

# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2012 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

### Call to Order & Roll Call

• Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Jeff Berg, Julie Jessen, Tad Miller, Penny Miller, Pat Renchin; City Clerk Eddie May & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts.

• **Pat motioned, Penny 2nd to approve the July Minutes.** Carried.

### Chuck Waage/Lori Buchannan – Rehabilitation Housing Grant Extenuating Circumstances

- Chuck requested that the stipulation regarding 5 years residency prior to the sale of a property receiving a Rehabilitation Housing Grant through the City be waived due to extenuating circumstances. Chuck recently suffered a stroke and can no longer live in the home.
- Tad mentioned that the home is still a valid asset to the community and would be concerned that, if the penalty was enforced, the increase in the sales price for the home (to cover the penalty) would discourage buyers.
- Jeff questioned whether Chuck, after the sale of the home, would be willing to pay the \$1200 that the City paid out of the general fund for his project. Chuck said that he would, but that it would be appreciated if the City would waive that off as well, considering his many years of volunteer community service. Chuck also stated that he would much rather stay in the home, and that his health is the only reason for his decision to move.
- **Tad motioned, Pat 2nd to waive the 5 years residency rule with no penalties, due to extenuating health related circumstances.** Roll call vote was unanimous, motion carried.

### Tom Dillavou - PIM Loading Dock – East Side, South Plant

- Tom requested a 12'x14' easement into a portion of land that City owns, which is designated as a future road, to build a new loading dock. The dock would be off the south corner of the east side of their building. Trucks would pull into the dock from the north.
- Discussion by the council considered that there are no plans to extend the road beyond this point; that the loading dock would not interfere with any water or sewer lines; and that this would not impede the flow of storm water.
- **Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to allow the easement with the stipulation that 75% of the property owners within a 100 feet radius from the proposed easement approve in writing, and that the City Attorney draws up the legal paperwork for the easement.** Roll call vote was unanimous, motion carried.

### Library Floor Plans & Public Notice for Architectural Services

- The Library presented a new set of floor plans without the use of the current structure. The plans allow for complete handicap accessibility, double the current shelf space, an adult reading area with comfortable seating and a fireplace, an internet café, increased computer space, increased storage space, multiple restrooms, and an activity room with kitchen. Plans are available at the Library and at City Hall for review.
- The next step is to post a public notice requesting architectural services to finalize, and professionalize the floor plans. After that is complete, we can solicit bids for construction. The City will hold a Capital Campaign to the public a chance to give, as well as submit grants, to fund the project.
- **Penny motioned, Tad 2nd to approve the new plans and to solicit bids for architectural services.** Vote was unanimous, motion carried.

## City Maintenance Report

- Over the last 60 days, there has been damage to the sewer system costing over \$7000 in repairs as t-shirts, underwear, and adult diapers have been chewed up in the sewer grinders. The City has reported these incidents to the Worth County Sheriff's office and have been told that Forest City is also dealing with this issue. Forest City has a system to stop large items from entering their grinders and have so far been able to avoid damage to their system. Steve has been working with Forest City, Yaggy-Colby and Nettleton Excavating to come up with a solution for Fertile. **Tad motioned, Penny 2nd to approve the construction of a catch basin and filtering system, designed by Yaggy-Colby and Nettleton Excavating, at the cost of \$1,200.** Vote was unanimous, motion carried.
- Steve has been busy weed wacking and spraying, rebuilding and repainting the horseshoe pit covers, copper and lead testing the water supply (which passed with flying colors), helping with Fertile Days, and tree trimming.
- The generator at the water treatment plant had an oil change
- Steve and Warren attended classes for their Water Operator's certification
- Steve and Buck have been installing shelving units in a new closet at the Community Center for secured storage of City records.

