

# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2010 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

### Call to Order & Roll Call

Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Jeff Berg, Penny Miller, Cindy Peters and Pat Renchin; and City Clerk Eddie May. Absent were: Council Member Tad Miller, and Maintenance Manager Craig Koch.

### Minutes Approval

- Cindy motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the July minutes. Motion Carried.

### Public Hearing – Landfill/Recycling Fees

- The City signed a contract allowing Waste Management to raise their rates by 3% this year, and 4% each of the next 4 years. The cost increase covers inflationary increases as well as two roll off boxes for Spring Clean-up.
- Pat motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve the raising the City's billing as follows: 96 gallon garbage bin from \$11.50 to \$11.95, Recycling bin from \$2.25 to \$2.34, and 30 gallon garbage bags from \$2.70 to \$3.15. Roll call vote was unanimous, Motion Carried.
- The rates will be reviewed each of the next four years and may be adjusted depending on the balance in the Landfill/Recycling Fund at year's end.

### Community Center / City Hall / Library

- On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Russell, Eddie, Keith Brcka, Hare Electric, and Larsen Plumbing & Heating, met at the former Cherry Tree Builder's property to perform a pre-purchase inspection of the building.
- Tentative plans to use the building for the Community Center and City Hall were given to each business. The plan would be to then build a new, larger, library at their current location.
- Hare Electric stated that the building as more than enough power coming into the building and that by using a drop ceiling and flexible conduit, the cost to re-wire the building for our use would be reasonable.
- Keith Brcka stated that there was no evidence remaining from the previous fire and that the rafter and shingles appear to all be new, spaced properly and healthy. He said that the outside soffit work that is needed would be minimal. He stated that the walls we would like to remove do not appear to be load bearing. He declined to make a judgment regarding the strength of the roof, deferring to a structural engineer.
- Larsen Plumbing stated that the in-floor heating is only 50% efficient, at best, but that the forced air furnace is adequate for the size of building and our intended use. While there would be additional cost to plumb additional bathrooms, and commercial kitchen, our initial layout lends itself nicely to the limitations of the building's current plumbing and heating systems.
- Cindy motioned, Penny 2nd to make a sealed offer, contingent upon receiving a WCDA grant and obtaining a 2 year loan. Roll Call Vote was as follows: Cindy-yes, Penny-yes, Pat-yes, Jeff-no. Jeff mentioned concerns about the City's ability to maintain the property long-term. Tad voted yes, by proxy. Motion Carried.
- The 2 year loan would be paid for by the City's monthly allocation from the Diamond Joe Casino, and/or by capital campaign donations.
- Capital Campaign materials, along with projected financials relating to the maintenance of the building, will be presented to the Council at next month's meeting.

### Mayor's Report

- Between 7/16 and 7/22 the City received 6.5 inches of rain. Brian Nettleton started the City's sewer pump at 5:00 am on 7/22 to prevent any sewer back-up. He supervised the pump until 6:30 pm that evening. Various checks were made in basements and manholes throughout this time. No basement reported any back-up, and no manholes overflowed.
- On 7/26 James Thompson drowned while attempting to remove a log from the dam. Mr. Thompson was not hired by the City, or acting as a volunteer for the City to perform these duties. Our sincerest condolences are with the Thompson family for their loss.
- The City's policy is to allow the river to either, raise and pass any log stopped by the dam, or to allow the water to lower long enough to hire an excavator to hook and drag the log out of the river. Please do not attempt to enter the river within a 1/2 mile above or below the dam.
- On 7/28, the City completed an annual Water Consumer Confidence report. Copies of the report are available at City Hall, the Library, Post Office, and will be on the website soon.
- On 8/3Cade and Carl Christiansen had an accident while canoeing on the Winnebago River. The Fertile Fire Department's new Hurricane ATV helped during the rescue.

- The City did not get an I-Jobs grant to help paint the water tower. The City will continue to save and seek alternative grants to raise the \$80,000+ needed to complete the project.
- Heartland Asphalt completed this year's road re-surfacing project. The project cost \$86,8148.90 and was paid for by a grant received through the Worth County Development Authority, the non-profit arm of the Diamond Joe Casino. No taxes or loans were used!

### City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the July financials.
- The following statistics report the % of budgeted revenue received year-to-date as well as the % of budgeted expenses spent year-to-date (7% of year).

	General	Roads	Landfill	Sewer	Water
Income	5%	3%	1%	3%	3%
Expense	15%	0%	7%	11%	6%

- Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the June Expenses. Motion Carried.
- Pat motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve legal action against the resident of 308 West Main Street for non-payment of utility bills in the amount of \$217.40. Motion Carried
- Eddie presented an initial cost estimate of \$11,849.55, not including labor, or electrical connections, for a security system to cover Main Street, the park, ball fields and water plant. The plan also includes a mobile system for a neighborhood watch program. The Council asked him to research grant and partnership opportunities with WCTA, our Insurance Company and Worth County Sheriff's Department.
- The City is now accepting applications for the second round of Housing Renovation Grants through CDBG and NIACOG. Applications can be picked up at City Hall. Two houses are slated for renovation this fall as part of our first round. Anyone who applied during our first round, and did not receive an award, are more than welcome to re-apply for the second round.

### Committee Reports

- Fertile Days: A BIG THANK YOU to Cindy and Penny, along with the entire Fertile Days Committee for a wonderful celebration! Everything went great! Also, a BIG THANK YOU to all of our sponsors including WCTA and WCDA!

### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:15PM in regular session, Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010, at Fertile City Hall.

Adjourn - Pat Motioned, Jeff 2nd to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

### City of Fertile Expenditures and Revenues As of July 31, 2010

Type	Name	Memo	Paid
<b>General Fund Checking</b>			
Bill Pmt -Check	Advantage Business Solutions	Website hosting / domain name (annual)	-74.40
Bill Pmt -Check	Aukes Lawn & Pest LC	Mosquito Spray	-900.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Hawkins, Inc.	chlorine	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	IDNR	Annual Water Supply Fee	-43.50
Bill Pmt -Check	Iowa One Call		-13.50
Bill Pmt -Check	Kramer Ace Hardware	Round up & Roof Repair	-81.83
Bill Pmt -Check	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	McCrometer / Curb Riser	-240.40
Bill Pmt -Check	Miller, Penny v	Garden Club	-286.87
Bill Pmt -Check	NIACOG	Membership Dues / Housing Grant	-534.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Pronto	mower/truck gas	-207.76
Bill Pmt -Check	Verizon Wireless	cell phone	-42.73
Bill Pmt -Check	Waste Management	Landfill/Recycling	-1,792.90
Bill Pmt -Check	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-139.60
Bill Pmt -Check	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-119.31
Bill Pmt -Check	Brian Nettleton Excavating, Inc.	6" plug valve and box per DNR	-3,917.50
Bill Pmt -Check	Clapper Tree Service	Tree Removal	-1,000.00
Bill Pmt -Check	Natural Plus	Garden Club	-34.20
Check	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-2,750.00
Check	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Allocation	-4,620.25
Check	First State Bank	Fire Dept Loan	-2,455.15
Check	US Post Office	postage	-28.00
Check	US Post Office	postage	-56.00
Check	Peters, Cindy	Fertile Days Supplies	-91.00
Deposit		Utility Bills	1,347.10
Deposit		Utility Bills - PayPal	49.29
Deposit		Utility Bills	2,712.53
Deposit		Local Option Sales Tax	1,866.51
Deposit		Utility Bills/Fertile Days	3,544.91
Deposit		Property Tax/Liens	2,837.28
Deposit		Casino Funds	2,923.96
Deposit		Local Option Sales Tax	1,013.44
Deposit	Treasurer - State of Iowa	Street Construction	1,055.85
Deposit		Interest	14.35
Liability Check	IRS	Payroll Withholding	-681.74
Liability Check	Treasurer - State of Iowa	Payroll Withholding	-291.00
Liability Check	IPERS	Payroll Withholding	-397.98
Paycheck	May III, Edgar F.		-534.08
Paycheck	Russell, Joyce		-578.74
Paycheck	Koch, Craig A.		-689.70
Paycheck	Bruns, Warren		-308.17
Paycheck	Koch, Craig A.		-605.96
	Sales Tax Paym Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance		-948.00
Total General Fund Checking			-7,109.05
<b>Roads Revenue Fund Savings</b>			
Deposit		Interest	9.91
<b>Water Revenue Fund Checking</b>			
Deposit		Interest	1.63
<b>Sewage Revenue Fund Checking</b>			
Deposit		Interest	3.62
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>-7,093.89</b>