

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – October 13, 2015

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, October 13th, 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, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *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 September 8th, 2015. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Damman to approve the minutes. All ayes, motion carried;

Review & approve the minutes from the Special Budget Meeting September 15th, 2015. Motion by Rodman, seconded by Damman to approve the minutes, all ayes, motion carried;

Review & approved the September Claims to date: Olsen Electric, Wellness Center Wiring, \$1,314.95; Randy's Pumping Service, Port-a-pots, \$1,225.00 (Annual payment amount. Port-a-pot at the ballfields will stay year round due to the difficulty of moving. Will be winterized); Caldwell Asphalt, Sealcoating, \$121,659.77; Mike Baustian, Exercise Equipment/Humidifier, \$5,864.04; LMC, Municipality Insurance, \$28,858.00; Motion by Rodman to approve the September claims, seconded by Johnson, all ayes, motion carried;

Receipts: LMC, Reimb. Loss on Buildings, \$59,480.00; Peoples Bank Transfer (MM Seal Coat Fund) \$100,000.00; Motion by Johnson to approve the September receipts, seconded by Leslie, all ayes, motion carried;

Quarterly reports were included for the council to review.

Delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage account report:

-One account on the list has been sold so hopefully the arrears will be taken care of soon.

-The Cold Weather rule goes into effect October 15, 2015. One resident has been disconnected since the end of August. Uncertain whether this resident will come in and pay to have services reinstated. There has been little to no activity at the property so unsure if it is even occupied at this time;

-Council member Leslie was approached by a homeowner stating he was not happy with the way a water leak at his residence was handled during the 2013-2014 winter. The main had frozen and once it was unfrozen, a pipe burst in the basement of the resident. The water was still running through the meter located at the residence. Therefore it was the homeowner's issue, not the Cities. The Council also mentioned that the complaint should have been addressed at the time of the incident, not 2 years later;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

-Notices will be going out with Octobers SWG bills to residents on the delinquent list stating amount due will be put on the real estate taxes as of November 30, 2015 if account is not brought up to date. Lingen mentioned the long range accounts will most likely be put on the taxes;

New Business:

-Chapter 5 Ordinances were reviewed. Keep as written. Chapter 6 Ordinances will be reviewed at the Council meeting in November;

-Wellness Center Updates

-53 active members as of 10-13-15;

-Kounkel requested the purchase of a new vacuum for the Wellness Center. It would be ideal to have one that will be able to go under the machines for cleaning. The Wellness Center is currently sharing a vacuum with the City Office. Lingen also mentioned that the one in the City Office is pretty old and does not pick up dirt as it should. The Shark Rocket swivels and is small enough to get under the workout machines. Kounkel priced these at \$159.00 each from Walmart. Motioned by Leslie to purchase 2 new Shark Rocket vacuums, one for the Wellness Center and one for the City Office, seconded by Damman, all ayes, motion carried. Damman offered to pick up the vacuums in Sioux Falls once they are ordered.

-Citizen requesting dog waste stations be placed around town to defer people from leaving their animal waste in public places such as the ballfields. Kounkel looked at the pricing of said dog waste stations. The minimum price was approximately \$150.00 and did not include the required disposal bags. The question is will people use it? Johnson recited City Code Ordinance No. 91 "No animal shall be allowed to trespass onto private property without the express permission of the property owner. If the animal conducts bowel elimination during any such exercise walk, the person controlling the dog must immediately pick up and remove said bowel movement and dispose of it in a covered garbage container located where the animal resides." The Council opted to not purchase dog waste stations but will post signs at the parks reminding people to clean up after their animals;

-Issues with the Yard Waste key were discussed. Some residents do not return the key in a timely matter. This limits the amount of keys available to other residents wanting to use the site. Kounkel has called Thode on multiple occasions requesting he unlocks the gate for the day. People should be returning the key within 24 hours, if not immediately, unless other arrangements are made or if they keep the key over the weekend. Leslie motioned to have the key back within 24 hours or right away Monday morning if the key is checked out over the weekend or a \$5.00 charge per day will be added to the person's water bill. Johnson seconded, all ayes, motion carried;

