

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – September 8, 2015

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, September 8th, 2015 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Pete Johnson, Karen Damman & Jeff Leslie; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Jen Burris; Absent: Lisa Rodman;

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 August 11th, 2015. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Damman to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried;

Review & approve the minutes from the Special Budget Meeting August 18th, 2015. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Leslie to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried;

Review & approved the August Claims to date: Ruitter Gravel, Pea Rock, \$9400.83; M&H Communications, Install Armer Radio & Antenna, 10 Pagers, \$4794.00; Mayor Baustian noted the payment to MN Unemployment, Kounkel explained that the City is a reimbursable company so all funds paid out to this individual will be reimbursed; Motion by Leslie to approve the August claims, seconded by Damman, all ayes, motion carried;

Receipts: Quartziter Club, 2015 Proceeds, \$8,472.77; Jasper Rural Fire Dept., ½ EMS Pymt, \$6349.00; SW/WC Service Cooperative, Insurance Settlement, \$7333.98, Jasper Sunrise, Audit Reimb, \$1612.50;

Delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage account report:

-One account on the delinquent report paid their bill in full, no longer in arrears;

-Payment will be dropped off this evening for a house that has sold;

-One account provided a check for payment but the check was returned as it was deemed "unauthorized". Lingen contacted the bank and discovered that all checks need to be authorized by the account holder prior to disbursements. Lingen then went over usage at the property and questioned whether anyone is staying there as the water has been turned off for a week now with no contact from the resident. It was clarified by Leslie that this resident works overnights in Pipestone, hence the small water usage;

-Lingen presented the United Fund budget to the Council. Duane Hassing mentioned the Pipestone Boy Scouts would be interested in helping out again this year. The ALS Foundation was removed from the budget as Lingen received the checks back 3 previous times;

New Business:

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

-Chapter 5 Ordinances will be reviewed at the Council Meeting in October due to a Council Member being absent.

-Wellness Center Updates

-The Council mentioned the proposal of allowing outside vendors to display products in the Wellness Center. The Council feels that if they allow one person to display items in the Wellness Center, everyone will want to. The idea is to keep the Wellness Center as clean and free of clutter as much as possible. Request for outside vendors denied;

-Kounkel presented the Council with the Vanco Monthly Agreement. Vanco is used to enter participating member's monthly workouts for insurance reimbursement purposes. The monthly fee is \$5.00 with a \$1.50 fee for each new participating member;

-Several people have been inquiring whether the Jasper Fire Dept, Ambulance, Council, City Employees and Sunrise employees will receive a discount when they purchase a Wellness Center Membership. Given that these people are covered under the City's Worker's Comp Premium, the Council has decided to offer each entity a 50% discount on their Wellness Center Memberships. Membership card prices will remain the same;

-Wellness Center Members have been inquiring about daily memberships for visitors. The Council looked at the price of daily memberships at other fitness clubs and decided a daily membership will cost \$5.00, a \$10.00 deposit will be retained to ensure the membership card is returned;

-FYI: 2016 PERA Aid form presented to council;

-2016 Proposed Levy for 2016 Budget will be discussed at Budget Meeting September 15;

-Insurance Premiums down 2%. Kounkel will have the figures for the September 15 meeting;

-Notice for auction on October 27th @ 10:00 a.m. for Parcel # 17.600.1620 presented. A person stopped into the City Office inquiring about the property. Interested party would like to put a trailer house on the land if he has the highest bid at the auction. The sewer line is hooked up but Thode was unsure if the water was cut off at the street;

-FYI: Annual Fire Inspection Reports for Jasper Sunrise Village presented to the council;

Old Business:

-The final Sidewalk Replacement Program presented. The Council wishes to exclude the number of estimates a resident's should obtain. One of the stipulations of the program was for the property owner to obtain a permit. Thode would like this excluded from the program as property owners do not need a permit for replacement of their sidewalk. Motion by Damman to approve the sidewalk policy with the above mentioned items removed, seconded by Leslie, all ayes, motion carried;

-Kounkel gave the Council an update on the property nuisances. Kounkel spoke with Ben Denton who states the complaints have been signed by the Sheriff Vreeman and are awaiting the Court Administrator to process the complaints;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

-The Council was presented with Ben Denton's recommendation for City Code Section 8.17, Subd. 2. Denton recommended striking the phrase "truck or commercial vehicle" and replacing it with "motor vehicle with a manufacturer's specified curb weight of greater than 19,500 pounds". The Council would like to know what type of vehicle he is referring to as many tractors, etc. fall under 19,500 lbs. and what is meant by manufacturer's specified weight. Baustian will weigh a truck for reference and Kounkel will obtain more information from Denton regarding his recommendation;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

-No land use permits were issued during the month of August. However, Thode presented the Council with blueprints of a potential new building in Jasper. Hi-Fat Specialties would like to construct a bag storage building where the old Jasper Motors building sits. Hi-Fat plans on removing the current building and construction one with four 14x14 doors, 18' walls, 80'W x 150'L. Thode referenced the Zoning Ordinance and did not find any issue with Hi-Fats proposal. The building permit will be issued once Thode signs off on it;

-There is excess pea rock from the sealcoating project that the City would like to sell. Recommended selling the pea rock for \$10 per yard;

-Thode mentioned he would like to use the pea rock at the parks in place of the wood chips. One of the stipulations of the DNR grant was to have the wood chips. However, the wood chips are very costly and need to be replaced every couple of years. This would help decrease the cost of park maintenance. Kounkel will look into the grant stipulations and see if placing pea rock is even possible;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

Upcoming Meetings: September 15, 2015 for final budget meeting;

Damman motioned to adjourn, Leslie seconded. All ayes, meeting adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor