

## JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – July 14, 2015

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 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, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal;

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

Community Concerns: No residents were in attendance.

Review & approve the minutes from Regular Meeting June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Motion by Rodman, seconded by Leslie to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried.

Review & approved the June Claims to date: Otten Exteriors, \$59,480.00, shingles on city owned buildings, Fuller Paving, \$26,072.20, Patch Work; Pipestone County Sheriff, \$3,606.75, Radios (Reimbursed from Rural Fire Dept.); Meulebroeck Taubert & Co., \$5,375.00, Audit;

Receipts: \$84,345.27 Pipestone County Auditor, June 2015 Distribution; Rock County \$39,032.88, Property Tax Revenue

Quarterly Reports were included for council review. The budget will be prepared next month.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Damman to approve the June claims & receipts. All ayes, motion carried.

Delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage account report: A beneficiary of a property called stating that she should no longer receive a bill as water at the property was disconnected. The property is still maintaining the minimum charge of \$54.99 monthly. Lingen will no longer send the beneficiary a bill as it will just be put on the taxes at the end of November. Another resident moved out of town without paying their bill. Kounkel spoke with the landlord and he stated it was a "blessing" the resident moved out. The landlord will cover the bill. Another property on the delinquent report was sold. The bill will be taken care of at the time of the sale in August. Another resident skipped town AGAIN for the fourth time, leaving behind a delinquent bill. We do have the deposit to cover a portion of the bill but not entirely.

New Business:

-Chapter 3 Ordinances were reviewed. Section 3.22 still pertains to the current meters. Section 3.67, Subd. 1 states "The City Council shall establish a bag system to create a more fair and equitable means to ensure that residential households shall pay only for the actual amount of garbage they generate". The word "bag" will be taken out and replaced with the word "totes". Kounkel will rewrite this portion and present it to the council at the meeting in August. Chapter 4 Ordinances will also be reviewed in August.

-The term "commercial vehicle" was addressed. Section 8.17, Subd. 2, states "It is unlawful to park a truck or commercial vehicle of more than one ton capacity..." A resident got around the ordinance a

couple of months ago by placing a private plate on his vehicle. The term "commercial vehicle" will be depleted from the Ordinance as this can and will lead to more issues in the future. Kounkel will consult with Ben Denton on how to cover Section 8.17, Subd. 2, keeping large vehicles off the streets.

-A letter from Paul Fox was presented to the council. Fox is requesting permission to purchase nine cemetery lots owned by the descendants of Charlie Cook that remain without use since their purchase in 1918.

-Resolution #15-195 was presented to the council for approval. Resolution #15-195 authorizes the City of Jasper to adopt a policy to re-vest itself with title to cemetery lots that were conveyed but not used for the purpose of burial for more than 60 years. MN State Statute 306.242 authorizes this, with a 60 year cap. In order to re-vest the title, the City is required to post a notice in the newspaper for 3 weeks stating the cemetery plots will be re-vested by the City. After the 3 weeks, the City is required to send a letter to the plot owners, at their last known address. Motioned by Damman to adopt Resolution #15-195, seconded by Rodman, all ayes, motion carried. Kounkel will place a notice in the newspaper. Lingen will contact Fox and tell him his request is in the works.

-Two nuisance properties were discussed. Parcel # R17.200.0830 has made no progress towards cleaning up the property. Motioned by Damman to declare Parcel # R17.200.0830 a nuisance, seconded by Leslie, all ayes, motion carried. Parcel #R17.200.1350 has made no progress towards cleaning up the property either. Motioned by Damman to declare #R17.200.0830 a nuisance, seconded by Rodman, all ayes, motion carried. Kounkel will advise Ben Denton of the council's decision. Denton will then bring a criminal complaint against the two property owners and try to contact them prior to the hearing. Denton will encourage them to clean up their property within 30 days to avoid any further violations. If they clean up the area the complaint will be dismissed. If they do not clean up the property by the time of the hearing, Denton will take further steps towards getting a court order allowing the City to come onto their property and clean it up.

