

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

January, 3 2006, 7:00 PM

City Hall

1.) Call to Order

The Fertile City Council met at 7:00 PM in regular session, January 3, 2006, at Fertile City Hall.

2.) Roll Call

Present were Mayor Joyce Russell, Council Members: Jeff Berg, Tad Miller, Gail Shropshire and Pat Renchin and City Clerk Eddie May. Absent was Melanne Bang.

3.) Minutes Approval

Mayor Joyce Russell found an error in December's Minutes as follows: the date of the next Council Meeting was noted as January 4, 2006 instead of January 3, 2006.

Jeff Berg moved and Gail Shropshire 2nd to approve the December minutes.

4.) Swear in New Council Members

Council Members Gail Shropshire and Tad Miller as well as Mayor Joyce Russell were re-sworn in. Pat Renchin was sworn in as a new Council Member to fill Paul Younger's vacancy.

5.) Fill Council Position Vacancies and Openings

- Mayor Pro-Tem - Tad Miller
- Council Positions
- Streets and Signs Committee – Pat & Gail
- Water & Sewer – Tad & Jeff
- Parks Committee – Pat & Jeff
- Weeds & Garbage – Gail & Melanne
- Building & Permits – Tad Miller
- Winn-Worth Betco Representative – Unassigned

6.) Proposed Amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance

Mayor Joyce Russell and City Maintenance Man Presented an amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance relating to accidental damage and right to removal of illegally parked property. The Ordinance is on file at City Hall and is posted at the City Library for citizen's review.

Jeff Berg Moved, Pat Renchin 2nd to approve Amendment to the Snow Removal Ordinance. Role Call Vote was unanimous. Carried. 2nd and 3rd Hearings were waived Jeff Berg, Gail Shropshire, roll call was unanimous. Carried.

7.) Mayor's Report

- Joyce and Warren met with Rural Water Association, an USDA approved service, for the City's required SEMS report. SEMS is required by the USDA as a part of our Emergency Management requirements.
- Dave Low reported to the DNR as requested.
- City Attorney John Greve has initially stated that a hazmat ordinance would be difficult to legally pass because of discrimination against businesses in general. As long as a business is located within a commercial zone, and meets State and Federal regulations, they must be allowed to operate. Greve will meet with the Council

and concerned citizens at a future Council Meeting in order to discuss public safety issues.

8.) City Clerk's Report

- The purpose of the \$5.00 "Meter Fee" was brought up for discussion. The Council stated that the fee was initially set-up to cover ongoing maintenance on the water system. This was initially designated for Meter replacements, but was also intended for water tower painting and cleaning and other water system maintenance. Therefore the Council decided to re-name the fee to more accurately describe its purpose "Service Maintenance Fee."
- Discussion was also made in regards to the policy for late charges assessed to Utility Bills. Late charges have been assessed on only the water portion of the bill. The late charges were also being calculated on the immediate prior month of past due amounts only. The council agreed that the intent of the late charges are to cover the entire past due amounts including all services and all past due amounts. Late charges will not be assessed on past due late charges or taxes.

9.) City Maintenance Report

- In the absence of Warren Bruns, Jeff Berg or Tom Kirchbaum will operate the snow plow.
- A new time sheet will be prepared in order to break down the City Maintenance hours for water, sewer, parks, etc.

10.) Approve Expenditures

Gail Shropshire moved, Tad Miller 2nd to approve the expenditures. Carried.

11.) Committee Reports

No committee reports were presented.

12.) Budget Discussion

Initial discussion was begun in regards to the 2006-2007 Fiscal Year Budget.

13.) New Business

- Approval of new Fire Dept Officers: Chief Jeff Berg, Assistant Chief John Jordan, Secretary Mike Dahn, Treasurer Dan Miller, Medical /Safety/Training Officers: Bruce Waddington, Josh Miller and Dan Lee. All Officers were appointed for a 1 year term.
- Tad Miller Moved, Gail Shropshire 2nd to approve the new Fire Department Officers. Carried.

14.) Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- Budget Approval

15.) Upcoming Meetings

The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00 PM for a budget planning session, January 24, 2006, at Fertile City Hall. All requests for municipal funding must be presented by that time.

The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00 PM in regular session, February 7, 2006, at Fertile City Hall.

16.) Adjourn

Pat Renchin moved, Gail Shropshire 2nd to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned.