

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting December 2, 2009

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Fox presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Jan Parkin, Norm Rizer, Troy Stover, Rich Newman and Jackie Opperman.

Newly elected council member Jacci Meyers and re-elected Mayor Dale Fox was administered the oath of office by City Administrator Deanna Dement.

Opperman moved to approve the agenda. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Rizer, Opperman, Stover and Newman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6) Minutes from November 4th
- 7) Claims

Stover moved to approve the consent agenda. Rizer seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Rizer, Parkin, Stover and Newman Nays: None. Consent agenda passes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council again discussed 2010 insurance renewal costs and employee contribution amounts. The recommended plan would be to keep the monthly premiums relatively the same as last year. The difference is in the deductible amount increasing from \$1500 to \$2000 for single and \$3000 to \$4000 for family. Rizer moved to approve the JNL Wellmark BC/BS plan that increases the deductible from \$1500 to \$2000 for single and \$3000 to \$4000 for family with a partial self funding in place up to 2 deductibles with the administration done in-house and the premiums remain relatively the same. Stover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stover, Parkin, Rizer, Opperman and Newman. Council then discussed the employee contribution for the insurance. Stover moved that the City contribute 94% and employees 6% towards insurance and we accept all renewal rates. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Rizer, Opperman and Newman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

INFORMATION

The Council received a letter from the City Attorney regarding the drainage obligation on Elm Street, Electric Study Committee minutes from November 18th and a thank you to Officer Johns.

NEW BUSINESS

The Strawberry Development Fund is requesting permission to purchase Lot 7 in the Industrial Park. A public hearing needs to be held to sell property. Opperman moved that we hold the public hearing on January 6, 2010 at 6:00 PM to sell this lot. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Rizer, Opperman and Newman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

The Starmont Food and Fitness would like to hold a mini triathlon on Saturday morning of Strawberry Days. They are requesting permission to use the pool for the triathlon and to close some roads for the running and biking part of it. It consists of a run, bike ride and then end with a swim. Opperman moved to approve the food and fitness triathlon on Saturday morning of Strawberry Days with permission to use the pool and the City supply lifeguards and work closely with the Police Chief and the DOT with closing the one lane of the highway. Newman seconded the motion. Ayes: Rizer, Parkin, Opperman, Stover and Newman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Council reviewed a Minimum Charge Utility Rule. This has been the unwritten rule of the Strawberry Point utility and now will be in writing. Stover moved that we approve the Minimum Charge Utility Rule. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stover, Parkin, Rizer, Opperman and Newman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council received a cost proposal of \$1020.00 for taking the trees out of the waterway at the City Farm. The City Superintendent has authorized this to be done for a cost not to exceed \$1020.00, since he has purchase power up to \$2000.

Council members received specific comments when doing the housing survey. One comment was that people speed on the side streets and the Police Department should watch this better. There were also comments regarding speeding on Elkader Street especially with the road conditions, since it makes the houses shake. Other comments were concerning utility rates and keeping the tax levy low.

OTHER BUSINESS

A sales representative from Elliott Equipment Co. stopped by with a demo of a leaf blower machine. There are numerous machines available. There is financing available so we won't have to pay for the entire machine all at once. With the purchase of this machine, we can eliminate open burning. The museum has limited funding and was wondering if the City could do the mowing for them. It is City property so we should be mowing this anyway. Council member Rizer was presented with a certification of appreciation for his 4 years of service. There will be no meeting on December 16th.

With no further business, Opperman moved to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Deanna Dement, City Clerk

Dale Fox, Mayor