-Another complaint was received regarding the wetland area in West Jasper. Kounkel presented the Council with a reference letter regarding the area that was mailed out to concerned citizens in 2014. Kounkel wanted to make the council aware of the issue in case they get approached. Thode mentioned that the Council had previously discussed burning the area down but it was too dry to complete at that time. The Council commented that the area across the road is looking very good. The horses have mowed down most of the weeds and a vegetable stand was even placed;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Old Business:

-Kounkel presented the Council with a diagram from where Ben Denton received his information for his recommendations for City Code Section 8.17, Subd. 2. The Council reviewed the chart and recommended we place restrictions on anything more than a Class 3-with more than 2 axles. Kounkel will recommend this to Denton and go from there;

-Kounkel updated the Council on the two property nuisances. The property owners will return to Court on Tuesday, November 10th @ 9:30 a.m. to stand before the judge and notify him why the property has not been cleaned up to the satisfaction of the Council. If the property owners do succeed at getting their property cleaned up to the satisfaction of the Council, the charges will ultimately be dropped. One of the property owners plans to be at the Council Meeting in November to discuss concerns;

-Laying pea rock versus wood mulch at the City Park was discussed. Kounkel contacted Dave Leppers with Playground Equipment. Leppers stated wood and rubber mulch is in compliance with the ADA. Kounkel received pricing on both from Leppers. Kounkel and Thode will look into this more for future Council meetings;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

-Land use permits were issued to Farm & Home Management for the bag storage warehouse (called in a locate but unsure on projected start date), Brandon Pribyl for a storage shed, Brian Thode for a storage shed and Trinidad Garcia for a chicken coup at the horse area in West Jasper;

-Thode and DeSchepper are about 75% done jetting the sewer lines. 2nd, 3rd & 6th Streets is still to be completed;

-Thode mentioned Jeff Engers sewer line was partially plugged after the jetting. There was a blockage on the outside and the jetter could have sucked it enough to open it up. It is also typical for the toilet or a sink to gargle/burp up water while the flushing is taking place. Stout & Evink were called to roto-rooter the line. This blockage could be a result of bad timing;

-Thode priced a different snow sweeper as the current one just rolls over about 2" to 3" inches of snow causing workers to go back and clear the area again. It is a waste of time going over the same spot twice. The sweeper is also 5 years old. Dave's Repair has a John Deere, 68" wide, priced at \$5130.00. Dave's Repair will allow \$1500.00 trade in value on the old one. Thode will obtain another bid from Sioux Falls and will go with the cheaper of the two. Motion by Johnson to order cheapest snow sweeper after another bid is obtained, Damman seconded, all ayes, motion carried;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

-The Rock/Nobles Community Corrections is offering community services such as painting, landscaping, etc. The City used this type of service a few years back when demolishing a house. The question was raised if this only covers Rock County or if Pipestone County would also be included. Kounkel will contact RNCC to clarify;

-The Council was presented with a campground appreciation letter;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

-Lingen mentioned the local Boy Scouts are hand delivering the United Fund letters on Monday, October 19. She would like to offer the Boy Scouts \$100.00 for their service as it would originally cost \$150.00 to mail all the letters out through the Post Office;

-For the United Fund contribution to the Pipestone County Food Shelf, Dennis Evans offered to package meat bundles in lieu of money;

-Baustian asked Lingen how the cemetery revesting project was going. Lingen informed the Council that this will be a "winter project" once things start to settle down in the office;

-Leslie mentioned the Jasper Fire Dept. had their meeting. There are a few individuals who are interested in joining. Certification will now require 440 hours of training and a fee of \$1250.00 per person. Leslie is hoping that the individuals stick with it so money and time is not wasted. It has been a difficult task finding new recruits;

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

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor