday, April 16 @ 7:00 p.m.

Next council meeting is May 11, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.

Rodman motioned to adjourn, Damman seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

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Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Baustian, Mayor

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