## Mayor's Report

- The City has received an insurance settlement for damages done at the water tower and ball fields by lightning.
- 207 E Main will be up for Sheriff's auction again. Contact the Worth County Treasurer for more information.
- The Downtown Café' was broken into and robbed in July. Other area businesses have been broken into as well. Worth, Winnebago and Cerro Gordo County Sheriff's offices are investigating.
- A water leak was found in front of Earl Kilen's property. It is in the process of being repaired.
- Don & Sharon McLaughlin donated a flag pole for City Hall. It will be installed this week in a well lit area in front of City Hall.
- The City pick-up is in for repairs (leaf-springs)
- Fertile Days was a big hit! A Big Thank You to the Fertile Days Committee and all the volunteers!

## City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented several year-end reports to the Council including: water & sewer reports for the USDA, Streets Report for the Iowa DOT, Debt Report for the State Auditor and the Annual Financial Report (our tax return) for the State Auditor. **Pat motioned, Penny 2nd to approve reports.** Roll call vote was unanimous, motion carried. The reports will be available online by the end of August; the Annual Financial Report will be published in the Northwood Anchor asap.
- The City still owes \$80,000 on a \$300,000 set of bonds and \$143,000 on a \$190,000 note for the sewer system. The City owes \$88,570 on a \$263,000 note and \$13,106 on a \$35,000 for the water system. The City also owes \$17,172 on the Community Center.
- Eddie re-presented the June Financials after adjustments were made in the process of filling out the annual reports.

6/30/12	General/Housing	Roads/WCDA	Water/Sewer	Total
Income	357,795.25	252,970.09	115,973.22	\$726,738.56
Expense	423,911.14	210,470.88	121,802.85	756,184.87
<b>Total</b>	<b>-66,115.89</b>	<b>42,499.21</b>	<b>-5,829.63</b>	<b>-29,446.31</b>

- Losses incurred as the City invested in the housing program, business incubator, and new water meters.
- Eddie presented the July's Financials.

7/31/12	General	Roads	Water/Sewer	Total
Income	9,404.69	1,378.56	33,351.03	\$44,134.28
Expense	14,327.25	791.64	21,778.78	36,897.67
<b>Total</b>	<b>-4,922.56</b>	<b>586.92</b>	<b>11,572.25</b>	<b>7,236.61</b>

- Loss in the General is caused by quarterly payments and low property taxes which will catch up in October.

- **Penny motioned, Tad 2nd to approve July Bills.** Motion Carried.

### Committee Reports

- The Fertile Days Committee estimated there were over 400 people who participated in Fertile Days. A lot of people had positive comments regarding the band, food vendors, and variety of activities. Several people commented that they wish there was an easier way to donate for the event.

- Streets & Signs – The corner of 1<sup>st</sup> and Main needs some serious repair. Jeff mentioned that the County will look at the corner and make recommendations for repairs. The City has a 28e agreement with the County for maintaining Main and 1<sup>st</sup> street as “town-to-market” roads. A decision will need to be made asap in order to get the work done before the winter.

- There has been a request for information regarding the business incubator. There is still one section of the incubator that is available for development. Any interested party can contact City Hall for a tour of the area as well as information regarding the program including the “discounted” rental structure.

- Please be aware that the drought has brought several critters into town looking for food that normally would not be here. (raccoons, coyotes, etc.) Please be careful when encountering these animals, especially after dark.

- **Jeff moved and Pat 2nd to close the meeting to discuss personnel issues.** Roll call vote was unanimous. Motion Carried.

- Both Joyce and Eddie excused themselves from the Closed Meeting due to conflict of interest. Tad took minutes.

- **Julie moved and Pat 2nd to re-open the public meeting.** Vote was unanimous. Motion Carried. No action was taken in regards to the closed meeting.

- **Pat moved and Jeff 2nd to adjourn the meeting.** Motion Carried.

### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet in regular session at 7:00PM, Tuesday, September 18th, 2012, at Fertile City Hall.

