

# City of Fertile

## City Council Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2012 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

### Call to Order & Roll Call

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

- **Pat motioned, Penny 2nd to approve the July Minutes.** Carried.
- Agendas are posted at City Hall, at the Library, and at the Post Office, 24 hours in advance of each Council Meeting. If you wish to be on the Agenda, please contact City Hall two days before the meeting.

### Fred Hare – Property Line / Building Permit

- Fred asked to be on the agenda, but was unable to make the meeting.

### Fertile Little League Financials

- The City Council had asked David and Melanne Bang for financial records, and offered assistance to help organize the financial records, during the April Council meeting. The City is required to report the financials of all City Departments. Eddie has worked with the Library, Fire Department, Fertile Days Committee and Garden Club to be able to report those financials.
- Records from the Little League had not been presented as of the August Council meeting, so the Council asked the City Attorney to write a letter requesting the information again.
- Prior to tonight's meeting Melanne dropped off a sealed envelope addressed to the City Council. Jeff Berg opened and read the letter. In the letter they thank the City Council for the opportunity they have had to serve Fertile's youth and families but that Melanne, David, Tim and Deb Kleveland will be resigning as directors of the Little League.
- They also stated in the letter that the financials would be presented for the Council by the end of this week.
- The Bangs and Klevlands took over as Directors after Randy Bredeson resigned in 2006. Under their leadership they have significant improvements to the program. They have increased participation from 28 player in 2006 to 192 players in 2010. They have made continuous improvements to the fields, dugouts and visitors areas. They have expanded the equipment inventory and improved the concession stand. They have recruited and worked with dozens of volunteers and have put in countless hours working on improving the program locally and networking with other leagues.
- The Bangs and the Klevlands believe that developing youth through the Little League is a rewarding endeavor and look forward to seeing the strong tradition of the Little League continue in Fertile. They will be happy to assist future volunteers with any questions they might have about the program should they have any questions.
- The Council regrets their decision to resign, and thanks them for the great job they have done as Directors over the last six years.

### City Maintenance Report

- Steve has been working on the sewer damage issues. He has temporarily stopped the flow of clothing and non-degradable objects from getting to the pumps by putting a pitch fork in the sewer lines. He used the City truck and one of Brian Nettleton's trailers to pick up 5000 lbs of manhole barrels to raise the covers on the end of the line. These will help keep flood waters from entering through the manholes. He is waiting for a few more parts to be fabricated before he can finish the final solution for preventing sewer pump damage.

- A big thank you to Buck & Joyce Russell, Kenny & June Strohman, for volunteering to help Clapper Tree Service and Steve trim trees in the park and in the alleys (to prevent damage to the snow plow). They also volunteered time to clean up pop-cans that blew out of the container at the ball fields. (\$88 worth was turned in for Fertile Days!)
- Steve has been spraying weeds throughout town and cleaning out leaves, silt and dirt from the culverts on Main Street.
- Steve has also been doing some landscaping.

### Mayor's Report

- Plunkett Pest Control will be spraying City Hall/Community Center and the Maintenance Garage in the next two weeks. Joyce will ask the Library and Fire Department if they want pest control services as well.
- The Community Center has been real busy. This last month there were two weddings in the park, with receptions at the Center. There have been a couple of family reunions as well. We are continuing to monitor the cost of operating the Center to make sure our rates are ok.
- Whenever a non-City entity rents the Community Center, they may request that the information be put on the activity board at City Hall and are encouraged to advertise in the Fertile Reminder. In order to avoid favoritism or conflict of interest, we will not announce their upcoming event in the minutes.
- There was an abandoned car left at the ball fields in August. The Sherriff's Department was notified and the car was eventually towed away.
- On 9/11 the school elections were held at City Hall

### City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the August Financials.

7/1 – 8/30	General	Roads	Water/Sewer	Total
Income	20,247.90	5,437.73	44,937.34	\$70,622.97
Expense	28,983.69	2,620.81	33,550.92	65,155.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>-8,735.79</b>	<b>2,816.92</b>	<b>11,386.42</b>	<b>5,467.55</b>

