

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – April 11, 2017

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in said city, April 11, 2017 at the Jasper City Office. Council members present: Mayor, Mike Baustian, Kim Lape, Pete Johnson & Karen Damman; Employees present; Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Stella Lingen, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; *Jasper Journal's* Kyle Kuphal; Community members: Jim Drown (CHS), Chuck Miller (CHS), Jacob Bailey (CHS), Jack Jacobson, Brian Sievert & Mark Sievert; Planning Commission Members: Jerry Tower, Duane DeCroock, Kurt Jandl; Jeff Leslie (absent);

Mayor Baustian called the meeting to order 7:00 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance;

Community Concerns:

Brian & Mark Sievert were present to address the council regarding the alley located behind their new storage building. The gravel in the alley is very soft. Paving or laying concrete in the alley would help solve this issue. The concrete/tar will have to be able to bear the weight of large semi-trucks. Thode mentioned that the eave spouts coming from the new storage building are causing the alley to wash out. Hi-Fat is interested in cost sharing with the city. Mayor Baustian thanked the Hi-Fat individuals for investing in Jasper. Bids will be obtained when the city paves the other alleys;

Motion by Damman, second by Johnson to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting on March 14, 2017, all ayes;

Review and approve the March Claims to date: Olsen Electric, Generator Hookup & Emergency Light, \$3,548.39; Tinklenberg Lumber & Hardware, Lumber/Soffit Trim, \$1,225.45; Display Sales, Season's Greetings Christmas Décor, \$1,607.00; League of MN Cities, Worker's Comp Coverage, \$17,567.00; St. Joseph's, Property Transaction, \$11,500.00; Motion by Johnson, second by Damman to accept the February claims to date, all ayes;

Receipts noted: MN Management & Budget, Fire State Aid/Fines, \$18,707.87;

Lingen presented the SWG Delinquent Report to the Council. Delinquent accounts not paid by Friday, April 14, 2017 @ 9:00 p.m. will be disconnected on Monday, April 17. Green notices will not be placed on doors as notice was given in the Newsletter and highlighted on the delinquent accounts bill. Question was raised whether disconnection of services would still occur if the resident is making payments on the bill;

Public Hearing was opened at 7:15 p.m. regarding the request by CHS-Eastern Farmers to vacate the south on hundred fifty (150) feet of Burr Avenue between Lot1 of Block 14, Rose Dell Addition and Lot 6 of Block 15, Rose Dell Addition. The Planning Commission had a few questions regarding the accessibility of reaching the elevator in an event of a fire. Either way, the fire department will respond but may not be in as timely of manner as before as the firetrucks will have to find an alternative route. The Planning Commission members recommended the approval of the street vacation to the city council. Motion by Damman, second by Johnson to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation, all ayes, carried;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

The Public Hearing regarding the amended of the City Code pertaining to junk vehicles was opened at 7:30 p.m. Jack Jacobson approached the Council on his beliefs regarding the amendment. Jacobson feels that we would be prohibiting life-changing hobbies for some people and would like the council to ponder that idea before making a decision. Motion by Lape, second by Damman to amend the City Code, Chapter 9, Section 9.41 titled JUNK CARS, FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS AND APPLIANCES STORED ON PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY; prohibiting the tarping of inoperable vehicles. If an operable vehicle will be tarped for an extended period of time, the city will have to be notified. All ayes, carried;

Wellness Center:

A specific amount to be spent on equipment for the Wellness Center was established. Motion for \$3,000.00 by Damman, second by Lape, all ayes;

-Tanya Witte would like to do Chair Dance Classes at the Catholic Church. Kounkel will speak to Sunrise as the residents would benefit from these classes;

-Brian Persing has requested that the Wellness Center stay at its current location until August 2017. The request is due to the fact that Persing will be having back surgery in the near future and the rent would greatly help him out. The council was unanimous in deciding that the Wellness Center would be moved as soon as the new area is completed;

CATHOLIC CHURCH:

-The Superintendent and Elementary Principal from Pipestone Area Schools will be touring the Catholic Church classrooms and they are interested in possibly putting a preschool in town;

-Renaming of the Catholic Church was discussed. It was decided to hold a contest to rename the church as a way to get the community involved. The contest will be open until May 31st and the winner will receive a free membership. The Wellness Center committee will then vote on the name change;

-The rental fee for the Fellowship Hall was established, Due to the size the rental fee will be \$50.00. Alcohol will not be served at this location;

The League of MN Cities will be coming down to appraise the church. Date not yet established;

NEW BUSINESS:

The yard waste program has begun. It was decided to offer the residents a free yard waste tag per property;

Children have begun signing up for Swimming Lessons. Brooke Thode has offered to chaperon on the bus;

A community rummage was suggested. It would be a good way to offer the community an additional way to get rid of junk. Memorial Hall will be offered on May 6th for anyone interested in the having a rummage;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

The ESB has been selected for the Made in Minnesota Solar Incentive Program. No other information is available at this time;

OLD BUSINESS:

The parcel nuisance consent form was presented to the Council. The city will have the option to clean up the property as of May 5, 2017;

Mail in ballots was also discussed. This will continue to be on the agenda later this summer;

LPRW Rate Increase Resolution was presented;

The request from the Quartziter Club to close down the street during Quartziter Days was tabled until the next meeting;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

No land use permits were issued in March;

Rubber mats under the swings was discussed. Thode received pricing on these. Recommended to purchase new mats for under the swings and by the play area;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

The May Council meeting will be rescheduled to Wednesday, May 17, 2017 as schedules were conflicting;

The City of Ihlen has requested that Jasper sprays for mosquitos there again this year. Thode saw no issue with this;

Angel Garcia, Bryce Petersen and Todd Pieper would like to join the Jasper Fire Department;

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Drive-Through, Wednesday, April 12, 2017 @ 5:30 p.m.;

Board of Appeal & Equalization is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.;

Damman motioned to adjourn, Lape second. All ayes, meeting adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.