City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes January 19, 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

• Pat motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve the December minutes. Motion Carried.

Worth County Extension Service

- The Worth County Extension Council made a funding request of the City to help cover a salary for the Program Specialist's position currently filled by Dennis Johnson. The position is being cut by the State as part of the recent funding cuts initiated by Governor Culver
- The Extension currently has \$30,000 for the position and is asking the cities in Worth County, as well as the County itself, to pitch in an additional \$40,000 to meet the proposed salary. The extension currently has a total of \$5,500, plus an in-kind pledge from three cities.
- The Council asked for time to consider the request as they will be finalizing the budget for next year at the February Council meeting.

Fertile Garden Club

- The Fertile Garden Club presented a beautification project for Fertile's Main Street and Highway 9 signage. The project would include all new flowers down Main and at the welcome sign, as well as the replacement of the whiskey barrels down Main, seasonal flags for the light poles on Main, fencing and lighting on the path to the footbridge, and new landscaping surrounding the Highway 9 welcome sign.
- The project is estimated at \$4,000.00. The Garden Club has prepared a grant request for the Worth County Development Authority. The Council would need to approve the project and allow the club to use the City's non-profit status and tax id in order to apply for the grant.
- Later in the meeting, the Council approved the project as part of the General Funds budget in our next fiscal year with the approval to begin the project in this fiscal year.

Fertile Fire Department

- The Fertile Fire Department presented a funding request for a new rescue/pumper fire
 truck. The new truck would replace the current 33 year old truck. The Fire Department
 had also prepared a Worth County Development Authority grant request to help cover
 the \$204,000 price tag.
- The Council denied the WCDA approach to financing the new truck. The Fire Department has already received \$135,142 for a new tanker/pumper truck, plus \$115,000 for their new building, through the WCDA funding.
- Eddie stated that he would research alternative grants to help cover the costs of the new rescue/pumper truck.

Mayor's Report

- The City has officially purchased Hall's Apartments next to the Library. The \$30,000 purchase was made with General Funds and will be reimbursed by a WCDA grant, awarded last fall, once the building has been leveled. This will give us the room to build the new Community Center, Library and City Hall.
- The City would like to thank everyone for their patience during the recent snow and ice storms. The snow plow has needed several repairs already while trying to keep the streets cleared.
- Please be sure to keep all vehicles as far away from the side of the road as possible.
 Flying ice chunks can do a lot of damage.
- The City has been awarded a grant of \$2040 by Trees Forever and Alliant Energy. This
 will allow us to plant six new trees to the south of the ball diamonds and playground
 areas this spring.
- Property Assessments will be mailed out on February 16th. The new assessments were prepared for the County by Vanguard of Des Moines. Informal hearings can be scheduled to contest the new assessments. Contact information will be included with your assessment.
- The Worth County Development Authority donated \$5,000 worth of office furniture to the City. The furniture should be installed by the end of this week.
- The Christmas lights have not been removed from Main Street, or the bridge, because
 they are frozen in place and cannot be safely removed. They will be taken down as
 soon as we get some warmer weather.

City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the December financials.
- The following statistics report the % of budgeted revenue received year-to-date as well as the % of budgeted expenses spent year-to-date (50% of year).

	General	Roads	Ländilli	Sewer	water
Income	53%	54%	50%	51%	52%
Expense	39%	80%	52%	45%	56%
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(The Roads Fund is currently over budget due to the City's portion of the new road surfacing done in July, 2009.)

The City currently has a \$26,155 Net Loss for the fiscal year. This deficit is the result of

- The City currently has a \$26,155 Net Loss for the fiscal year. This deficit is the result of the \$30,000 purchase of Hall's Apartments as part of the Community Center Project. This will be reimbursed to the City from the WCDA grant awarded last fall before the end of the fiscal year.
- Pat motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve the Dec. Expenses. Motion Carried.
- Budget discussions continued. Overall budget guidelines should reflect: frozen wages, increased IPERS rates, stable or trimmed department budgets, increased electric & gas expenses. Priorities include parks, roads and the community center.
- A survey of property tax rates revealed that Fertile's tax rate is the third lowest in Worth
 County and is in the bottom ¼ of all cities in Iowa. The Council sees no reason to raise
 the tax rate at this time.
- The next grant period for the Worth County Development Authority ends on February 15th. The Council considered the following projects: Fertile Garden Club: \$4,000, Fertile Fire Department \$204,000, Community Center Phase I, and street paving. The Council approved the Garden Club's request as part of the City's budget and will research alternative grants for the Fire Department. The Community Center Project is not quite ready to proceed.
- Cindy motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the Streets Project. Motion Carried. This project
 will hopefully pave all remaining north/south roads in the City limits as well as the last
 east/west block of West Washington. Quotes will be procured in order to determine
 how much of the project can be completed with this round of grants.
- The next four to six years of WCDA grants will be reserved for the Community Center/Library/City Hall project.

Upcoming Meetings

Total Sewage Fund Accounts

- The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00PM in regular session, February, 16 2010, at Fertile City Hall. Budgets will be finalized at this meeting.
- The Fertile City Council will meet at 7:00PM in regular session, March 8th, 2010, at Fertile City Hall. The regular session will be held on this alternative night due to schedule conflicts.

Adjourn - Penny moved, Cindy 2nd to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

openditures and Rev	endes		
of December 31, 2 Type	009 Name	M emo	Paid
eneral Fund Account	s		
General Fund Check			
Bill Pmt -Check	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	- 1,0 15.7
	l	Work on Siren, fixed broken	
Bill Pmt -Check	Hare Electric	light in shelter house	-307.9
Bill Pmt -Check	Iowa Rural Water Association	Association Dues	-175.0
Bill Pmt -Check Bill Pmt -Check	Kramer Ace Hardware	Christmas Lights Chemicals	-77.40 -123.5
Bill Pmt -Check	NIACOG	2nd Monthy Installment	-300.0
Bill Pmt -Check	Pronto	Gas for Truck	-10.9
Bill Pmt -Check	PSI	2500 Perforated Cards	-71.9
Bill Pmt -Check	Waste Management	Landfill/Recycling	-1,834.3
Bill Pmt -Check	WCTA	Phone Bill	- 14 1.4
Bill Pmt -Check	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-107.7
Bill Pmt -Check	BMC Aggregates L.C.	sand	-54.9
Bill Pmt -Check	Fertile Reminder	annual advertising fee	-212.0
Bill Pmt -Check	Hawkins, Inc.	meter gasket, chemicals	-41.2
Bill Pmt -Check	Staples	File Folders, etc.	-69.4
Bill Pmt -Check	UPS	postage for water samples	-22.9
Bill Pmt -Check	Verizon Wireless	Craig's cell phone	-40.4
Bill Pmt -Check	K&H Cooperative Oil Co.	Propane for backup Generator	-795.0
Bill Pmt -Check Bill Pmt -Check	Frank's Repair Greve Law Office	pulled snow plow out Closing Costs	-100.0 -69.0
Bill Pmt -Check	Hawkins, Inc.	Gasket - Water Plant	-24.0
Bill Pmt -Check	Kramer Ace Hardware	Christmas Lights	-9.9
Bill Pmt -Check	IGI	Chemicals	-53.7
Bill Pmt -Check	NIACOG	3rd Monthy Installment	-300.0
Check	First State Bank	Fire Dept Loan	-2,455.1
Check	First State Bank	Deposit Tickets	-35.6
Check	John Greve Attny Trust Acct	Purchase Hall Apartments	-30,000.0
Check	US Post Office	postage	-129.6
Deposit		Deposit	4,152.5
Deposit		Deposit	92.9
Deposit		Deposit	4,687.4
Deposit		Deposit	4,969.8
Deposit		Deposit	16 1.5
Deposit Deposit		Deposit Deposit	2,665.4 2,300.8
Deposit		Deposit	224.0
Deposit		Deposit	2,306.1
Deposit		Interest	67.5
Liability Check	IPERS	Payroll Witholdings	-390.9
Liability Check	IRS	Payroll Witholdings	-655.2
Paycheck	Bruns, Warren		-308.1
Paycheck	Koch, Craig A.		-955.0
Paycheck	May III, Edgar F.		-810.4
Paycheck	Russell, Joyce		-739.2
Paycheck	Berg, Jeffrey		-443.2
Paycheck	Miller, Tad		-369.4
Paycheck	Penny, Miller		-295.5
Paycheck	Peters, Cynthia		-360.1
Paycheck Paycheck	Renchin, Pat Shropshire, Gail		-443.2 -73.8
Paycheck	Russell, Joyce		-923.5
Total General Fund Che		-	-23,718.9
tal General Fund Accoun		-	-23,718.9
ads Revenue Fund			-23,718.9
Deposit Deposit	Savings	Interest	9.8
tal Roads Revenue Fund	Savings		9.8
ater Fund Accounts			9.0
Water Revenue Fun			
Deposit		Interest	3.6
Total Water Revenue Fu	and Checking		3.6
tal Water Fund Accounts		 	3.6
wage Fund Account			3.0
Sewage Revenue Fu			
Deposit		Interest	8.2
Total Sewage Revenue F	Fund Checking	1	8.2
tal Sawage Fund Accoun		-	9.2