- Loss in the General is caused by quarterly payments and low property taxes which will catch up in September and October.
- **Penny motioned, Pat 2nd to approve August Bills.** Motion Carried.
- **Jeff motioned, Pat 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the following leins: 210 West Main Street for \$280.09, 103 West Washington for \$280.09, and 207 East Main Street for \$281.21.** Motion Carried.
- May suggested that the Council approve the hiring of a Deputy Clerk to assist with the accounting side of the Clerk's position. May has been traveling a lot as his business is expanding throughout the State, and the City really needs a consistent person in the office during the week. Currently his business, Advantage Business Solutions, Inc. has been providing accounting services to temporarily help with his schedule. However May feels the temporary solution needs to now be a permanent solution. May also learned, in July while at City Clerk's training with the Iowa League of Cities, that State law allows City employees and Council Members to make contracts with the City as long as the contracts are awarded based on competitive bid or total less than \$2500 in any given fiscal year. The City had received a quote for accounting services back in 2006 when May started to work as City Clerk. Advantage's accounting costs are still \$5 per hour less than the competitive bid from 2006. Therefore, up to this point, Advantage Business Solutions has not been awarded any non-competitively bid contracts totaling over \$2500 in any given fiscal year, but is concerned about going over this year. To avoid any appearance of conflict of interest, May requested that the City hire a Deputy Clerk and discontinue use of accounting services by Advantage Business Solutions, Inc. May would still remain as City Clerk supervising the Deputy Clerk, preparing financial statements, meeting minutes, writing and administrating grants, and other advanced level tasks. The Deputy Clerk

position would be part-time (4-8 hours per week) and the only benefits would be IPERS, the State retirement program. Starting wage would be negotiable, but will probably be in the \$10-\$13 range.

- **Pat Motioned, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup> to advertise the Deputy Clerk position as described above.** Motion Carried. The position will be posted at City Hall, the Library and the Post Office. It will be posted on the back of the utility bills and published in the Fertile Reminder, Forest City Summit, Northwood Anchor, Mason City Globe Gazette, and on the Iowa Workforce website.

### Committee Reports

- Garden Club has been cleaning up areas around the bridge and entry arbor, around the City sign and around the Community Center. They asked if Steve could help with a little construction project, Steve

agreed. A big thanks to the Garden Club for keeping our town looking great!

- The City has noticed an increase in dogs at large and overnight barking. Please remember that dogs must be on a leash or in a kennel and that noise ordinances can be enforced against owners for consistent barking issues past 10:00 pm.

- **Penny moved and Pat 2<sup>nd</sup> to adjourn the meeting.** Motion Carried.

### Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet in regular session at 7:00PM, Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at Fertile City Hall.