City of Fertile						1:23 PM
Bills Paid						08/22/2012
As of July 31, 2012						Accrual Basis
General Fund Accounts	Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
	Check	07/01/2012	6096	Fertile Fire Department V	Quarterly Allocation	-3,500.00
	Check	07/01/2012	6097	Fertile Public Library V	Quarterly Payment	-4,750.00
	Check	07/03/2012	6098	Ward, Julie	Utility Deposit	-150.00
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/03/2012	6099	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,364.32
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/03/2012	6100	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Annual Water Supply Fee	-43.34
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/03/2012	6101	North Iowa Septic Solutions	2 Handicap Units/1 Portable Zone 2	-215.00
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/03/2012	6102	Superior Lumber, Inc	Tap-Con	-1.35
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/03/2012	6103	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-147.46
	Check	07/03/2012	6095	USPS	postage	-96.00
	Deposit	07/03/2012			Deposit	2,216.45
	Deposit	07/03/2012			Deposit	2,800.89
	Paycheck	07/05/2012	6109	Russell, Joyce		-1,081.79
	Paycheck	07/05/2012	6108	Russell, Grant		-236.33
	Paycheck	07/05/2012	6107	Roberts, Stephen J		-792.43
	Paycheck	07/05/2012	6106	May III, Edgar F.		-414.09
	Paycheck	07/05/2012	6105	Bruns, Warren		-301.99
	Deposit	07/06/2012			Deposit	307.87
	Liability Check	07/10/2012	I-Que	IPERS		-791.62
	Liability Check	07/10/2012	EFTPS	United States Treasury		-1,239.63
	Deposit	07/11/2012			Deposit	3,109.25
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6113	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-314.06
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6114	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-10.00
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6115	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	Repair Water Meter	-72.00
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6116	Menards	Supplies	-18.44
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6117	NIACOG	Association Dues	-262.70
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6118	Pronto	Gas for Truck/mower	-262.69
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/11/2012	6119	Waste Management	Landfill/Garbage	-1,918.58
	Deposit	07/15/2012			Deposit	1,721.08
	Deposit	07/15/2012			Deposit	4.41
	Deposit	07/15/2012			Deposit/Lien Payment	581.05
	Deposit	07/15/2012			Deposit	1,371.16
	Deposit	07/15/2012			Deposit	2,489.67
	Check	07/15/2012	e-file	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-1,096.00
	Check	07/17/2012		Tractor Supply	Hoses	-22.83
	Deposit	07/18/2012			Deposit	2,569.11
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2012	6120	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-99.20
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2012	6121	Clapper Tree Service	Removal of Tree Limb in Alley Way	-300.00
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2012	6122	Iowa One Call	Utility location	-13.50
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2012	6123	USA Blue Book	Water Testing Supplies	-120.69
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/18/2012	6124	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-43.28
	Check	07/18/2012	6117	First Security Bank & Trust	Community Center Loan Payment	-2,500.00
	Paycheck	07/20/2012	6125	Roberts, Stephen J		-911.52
	Deposit	07/25/2012			Deposit	2,715.41
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2012	6126	Hare Electric	Photo Cell/Yard Light & Bulb	-75.02
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2012	6127	Menards	Paper Towels	-11.97
	Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2012	6128	UPS	Water testing	-19.68
	Check	07/26/2012	6129	Downtown Cafe' V	Community Meal - Fertile Days	-1,775.65
	Liability Check	07/30/2012	6116	Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance		-527.00
	Deposit	07/31/2012			Interest	4.06
	<b>Total General Fund Accounts</b>					<b>-5,609.75</b>
	<b>Roads Revenue Accounts</b>					
	Deposit	07/31/2012			Interest	7.40
	<b>Total Roads Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>7.40</b>
	<b>Water Revenue Accounts</b>					
	Deposit	07/31/2012			Interest	4.01
	<b>Total Water Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>4.01</b>
	<b>Sewer Revenue Accounts</b>					
	Deposit	07/31/2012			Deposit	4.86
	<b>Total Sewer Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>4.86</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>-5,593.48</b>