

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting November 2, 2011

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 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 McKenzie Johnson, Rich Newman, Jackie Opperman, Jacci Meyers, and Mike Tucker.

Mayor Fox opened the public hearing at 6:00PM regarding disposing of the alley located in Caroline Fults First Addition North of Fults Street and adjacent to Munter's First Addition. Mayor Fox asked if there had been any written or verbal objections or comments. Being none had been received the public hearing was closed at 6:01PM. The council then reviewed the first reading of Ordinance No. 11-09 An Ordinance to dispose of real estate described as the alley located in Caroline Fult's First Addition North of Fults Street and adjacent to Munter's First Addition in Strawberry Point, Clayton County, Iowa according to the recorded plat thereof. Newman moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 11-09. Meyers seconded the motion. Ayes: Meyers, Newman, Opperman, Tucker and Johnson. Nays: None. First reading passes.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- 4) Minutes from October 19<sup>th</sup>
- 5) Claims
- 6) Motion to approve the liquor license renewal for Bill's Quik Shop

Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda with the additional claims to Iowa Good Roads \$95.00, Strawberry Development Fund \$2595.72 and RPGI \$36017.98. Meyers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Tucker, Johnson, Meyers and Newman. Nays: None. Consent agenda passes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Council reviewed the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-06 – An amendment to the zoning code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, allowing convenience stores as a permitted principal uses and structures in R-3 zoning districts. Newman moved to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-06. Tucker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Tucker, Johnson, Meyers, Newman and Opperman. Nays: None. Ordinance No. 11-06 passes.

Council reviewed the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-07 – An amendment to the zoning code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, allowing signs for convenience stores as permitted signs in R-3 zoning districts. Opperman moved to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-07. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Meyers, Newman, Opperman and Tucker. Nays: None. Ordinance No. 11-07 passes.

Council reviewed the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-08 –An amendment to the zoning code of Strawberry Point, Iowa, establishing a definition for “convenience store”. Opperman moved to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 11-08. Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Meyers, Newman, Opperman, Tucker and Johnson. Nays: None. Ordinance No. 11-08 passes.

Council continued the discussion regarding increasing the water and electric **deposit** amounts. Council is thinking increasing the water deposit to \$50 and the electric deposit amount to \$150.00. The clerk will get an ordinance drafted for presentation at the next meeting.

### **INFORMATION**

Council received minutes from Electric Study Committee from October 13<sup>th</sup> and information on the storm sewer on East Elm Street.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The council reviewed possibly writing a grant for a First Time Homebuyer Program through Iowa Finance Authority. The money can be used for a down payment on a home. The grant writing fee will be \$1500. Applications are due in February. Council needs to decide on how many homes to apply for and how much match to set aside. Most cities are matching \$1000 per home. Upper Explorerland is looking to see if the City is interested in them writing this type of grant. People must live in the home for 10 years. If they leave prior to 10 years, the money paid is paid back to Iowa Finance Authority. The council will review this and make a decision at the next meeting.

It is time to review changing our insurance agent of record since the three years are up. It has been common practice that we stay with an insurance agent for 3 years. We had been with Zwanziger Agency for the past 3 years. Council requested a list who had been the insurance agent for the City for the past 15 years. Tucker moved that we switch the agent of record to Smith Insurance for 3 years. Newman seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Newman, Tucker and Meyers. Nays: Opperman and Johnson. Motion passes.

The City is requesting permission to write the Derelict Building Program Grant to assist with renovating a downtown business. Opperman moved to write this grant. Meyers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was Ayes: Tucker, Meyers, Opperman, Newman and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council discussed offering the Holiday lighting rebate again this year. With the rebate participating customers receive a \$15.00 credit on their February utility bill. A property must have at least 200 lights. Johnson moved to approve the holiday lighting rebate of \$15.00 per account. Meyers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Meyers, Opperman, Newman, Johnson and Tucker. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Pools are being mandated to have a pool lift before opening this next season. Pool Tech gave us a quote for a lift. Opperman moved to look into if we can get a group discount rate if numerous cities go together to order the lift or otherwise we will purchase the lift for \$7095. Tucker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Johnson, Meyers, Newman, Opperman and Tucker. Nays: None. Motion passes.

Council did an initial review of health insurance renewal rates. The council would like more time to review. This will be on the next agenda.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The electric study committee met to continue discussing who will purchase our wholesale power from when our contract expires with RPGI on December 31, 2013 and at this time the committee is leaning towards switching to Allamakee Clayton. More research will be done. Elkader Street electric conversion is done just waiting for phone and cable companies to remove lines from the old poles. The West End conversion will be started this week and property owners will see brief power outages. A notice will be put in the paper and tags will be placed on doors of those affected.

With no further business, Opperman moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Newman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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Deanna Dement, City Clerk

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Dale Fox, Mayor