

City of Fertile

City Council Meeting Minutes

October 16, 2012 - 7:00 PM, City Hall

Call to Order & Roll Call

- Present were: Mayor Joyce Russell; Council Members: Jeff Berg, Penny Miller, Tad Miller, Pat Renchin; City Clerk Eddie May & Maintenance Manager Steve Roberts. Absent was Council Member Julie Jessen.
- **Pat motioned, Jeff 2nd to approve the Sept. Minutes.** Unanimous.
- **Tad motioned, Pat 2nd to move Fertile Little League Financials to the top of the agenda and approve agenda.** Unanimous.
- 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.

Fertile Little League Financials

- Joyce turned the meeting over to Mayor Pro-Tem Tad Miller and abstained from conversation in this matter to avoid any personal bias.
- The Little League submitted a check register, and a check closing the account, to the City Council. The Council presented several questions requesting more details and bank statements.
- Tim Kleveland was in attendance as a representative of the Little League. Tim referred all questions regarding the check register to David and Melanne Bang. Tim questioned why the City believes the Little League is an entity of the City, and if so, why the City hasn't supported the Little League more.
- In regards to, is the Little League an entity of the City, the Little League has always been an entity of the City as part of the Parks and Recreation Department. Directors have always been approved by the Council, and the checkbooks have always been returned to the City Council as Directors resign. While this relationship has historically been extremely informal, recent legislation by the state requiring random audits of the City is forcing the City to make the relationship more formal. In the past, the Little League's budget was minimal, while last year's expenses were over \$18,000. Auditors will now be attracted to those records. The Little League is not a separate legal entity, in other words, Little League revenue and expenses have never been reported on a tax return by the Little League. The Little League does not have its own tax ID. Any financials submitted to the City have always been reported on the City's tax return. Melanne Bang acknowledged the Little League was an entity of the City when she used the City's tax id number and 503(c) non-profit status when she recently applied for a WCDA grant.
- In regards to supporting the Little League, over the last 6 years, which is how far back we have electronic records of this relationship, the City Council has asked for financial reports and budget requests from the Little League each year. Only twice have they been presented. Each time they were presented, the Council approved their budget request 100%. On top of the Little League's annual operating budget, the City Council has worked with the Little League leadership to complete several projects and upgrades, at the City's expense. The City owns and maintains the ball fields, fences, lights, scoreboard, concession stand and playground equipment. The City pays insurance, utilities and maintenance on those items. Over the last 3-4 years, the City has written grants and funded new dugouts, additions to the concession stand, planted new trees and installed a new playground. The City Council believes in and supports the Little League. They are more than willing to increase their annual financial support as requests are made known.

- The City Council regrets any hard feelings that have developed due to the request for financials. It is the intent of the Council to support and promote the Little League program and its Directors. The Council is sad to accept the Bang's and the Kleveland's resignation, and would be open to their reconsideration. They have done a tremendous job expanding the program and representing our City. It is widely known that this does not function without generous time and donations of the many volunteers.
- Tim thanked the City and stated they and the Bangs still believe in and support the Little League program. He stated that he would be available for questions the new Director's may have. He also wanted everyone to know that this issue was not the only factor in their decision, or the Bang's decision, to resign. Their schedules and their children's schedules have changed and they are welcome to seeing new leadership take the next steps in promoting the program.
- **Pat motioned, Penny 2nd to table the acceptance of the financials until a few more details were explained.** Unanimous.

Library Project

- Only one bid was presented to the Council by the bid deadline. **At 7:45, Penny motioned, Jeff 2nd to close the public meeting to discuss the single bid that was presented for architectural services and determine if a second bid must be received before approval.** Roll-Call-Vote Unanimous. Mayor Russell Abstained from the Closed Meeting and the Library Board was invited in.
- **At 8:45, Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to re-open the public meeting.** Roll-Call-Vote Unanimous.
- **Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to decline the original bid.** Roll-Call-Vote Unanimous.
- **Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to accept CRW Architecture & Design Group (affiliated with Yaggy-Colby) to re-work the original concept into alternative concepts feasible for anticipated financing to be presented to the public for their response.** Roll-Call-Vote Unanimous.

Trees in River and on Dam

- **Jeff motioned, Pat 2nd to approve the removal of the trees by Steve and Frank's Repair and the Fire Department spraying off the gunk covering the top of the dam.** Unanimous.

City Maintenance Report

- Steve completed some landscaping around the arch going to the park walking bridge.
- Steve is securing a quote from Charleson to fix the east intersection of 1st and Main. Steve looked into fixing the road himself but found out that the work must be done by a licensed roads contractor.
- Municipal Water Source found two major leaks in the water lines in town. One has been fixed and reduced our pumping by 25%. The second is being fixed this week. Remember the City has been pumping twice as much water as we have been billing for. Finding and fixing these leaks may bring us back into a normal pumping rate. The cost to find the leaks was \$800 est. and was suggested to be done each year until no leaks are found, then to check every other year.
- The City has not had any improper materials dropped into the sewer system this month. Steve is still working on the permanent solution for filtering out materials that would damage the sewer pumps.
- **Tad motioned, Pat 2nd to approve Josh Miller as secondary snow plow driver for this winter.** Penny abstained, otherwise unanimous.
- Questions were raised regarding sidewalk ordinances. Discussion was tabled due to meeting length.
- **Tad motioned, Penny 2nd to approve report.** Unanimous.