### City of Fertile Bills Paid

As of August 31, 2012

5:27 PM  
09/19/2012  
Accrual Basis

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
<b>Operating Accounts</b>					
Deposit	08/01/2012			Utility Bill Payments	3,131.18
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6130	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,726.34
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6131	IDNR	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination	-219.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6132	Kramer Ace Hardware	Paint for Horseshoe Pit covers	-94.46
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6133	Menards	Blank Plates	-2.34
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6134	North Iowa Septic Solutions	2 Handicap Units/1 Portable Zone 2	-215.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/01/2012	6135	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-152.55
Paycheck	08/01/2012	6139	Russell, Joyce		-849.70
Paycheck	08/01/2012	6138	Russell, Grant		-146.30
Paycheck	08/01/2012	6137	Roberts, Stephen J		-831.03
Paycheck	08/01/2012	6136	Bruns, Warren		-301.99
Deposit	08/01/2012			Local Option Sales Tax	2,489.68
Deposit	08/03/2012			Utility Bill Payments	411.67
Paycheck	08/03/2012	6140	May III, Edgar F.		-676.82
Bill Pmt -Check	08/03/2012	6141	Advantage Business Solutions, Inc.	Bookkeeping	-333.75
Deposit	08/03/2012			Casino Funds	3,590.78
Deposit	08/08/2012			Utility Bills / Rents / Insurance	4,741.30
Check	08/08/2012	6142	Darrell Schmidt	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6143	Rod Knapp	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6144	Matt Kampman	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6145	Jim Rewerts	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6146	Delos Adelmund	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6147	Jeff Kolb	Borderline Band	-100.00
Check	08/08/2012	6148	Karen Usher	Balloon supplies for clown	-25.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6149	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-10.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6150	Iowa Communities Assurance Pool v	Yearly insurance exoense for Scoreboard	-12.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6151	Larsen Plumbing & Heating	New A/C for Maintenance Garage, and labor to install	-1,970.27
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6152	Menards	Light duty Hoses/Chemical gloves	-51.87
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6153	Pronto	Gas for Truck/mower	-154.99
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6154	UPS	Water testing	-10.81
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6155	Waste Management	Landfill/Garbage	-1,918.58
Check	08/08/2012			Borderline Band - Brian donated his cut to Fertile Days	0.00
Check	08/08/2012	6156	Ceison Heit	2 Metallic Fun Hoops	-6.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6157	Decker Sports	Tea Shirts \$ Logo	-79.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/08/2012	6158	Hare Electric	Water Tower, Treaching, 911, Scoreboard, Concession stand Repair	-2,275.39
Liability Check	08/15/2012	efps	United States Treasury	941 Payroll Withholdings	-1,072.19
Liability Check	08/15/2012	IQUE	IPERS	Payroll Benefits	-701.77
Deposit	08/15/2012			Deposit	3,454.41
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6159	Advantage Business Solutions, Inc.	Voucher check envelopes	-71.99
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6160	Aukes Lawn & Pest LC	Mosquito Spray	-900.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6161	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-99.02
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6162	Iowa One Call	Utility location	-18.90
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6163	Mason City Rentals	Fertile Days	-1,254.30
Bill Pmt -Check	08/15/2012	6164	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-43.28
Paycheck	08/16/2012	6167	Roberts, Stephen J		-825.32
Bill Pmt -Check	08/16/2012	6166	Lonnie Knudson	Clean-up after Fertile Days	-55.00
Check	08/17/2012	6172	Downtown Cafe' V	Community Meal - Fertile Days	-300.00
Check	08/18/2012	Auto	First Security Bank & Trust	Community Center Loan Payment	-2,500.00
Deposit	08/21/2012			Road Use Tax	2,059.51
Bill Pmt -Check	08/22/2012	6173	Menards	Shelfs/Supplies for Community Center	-393.32
Bill Pmt -Check	08/22/2012	6174	North Iowa Septic Solutions	2 Portable Restroom for Fertile Days	-120.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/22/2012	6175	Titan Pro SCI Inc.	Chemical Round Up	-189.35
Bill Pmt -Check	08/22/2012	6176	UPS	Water testing	-10.71
Check	08/22/2012	6177	Penny, Miller	16 Oversized LAM 3MM/Fertile Days	-34.24
Deposit	08/22/2012			Utility Bills / Fertile Days Donations / 941 Refund	2,596.97
Check	08/23/2012	6178	US Post Office	Utility Bill Stamps	-173.00
Deposit	08/29/2012			Utility Bills / RUTF / Insurance	6,616.96
Deposit	08/31/2012			Local Option Sales Tax	2,208.48
Deposit	08/31/2012			Interest	3.53
Deposit	08/31/2012			Leins Paid	1,301.56
<b>Total Operating Accounts</b>					<b>11,189.45</b>
<b>Roads Revenue Accounts</b>					
Deposit	08/31/2012			Interest	6.68
<b>Total Roads Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>6.68</b>
<b>Water Revenue Accounts</b>					
Deposit	08/31/2012			Interest	4.01
<b>Total Water Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>4.01</b>
<b>Sewer Revenue Accounts</b>					
Deposit	08/31/2012			Interest	4.86
<b>Total Sewer Revenue Accounts</b>					<b>4.86</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>11,205.00</b>