

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – July 12 2022;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in-person in said city on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. Council members present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Kim Lape, Dee Arp, Brian Sievert and Jeff Leslie; Employees present: Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Maggie Erickson, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; Pipestone Star's Kyle Kuphal; Community Members: Dale McClure, Deb Childers, Thomas Haag, Jay Eggerud, Jerry Tower, Deb Plahn, Tim Houg and Doris Mead;

Mayor Baustian called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

The City of Jasper held a Public Hearing regarding setting up a sewer maintenance fund in order to reline the clay sewer pipes located within the community. In order for the City to bond out the services, we will need to evaluate other debt incurred by the City at the budget meeting in August. Kounkel provided the Council with documentation proving the outstanding indebtedness. It was questioned whether the City would be able to receive grant funding for this type of work. Thode explained that MPCA will push for the "biggest sinner" and provide grants to those communities before they worry about our community wanted to do preventative measures for the future. Mayor Baustian closed the public hearing as the council will evaluate the debt at the budget meeting in August;

Mayor Baustian then called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.;

Community Concerns:

The inspection report for Stonewall Bar & Grill was again presented for the Council to review as 1 year has passed. Per the architecture assessment, the buildings lifespan in its current condition was 1-2 years. Kyley Mills, Stonewall Bar & Grill owner, was asked to attend the June meeting to update the Council on the condition of the bar in its current state. Mills was unable to attend the meeting. Mills was invited to the July meeting but was again unable to attend. A message from Mills was read to the Council by Kounkel as follows: Building plans are on hold right now as everything is so expensive. Mills has not noticed any movement on the building. Community members in attendance spoke up regarding the message from Mills. They stated the building was an embarrassment to anyone inside or outside of the building due to lack of repairs. The Jasper Lion's Club member, Deb Plahn stated that the proceeds from the pull tabs at Stonewall Bar & Grill go back into the community and surrounding areas. If Stonewall Bar & Grill closes, the Lion's Club would lose all of their revenue. A community member questioned whether the Jasper Development Corporation would building a bar and advertise for someone to take it over. Construction could start this fall. Community members would like someone who would be proactive and promote the community. Questions were raised why others would finance someone who doesn't care about the building or the community. Other community members stated that the bar, in its current condition, would cost more to repair than build a new building. Discussion whether a kitchen would be needed in the new building occurred. A community member then questioned whether the city was able to revoke Stonewall Bar & Grills liquor license. The current license runs until January 31, 2023. Community members suggested only issuing the liquor license from Feb. 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023. Mayor Baustian questioned the community members in attendance whether the community would be willing to subsidize this. The response was no. Other community members questioned

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

whether the city could deem the building a public nuisance due to safety issues. Kounkel then asked the discussion to stop as Mills should be present for this discussion. Kounkel will be persistent that Mills attend the August Council Meeting;

Thomas Haag is running for District 2 County Commissioner. He was present to introduce himself to the Council. Haag has lived in Pipestone County since 2014. He worked as a criminal investigator for the Pipestone County Sheriff's Department until he retired in March 2021. He has worked at Pipestone Systems and Chandler Coop. Haag sat on a City Council for 4 years, a member of the Pipestone Lion's Club and the Pipestone Sportsman Club. Haag would greatly appreciate votes at the August 9 Primary Election;

Motion by Lape, second by Arp to approve the minutes from the June 14, 2022 Council Meeting, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the June claims to date: Jandl Construction, QCC Windows, \$10,124.28; Motion by Lape, seconded by Sievert to approve the June claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted in May: Jasper Rura! Fire Truck, Reimb ½ 2021 Expenses, \$16,530.87; Pipestone Co. Treasurer, 6/22 Distribution, \$70,665.96;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

A brief discussion regarding the delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage accounts occurred;

Wellness Center/QCC: The fence for the daycare has been ordered by Hougs. Jandl Construction has replaced the overhead windows. No leaks have occurred since the replacement;

NEW BUSINESS:

The Minnesota's Water Assistance Program form was presented to Council. This is an organization that can help residents with their SWG bills;

The Jasper Letters at the Boy Scout Display near the intersection of Hwy. 23 & 269 are in dire need of replacement. The letters have been angled up in previous years to help defer water from rotting the wood. Unfortunately, the letters are made from particle board and have far exceeded their life span. Discussion regarding a Daktronics sign or another Quartzite rock could replace the current letters. The rock would require no maintenance. The Daktronics sign could post local community events. Lions Club members present stated they would put money towards the sign. The current letters will be removed prior to Quartziter Days;

The Jasper Lions Club refurbished the Marilyn DeBates Park Sign;

Concrete has been poured for the pickleball court and playground bouncers. The concrete in front of the bandstand has not been completed yet. Thode will talk with Jandl Construction and see if this is a project they would be willing to do.

Pipestone County Highway Department has surplus equipment for sale. The advertisement was shown to Council. Nothing is needed for the City as of this time;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kounkel has been in contact with Ashley Kurtz, Rock County Auditor, regarding the tax forfeited property located in Rock County. Kurtz is working on getting the deed switched over to the City of Jasper. Kurtz stated that the City could proceed with the demolition of the trailer house. A sealed bid notice will be placed in the Pipestone Star for the sale of the garage on the property. The buyer will be responsible for moving the garage from the property. A special meeting will be called in order to open the seal bids;

Fall Clean-Up Days were scheduled for Saturday, September 17 from 8a-2p;

The Luverne Area Community Foundation – Max Your Community was again discussed. Ideas received at the City Office were as follows:

- Daktronics Sign;
- Ballfield Park Equipment
- Ballfield Benches;
- Lighting for Basketball/Volleyball Court at City Park;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

The following land use permits were issued in June: Todd Drake, 401 Main Ave N, Remove Chicken Coop, Reuben Leslie, 100 8th Street East, Add to Deck; Shelby Mickey, 312 4th Street East, Build 10' x 12' Shed;

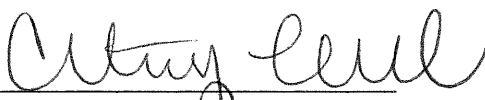
Thode received information regarding placing Calcium Chloride on the gravel road in West Jasper and at the ballfields. The chemical costs approximately \$1.00 per foot. Dell Rapids Materials would charge approximately \$3,000.00 to complete both roads. Thode received another bid from Greenhoff stating that he would charge anywhere from \$1,000 to \$1,500 to complete the same roads. Greenhoff has a manmade sprayer and will have to use the City's loader to apply the chemical. Motion by Lape, seconded by Arp to approve the calcium chloride placement, all ayes, carried;

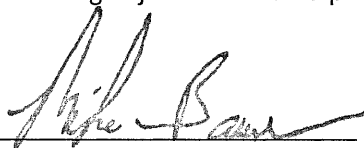
ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.;

Lape motioned to adjourn, Arp seconded. All ayes, regular meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.;


Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer


Mike Baustian, Mayor