-Measure by Design's estimate for Mylar window coverings was accepted by the Council. Damman will inform Measure by Design of the council's decision and would like for the Mylar to be installed by July 31<sup>st</sup> at the very latest. The carpet will be installed this week by Pipestone Interiors. The painting is completed. Four coats of orange paint were needed. Ole's Lock and Key quoted a door lock system that accepts card at \$1599. Another lock system was \$1000 more and would require a computer to be on site. Both quotes stated that the cards would have to be purchased separately. Security cameras and televisions are still needed. Kounkel will get phone and cable services hooked up. A lease will also need to be drawn up between the City of Jasper and Brian Persing who is leasing us the space. Council agreed upon membership pricing; \$35 for single membership, \$30 per person for couple membership, any membership including 3 or more persons will be \$25 per person. Members will have to pay a one-time \$10 fee for their card. A replacement card will also cost \$10. The Wellness Center will offer tours during the Quartziter Days. On Saturday, August 1, the Wellness Center will be open from 8am-10am and again from 2pm-4pm. The Wellness Center Committee will also be participating in the Quartziter Parade by entering a float. Damman motioned to approve the services from and payments to Measure by Design (1/2 down), Melanie Hildebrandt, The Paintin' Place and Ole's Lock and Key, Rodman seconded, all ayes, motion carried. Damman also motioned to accept the official name of "Jasper Wellness Center", Johnson seconded, all ayes, motion carried.

-Future updates to the City Park shelter were discussed. Rodman would like to see a new shelter by 2018. She suggested putting together a committee to find additional funding and look into engineering. Looking into grants is also an option. Rodman will get the word out. The water tile is still an ongoing issue at the park. It needs to be perforated to drain the water as tree roots are the cause of the issue.

#### Old Business:

-The removal of the sidewalk at 221 8<sup>th</sup> St. East was discussed. Leslie mentioned that he would hate to see it all go because the rest of the entire block has sidewalks. Pipestone does have a sidewalk replacement program and will support the residents with the cost of replacement, 50/50. Edgerton does not offer this type of incentive to its residents. Cement cost \$4-\$5 per square foot so therefore a 500ft lot would cost approximately \$1000 to have their sidewalk replaced. There is hope that this will encourage people who do not have sidewalks to put them in. The City will assist homeowners up to \$2.50 per square foot. Resident's requesting assistance with the replacement will have a specific form to fill out. Kounkel will type up a sidewalk replacement program and present it to the council for approval at the next meeting. For now, the request to remove the sidewalk at 221 8<sup>th</sup> St. E was denied as the program gives the homeowner an incentive to replace it. Motioned by Damman to deny the sidewalk removal request, seconded by Leslie, all ayes, motion carried.

-Kounkel informed the council that the Baptist Church has stated that they will allow Brian's 19<sup>th</sup> Hole BBQ Pit to furnish alcoholic beverages. Pastor Stickmeyer will be sending a letter to the City stating that the Baptist Church does not condone the consumption of alcohol but would not press charges against Brian's business if he did chose to furnish it.

#### PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

-Two land use permits were authorized. Lyle Gillen will be putting in a small deck. Lee Brown installed a temporary ramp at his mother's home.

-The seal coat will be completed the beginning of August. Double D Gravel will be supplying 500 yards of pea rock while Dick Ryder will provide 700 yards.

-The culvert on the north side of town will be put in this week.

-Terry Skyberg's bid for the cement box of \$825 for the area in back of Carolyn DeJongh's house was accepted. This does not include the grate to go over the top. It was also mentioned that the cement pad for the generator at the Emergency Services Building could be poured at the same time.

#### ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

-Lingen stated Tony McMann is interested in putting his mother's cremains on his grandparents grave. Lingen indicated that the parents are not cremated so was inquiring if this was okay. Thode can go out and probe the gravesite. Approval was granted to place the cremains with the parents under the condition that at least 2 feet of dirt is on top and a flat stone is placed. Motioned by Leslie, seconded by Rodman, all ayes, motion carried.

-Another party is interested in selling their parcels as their mother is buried on top of her first husband and no longer needs the plots.

-A flyer for the Jasper Quartziter Days was presented to the council. Kounkel may contact Peoples Bank and get an updated version as some things have changed. The EMS Rollover Simulator will be displayed during the celebration as well.

-The 2015 Audit will be published in the Jasper Journal in the coming weeks.

-The Local Board of Appeal & Equalization online training is now available. Kounkel will forward this information to all council members.

Next council meeting is August 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m. Budget meeting is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 p.m.

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

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Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

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Mike Baustian, Mayor