

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting April 2, 2008

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 2, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Fox presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Jan Parkin, Jackie Opperman, Al Friederich, Troy Stover and Norm Rizer.

The council reviewed minutes from March 19<sup>th</sup> and the claims. Rizer moved to approve the consent agenda. Parkin seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

The sewer problems on Elkader Street were addressed again. Ryan Wicks, engineer from Tekippe Engineering was present. He gave a brief overview of the project and how sewer lines were handled. Dave Kluesner from Tschiggfrie was also present to answer questions. There was discussion pertaining to these property owners' sewer service lines and the last manhole done with the project. The service lines were east of the manhole, but did not connect to the manhole. There was only one service line to that manhole, which was for the antique shop. Their sewer worked before the project and after the project the problems started. There was much discussion regarding who should pay for this bill. Council reviewed the City Code pertaining to sewer service lines. The Code says that property owners are responsible for sewer service lines from their house to the main. When the highway construction goes north, the property owners at 120 Elkader would not be assessed again for service lines, since their lines have already been replaced. The property owners at 122 Elkader Street would have to have their own sewer lines, which would mean disconnecting from the lines to 120 Elkader to be in compliance with the City Code. Rizer moved to assess the property owners for 38 feet at the cost for the highway project. Parkin seconded the motion. There was discussion. Rizer withdrew his motion. Parkin also withdrew his motion. Opperman moved to request Tschiggfrie bill the property owners directly for this invoice and any future paving cost pertaining to this sewer problem. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Friederich, Opperman. Nays: Rizer, Stover and Parkin. Motion fails. Stover moved to assess the property owners in an equal amount for the full amount of the bill from Tschiggfrie \$8,821.22 plus the pavement patch repair. Friederich seconded the motion. Stover withdrew his motion. The City Clerk will contact the City's bonding attorney to see if this type of cost can be assessed. A special meeting will be held to finish discussing this.

Sidewalks on Elkader Street that would be affected by the highway project were reviewed and there are three sidewalks and driveways that will be affected. They are 220, 302, and 216 Elkader Street. Letters will be sent certified to these properties so they are aware that they do not need to replace their sidewalks now since their driveways and sidewalks will need to be replaced when the highway construction occurs. Opperman moved to send letters to these property owners and make sure they understand they are still liable and that they may still replace their sidewalk if they so choose. Rizer seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Updating the Vision 2004 plan through the University of Northern Iowa will cost approximately \$3000. Opperman moved to continue updating the Vision 2004 plan with UNI. Friederich seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Job descriptions were presented for review. Opperman moved to have the job descriptions reviewed by each employee and then come back for approval at April 16th. Stover seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Prioritizing the capital plan will be delayed until April 16<sup>th</sup> due to the time taken on another item on the agenda.

Council reviewed Resolution No. 08-12 Authorizing and approving a loan agreement and providing for the issuance of Electric Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2008. Stover moved to approve Resolution No. 08-12. Parkin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Parkin, Stover, Rizer, Opperman and Friederich. Nays: None. Resolution No. 08-12 passes.

## **INFORMATION**

Council received Tree Board minutes from January 14<sup>th</sup> and February 11<sup>th</sup>. Council received information that the Strawberry Point pool and the S.A.F.E. Coalition were notified that they will be awarded grant money from Upper Mississippi Gaming Corporation. They also received notification that Police Officer Matt Moser will be graduating from the Police Academy on April 25<sup>th</sup>. The City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk help a board appreciation/workshop on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> for all board members. The council also received notification that there will be a City float in the Strawberry Days parade. City council members and city employees will participate.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The bids were received today at 3:00 pm for permanent financing for the Highway 3/13 Street Project. The City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk opened and initialed the bids. The bids were received from Ruan Securities, Farmers Savings Bank and Citizens State Bank. Citizens State Bank's bid came in most favorable with a rate of 3.95% over 15 years. Opperman moved to approve signing the letter of intent. Friederich second the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Opperman, Friederich, Parkin and Stover. Nays: None. Rizer abstained due to conflict of interest. Ruan will go forward with this permanent financing.

Resolution No. 08-11 Vehicle Maintenance Policy was presented to the council for review. This policy would require two estimates for auto repair. No action will be taken on this policy.

Council received a recommendation from the Library Board to appoint Teddy Neis to the Library Board. Opperman moved to approve Teddy Neis to the library board. Friederich seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Friederich moved to authorize the signing of the Proclamation for National Library Week and to have the Mayor make a public appearance at the library. Stover seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

A road that would be provide access when Highway 13 is constructed north through town was reviewed. Discussion is being held to get plans going on this project. There has been discussion with Iowa DOT and The Lutheran Home. Everyone is in agreement that an access road is needed. Strawberry Point cannot survive if our town is shut down for a summer again. We need to get working on this since the construction may occur as early as 2011. Ryan Wicks, from Tekippe Engineering will compile an outline for this type of project. He will also put together a preliminary cost estimate.

There are some properties, residential and commercial, in town that are in need of cleanup. There will be letters sent to these property owners to get their property cleaned up. Some of the properties may contain health problems and safety issues. The City superintendent will put together a list of all properties in town that need issues.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

With no further business, Opperman moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Rizer seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

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Deanna Dement, City Clerk

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Dale Fox, Mayor