

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting January 16, 2008

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Fox presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Jan Parkin, Jackie Opperman, Norm Rizer, and Troy Stover.

There was one person who contacted City Hall about the appointment to fill the vacancy created by Dale Fox being elected Mayor. Jackie Opperman moved to appoint Al Friederich to fill this vacancy. Jan Parkin seconded the motion. (Addition: All voted in favor and motion passed) Al Friederich accepted the appointment and was given the oath of office by the City Clerk. A citizen presented a petition with the needed number of signatures to hold a special election. The City Clerk will contact the auditor's office to proceed with the special election. At this time the City Clerk also gave the oath of office to the new police officer, Matt Moser.

Norm Rizer moved to accept the consent agenda with the following changes to the minutes: Victorian hand fans to replace Victorian fans. Also the addition of the cost is \$1.00 per fan with a retail cost of \$10.00 per fan. Troy seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

The lease between the City and Citizen's State Bank to place an antenna on the water tower was again reviewed. Citizen's State Bank reviewed the agreement and offered some changes to the agreement. The rent will remain at \$50.00 a month, but will be paid yearly or \$600.00. There were some other minor changes. The changes will be reviewed and made by the City Attorney and he will contact the bank with any questions.

INFORMATION

Council received the chamber newsletter, Strawberry's View Point, and the yearly police department report for the 2007 calendar year. The police report was produced from the new software that was purchased in 2007. They also received information from Clayton County Development Group requesting money for next fiscal year. They also received December month-end financial information and a reminder about the budget workshop.

NEW BUSINESS

A citizen addressed the council regarding his last utility bill. The citizen had a large water usage on his bill. The citizen discovered it was from his water softener, which this water does not go through the sewer. He has had this checked and repaired. He is requesting that the amount of his sewer charges be averaged for his current bill and for next month for the extra water. Friederich moved that we average his sewer consumption for the past five Decembers and Januarys and bill according to the average usage. Parkin seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Council reviewed Ordinance No. 08-01 An Ordinance Amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, to Change the Regular Meeting Time of City Council Meetings from 7:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. Stover moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 08-01. Opperman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rizer, Parkin, Stover, Friederich, and Opperman. Nays: None. First reading of Ordinance No. 08-01 passes. Rizer moved to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance No. 08-01. Friederich seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rizer, Parkin, Stover, and Friederich. Nays: Opperman. Ordinance No. 08-01 passes.

Council reviewed Ordinance No. 08-02 An Ordinance Amending the City Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, to Allow Temporary Change of Regular Meeting Time or Day of City Council Meetings. Opperman moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 08-02. Stover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Frederick, Stover, Parkin, Rizer, and Opperman. Nays: None. The first reading of Ordinance No. 08-02 passes. Rizer moved to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance No. 08-02. Friederich seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Rizer, Stover, and Friederich. Nays: Opperman. Ordinance No. 08-02 passes.

Council changed the date for the first meeting in February due to the first Wednesday being Ash Wednesday. Friederich moved to move the first meeting of February to February 5th instead of 6th at 6:00. Parkin seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Two utility customers have filed bankruptcy, which means we must write off amounts owed on their accounts. Parkin moved to write off the utility account due to bankruptcy in the amount of \$165.09 and \$242.55. Rizer seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Council reviewed Resolution No. 08-01 Accepting Work Covering the 2006 Street Rehabilitation Project. Norm Rizer moved to approve Resolution No. 08-01. Troy Stover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Rizer, Opperman, Friederich, Parkin, and Stover. Nays: None. Resolution No. 08-01 passes.

Council then reviewed Resolution No. 08-02, which Adopted the Final Assessment Schedule for the 2006 Street Rehabilitation Project and Amending, Confirming and Levying the Assessments. Included with this Resolution was setting the interest rate on the special assessments Opperman moved to charge 5% for annum on special assessments. Rizer seconded the motion. Ayes: Opperman, Rizer, Parkin, and Stover. Nays: Friederich. Resolution No. 08-02 passes.

The discussion on the Local Option Sales Tax and how the City portion is being divided was tabled until after the budget process.

The Fire Department is writing a grant for a new jaws of life. The grant does require a 5% match or \$1000 by the City. This money will come out of the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The new cutter that was purchased previously will be compatible with the new jaws. Parkin moved to set aside \$1000 in the budget for 2008-2009 for this match and that they write a grant through FEMA. Stover seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Council received a liquor license renewal for Bottoms Up Bar & Grill. Since the new council wants to follow all City Codes, City Code 35.03 states that all liquor license renewals should be forwarded to the Police Chief and the Fire Chief and reports should be submitted to council prior to approval. No action will be taken until the reports have been received. This process will be followed from here forward on liquor license renewals.

OTHER BUSINESS

Sidewalks in the downtown are showing signs of freezing and thawing. There was discussion regarding the City giving a donation to Economic Development for Victorian hand fans. Many citizens felt that the City should not be giving money that will benefit one business in town. The feeling is that the money will benefit the City as a whole by attracting more people to Strawberry Point. There is money that comes in from hotel/motel tax that is to be used for tourism, which is what the Victorian hand fans will promote.

The Fire Department has purchased a Fireman's Limited Edition Motorcycle and will be raffling it off. The money made will pay off the motorcycle and the rest will go towards a new fire rescue unit. Raffle tickets are \$20 a piece.

With no further business, Opperman moved to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Parkin seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Deanna Dement, City Clerk

Dale Fox, Mayors