

**MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
MAY 9, 2011, 2011/ 7:00 P.M.**

The regular meeting of the Menahga City Council was held in the Council Chambers on Monday, May 9, 2011. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Foss.

Members present: Kim Rasmussen, Maxine Norman, Roger Henstorf and Alden Yliniemi.

Mayor Foss made a statement regarding actions taken at the last meeting of April 11, 2011. During the closed session in evaluation of Walter Salo city administrator we did something a little wrong and we are going to apologize for that. We made a motion we seconded and voted on it. We apologize for our actions and we will correct it later this evening. This was not done to hide any of our activities. This was done in the exuberance of the session we were in. We apologize and hope this never happens happen again.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE MARCH 14, 2011 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS. NORMAN SECONDED. ALL AYES MOTION CARRIED.

Karol, Dave and Jim Andreasen addressed the Council regarding their denied zoning permit application. They had requested to move a manufactured home onto their property that is zoned residential. They would not comply with the provisions of ordinance 151.16 (F) (6). Upon discussion, the request could not be approved.

The Council had questions on the new sirens and firewall addition. Chief Kicker will be contacted to report on the status of the projects. Council Yliniemi reported that he had finished up the advanced arson training. We also had Fire Inc. here to do a simulated car burn. We received a grant from Kawasaki for the use of a 4 wheeler for the summer at a cost of \$1.00.

The Council discussed a city wide clean up of properties. The police committee will be conducting a drive around the city to identify areas in violation of the City's Nuisance Ordinance which, according to definition, permits a condition which unreasonably annoys, injures or endangers the safety, health, morals, comfort or repose of any considerable number of members of the public. Property owners will be contacted by certified mail and given adequate time to do their cleanup. Any citizens that have cleanup concerns are welcome to contact the City.

Chief Koennicke had reported to the committee that he applied for a grant for new digital cameras for our squad cars. Our cost would be \$300.00 with a \$2,800 value per camera...

MOTION BY NORMAN TO APPROVE THE POLICE CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT REQUEST TO THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE MINNESOTA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIGITAL CAMERAS FOR SQUAD CARS. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY NORMAN TO APPROVE THE LIFEGUARD APPLICATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE PARK AND BEACH COMMITTEE. HEAD LIFEGUARD: ADRIENNE NELSON. LIFEGUARDS: TARRIN MICKELSON, WHITNEY NELSON AND CHARLIE PEETERS. YLINIEMI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Superintendent Neissess talked about cemetery concerns particularly glass blocks on the top of graves. This makes it difficult for grass cutting. The Administrator will try and locate policies and sit down with the cemetery committee to put a policy together.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO HAVE RON CONTACT A CONTRACTOR TO DO CRACK SEALING. THE MOTION FAILED FOR LACK OF A SECOND DUE TO REDUCED STREET FUNDING IN THE 2011 BUDGET.

The Mayor reviewed the recent water and sewer committee meeting. The process of calculating water and sewer bills was explained. Rates were discussed and how can they be explained more easily so that everyone can understand the process. We will also review all water and sewer accounts so that everyone is treated fairly.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE QUOTE FROM ADVANCED WIRELESS FOR THE NURSE CALL/ SECURITY SYSTEM FOR GREENWOOD CONNECTIONS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$98,643.00. NORMAN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY NORMAN TO APPROVE THE APRIL MINUTES AND FINANCIALS FOR GREENWOOD CONNECTIONS. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Administrator Salo updated on how city funds are being invested per our new investment policy. A transfer of \$900,000 was made from checking into a money market account at First National returning 1.2 percent interest. About \$300,000 was left in checking to cover monthly expenditures. Two \$100,000 monthly transfers have been made from the money market account into Certificates of Deposit yielding 1.4 percent interest. The intent is to continue making the transfers in the 12 month CDs monthly. The 4-M fund funds will also be deposited into the money market.

He also reported on the computer hardware and software update. We are in the process of trying to get apples to apples comparison. We have been working with WCTA and Marco for server proposals but, one is quoting Dell and the other Hewlett Packard hardware. The specifications are a little different yet they essentially do the same thing. For municipal accounting software, Banyon Data Systems stopped in to provide a demo of their software for our staff. The other vender is Black Mountain Software from Helena Montana which is slightly more expensive. Our copier is five years old and also needs to be replaced. We have reviewed a lease proposal from Marco on a new color copier that appears very attractive cost wise. We will be checking with other venders.

Salo reported the Initiative Fund had responded to our grant inquiry and invited the City to submit a full proposal for up to \$4,000 in support of the Menahga Business Retention and Expansion (B R & E) project.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT PROPOSAL FOR UP TO \$4,000 FROM THE INITIATIVE FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF THE MENAHGA BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION PROJECT. YLINIEMI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Foss reviewed the recent economic development committee. They discussed establishing a steering committee for the B R & E project. The committee decided that in addition to the economic development committee members, two more individuals should be added. Many names

were considered and Elizabeth Olson and Pamela Mahling were recommended. A larger list of possible members for the larger task force was developed. Approximately 50 individuals were listed. Of those we hope to recruit 20 to 40 community leaders for training to conduct interviews for the study. Maxine will contact Adeel Ahmed at the U of MN to advise of our progress.

MOTION BY RASMUSSEN TO APPROVE THE B R & E STEERING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS OF MAXINE NORMAN, PATRICK FOSS, WALTER SALO, ELIZABETH OLSON AND PAMELA MAHLING. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Foss read the motion as made and passed during the evaluation of administrator Salo. There was a request by the administrator to readdress an issue regarding PTO time that was Improperly and unintentionally acted on. "Norman Moved In Response To The Request To Readdress The Issue To Move Salo To The 200 Hour PTO Accrual Level Effective Immediately. Seconded By Henstorf. Ayes: Foss, Henstorf, Norman And Yliniemi, Nays: Rasmussen. Motion Carried." We need a motion to rescind that action and then we will reopen for discussion for a period to continue on with that motion or to address it in another fashion.

MOTION BY NORMAN TO RESCIND ABOVE MOTION FROM THE APRIL 11, 2011 MEETING. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY NORMAN IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST TO READDRESS THE ISSUE TO MOVE SALO TO THE 200 HOUR PTO ACCRUAL LEVEL EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. SECONDED BY HENSTORF. AYES: FOSS, HENSTORF, NORMAN AND YLINIEMI, NAYS: RASMUSSEN. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Foss discussed an ordinance change request by West Central Telephone Association. The material submitted needs to review by the administration committee to update the language and meet with WCTA before a recommendation can be brought to the Council.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO AMEND CITY ORDINANCE SECTION 10.14 EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCES, TITLE 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS, CHAPTER 10: GENERAL PROVISION TO READ "ALL ORDINANCES PASSED BY THIS LEGISLATIVE BODY REQUIRING PUBLICATION SHALL REQUIRE A PUBLIC HEARING WITH PUBLISHED NOTIFICATION AND THEN TAKE EFFECT FROM AND AFTER DUE PUBLICATION THEREOF, UNLESS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED." YLINIEMI SECONDED. ALL AYES MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY RASMUSSEN TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS PRESENTED. NORMAN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

HENSTORF MOVED TO ADJOURN. YLINIEMI SECONDED MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:27 P.M.

City Clerk/Treas/Adm.

Mayor

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