

Strawberry Point City Council
Regular Meeting July 7, 2010

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, July 7, 2010 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 Troy Stover, Jackie Opperman, Jan Parkin, Jacci Meyers, and Rich Newman.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 4) Minutes from June 16th
- 5) Claims
- 6) Motion to approve the reappointment of Dave Nading & Dick Kepler to the Planning and Zoning Board
- 7) Motion to approve the Appointment of Cindy Hilsabeck and the reappointment of Susie Norberg to the Library Board

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Council reviewed the second reading of Ordinance No. 10-03-An Amendment to the Zoning Code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, to Define Height and Setback Requirements of a Fence. Stover moved to approve the second reading. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Meyers and Newman. Nays: Opperman. Second reading passes.

The wage and salary committee made wage recommendations to the City Council for FY 2011. A scoring system was used this year that directly correlated with their performance reviews. Wage recommendation was that anyone that scored 95% and above received a 2 % increase, 86-95% a 1.5% increase, and 75-85% a 1% increase. Dee, Liz and Jeff should receive a 1% increase and Mark, John and Bob should receive a 1.5% increase. Stover moved to approve the salary recommendations. Opperman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Newman and Opperman. Nays: Stover and Meyers. Motion passes.

INFORMATION

The council received an annual report from Strawberry Point Library, Strawberry Point Library Board minutes from June 29, Police Chief's notes, and Strawberry Point Ambulance Board minutes from April 21. Council also received a Thank You for Strawberry Days and a letter from the IDOT regarding banners along State Highways.

NEW BUSINESS

Council received information concerning a Northeast Iowa Regional Housing Trust Fund and a housing grant that is available to residents of Strawberry Point for housing rehabilitation. Darla Kelchen was present to discuss this with the council. This grant money goes to repair roofs, siding and windows. This grant includes a 5 year forgivable grant for those who qualify. If others fall into other income guidelines the program includes a 1 or 2 % loan. To qualify for the 1 or 2% loan, the home owner must show they have 10% match as equity in the home. This grant also applies for landlords for rental homes. The pledge letter is necessary at this time to state what the City would like to put toward the program. The city's who pledge will be the first to get the money. Newman moved to approve \$5000 on the pledge letter for the Northeast Iowa

Housing Trust Fund. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Stover, Meyers, Newman and Parkin. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed cost proposals from Trans Iowa Equipment for a new street sweeper. Another alternative would be contracting with Kluesner Construction from Farley for \$90 per hour. The charge would also include fuel and one man. Our town should take 4-5 hours and we can probably get by with once a month. It would be more cost effective to contract our streets to be cleaned rather than purchasing a street sweeper at this time. New street sweepers run anywhere from \$60,000-\$155,000. Kluesner can draw up a contract with the City for a 3-year lease agreement and this will be reviewed at a future council meeting.

Council reviewed 2 cost proposals for tree trimming of trees that are in the electric lines. One quote is from Asplundh Tree Expert Company for \$24,278.00 and the other is from S&S Tree Service for \$17,750. Trimming is necessary since the new lines will cause power outages if a branch falls on them. Troy moved that we accept the S&S bid for \$17,750 to be done in this fiscal year. Opperman seconded the motion. Ayes: Opperman, Meyers, Newman and Stover. Nays: None. Motion passes. Parkin abstained.

Council reviewed the lease agreement between the City and Northeast Iowa Community Action (Headstart). The monthly rent is currently \$500 a month, which was increased last year. Parkin moved to accept the lease agreement with the rent to stay at \$500 a month. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Meyers, Newman and Opperman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed a yard maintenance policy, which addresses grass and weeds that are not maintained. Stover moved to approve the policy with a change from lawns to grass and weeds. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Parkin, Stover, Meyers and Newman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed a grass clipping in city streets policy. Meyers moved to approve the policy. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Meyers, Newman and Opperman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

A person is requesting a pool party on July 10th from 6-7:00pm for a children's birthday party. Opperman moved to allow the pool party for a charge of \$50.00 and the City pays the lifeguards. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stover, Meyers, Newman, Opperman and Parkin. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council reviewed the lease agreement with The Body Shop Fitness & Rehab. Opperman moved to charge \$300 a month for one year. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Meyers, Newman, Opperman, Parkin and Stover. Nays: None. Motion passes.

A person would like to rent the Civic Center to hold Tae Kwon Do class. They would hold classes on Monday and Thursday nights. Parkin moved to approve this for \$120 a month and proof of insurance for one year. Stover seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Newman, Opperman, Parkin, Stover and Meyers. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council discussed timers on the lights at the ball field, since they have been left on again. Jeff will talk with the City electrician about this and report back to council.

The multi-purpose floor needs another coat of paint and sealer. It needs to set for 2 weeks once the paint and sealer is done. The materials will cost less than \$1000. Newman moved to approve the reapplication of paint and sealer. Meyers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Stover, Meyers and Newman. Nays: None. Parkin abstained. Motion passes.

The Mud Runners would like to hold another event July 24th at the Industrial Park. Stover moved to approve the event by the Mud Runners. Opperman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Meyers, Newman and Opperman. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Possibly changing the second meeting date was discussed since the clerk will be at school. After some discussion, the second meeting date will be Wednesday, July 21st which is the normal night. Liz will take minutes. If Liz is unable, the meeting will be held Tuesday, July 20th.

Council reviewed the early retirement application for Tim Smith, with his retirement date effective October 4, 2010. Stover moved to approve the early retirement application. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Stover, Meyers, Newman, Opperman and Parkin. Nays: None. Motion passes.

A cement retaining wall at Inger Park and the end of the grocery store parking lot is needed for the safety of the children playing at the park. Council reviewed 2 cost proposals. One was from Timmerman Construction for \$1,975 and one was from Swales Construction for \$2,330. Parkin moved to approve the Timmerman bid for \$1,975. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Meyers, Newman, Parkin and Stover. Nays: None. Opperman abstained.

With no further business, Opperman moved to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Newman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Deanna Dement, City Clerk

Dale Fox, Mayor