Mayor's Report

- Alliant Energy replaced 4 street lights at Joyce's request.
- Joyce signed a waiver allowing Waste Management to cross the bridge into the park to remove garbage even if their trucks exceed the posted weight limit.
- The Fertile Fall Market was held at the Community Center this month. The event showcased several area home-based businesses. The event was well attended and everyone had a great time.

City Clerk's Report

- Eddie presented the Sept. Financials. A complete set of financials are available at City Hall upon request. The following is only a summary of the year-to-date income, expenses and fund balances.

7/1 – 9/30	General	Roads	Water/Sewer	Total
Income	29,581.52	9,148.83	54,499.34	\$93,229.69
Expense	38,120.42	3,882.97	43,378.73	85,382.12
Total	-8,538.90	5,265.86	11,120.61	7,847.57
Fund Balance	27,826.32	48,441.82	103,023.62	179,291.76

- Loss in General is caused by low property taxes which will catch up in Oct.
- *Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to approve September Financials.* Unanimous
- *Pat motioned, Tad 2nd to approve September Bills.* Unanimous

- *No liens were presented*
- Deputy Clerk Position – May presented 10 (all) resumes submitted for the position. *Pat moved and Tad 2nd to allow Eddie to interview the top 5-7 applicants.* Unanimous. Eddie will present the top 2-3 applicants to Joyce for approval, and they will present the top applicant to the Council for approval at the next Council meeting.

Committee Reports

- No reports were presented

Upcoming Meetings

- The Fertile City Council will meet in regular session at 7:00PM, Tuesday, November 20th, 2012, at Fertile City Hall.

Next Meeting's Topics – beyond Department Reports

- Deputy Clerk Position – Motion to hire applicant
- Tree Stumps – Rhodes Island Park – Motion to remove stumps
- Library Project
- *Penny moved and Pat 2nd to approve next meeting's topics.* Unanimous. More items may be added before agenda is posted.
- *Penny moved and Pat 2nd to adjourn the meeting.* Unanimous.

City of Fertile						11:54 AM
Bills Paid						10/17/2012
As of September 30, 2012						Accrual Basis
Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount	
Operating Accounts						
Checking						
Deposit	09/03/2012			Property Taxes	3,456.75	
Deposit	09/04/2012			Utility Bills Deposit	651.28	
Paycheck	09/04/2012	6187	Bruns, Warren		-301.99	
Paycheck	09/04/2012	6183	May III, Edgar F.		-890.69	
Paycheck	09/04/2012	6175	Russell, Grant		-123.79	
Paycheck	09/04/2012	6180	Russell, Joyce		-858.18	
Paycheck	09/04/2012	6182	Roberts, Stephen J		-1,222.16	
Check	09/04/2012	6184	May III, Edgar F.	Security Camera Equipment Reimburseme	-201.80	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6185	Advantage Business Solut	Bookkeeping Assistance	-378.75	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6186	AgSource Laboratories	Water / Lead & Copper Testing	-174.00	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6187	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,719.21	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6188	CarQuest	Oil & Filter for Water Plant Generator	-11.03	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6189	Frank's Repair	Springs & Bolts - City Truck	-548.36	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6190	Hare Electric	Sewer Pump Repairs	-1,795.00	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6191	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-10.00	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6192	Kramer Ace Hardware	Concession stand keys, tools, flag pole col	-62.03	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6193	Menards	Microwave, Supplies, Electrical, Sewer Ga	-208.71	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6194	North Iowa Septic Solutio	3 Portable Restrooms	-215.00	
Bill Pmt -C	09/04/2012	6195	WCTA	Telephone/Internet	-146.49	
Check	09/04/2012	6196	Wellendorf, Christine	Community Center Deposit	-100.00	
Liability Cr	09/04/2012		Que IPERS		-688.01	
Deposit	09/04/2012			Casino Deposit	2,809.17	
Deposit	09/12/2012			Utility Bills, Rent, Fertile Days	4,084.10	
Bill Pmt -C	09/12/2012	6197	Larsen Plumbing & Heatin	New stool in City Garage	-80.49	
Bill Pmt -C	09/12/2012	6198	North Iowa Media Group	Ads for Fertile Days-Firemens Breakfast	-60.90	
Bill Pmt -C	09/12/2012	6199	Pronto	Gas for Truck/mower	-306.41	
Bill Pmt -C	09/12/2012	6200	Waste Management	Landfill/Garbage	-1,918.58	
Bill Pmt -C	09/12/2012	6201	'Downtown Cafe' V	Meals for workers on cleanup from wind da	-49.29	
Liability Cr	09/14/2012		eftps United States Treasury		-990.92	
Check	09/18/2012		Auto First Security Bank & Trus	Community Center Loan	-2,500.00	
Deposit	09/18/2012			Road Use Tax	1,873.74	
Paycheck	09/19/2012	6202	Roberts, Stephen J		-876.76	
Deposit	09/20/2012			Utility Bills Deposit	2,777.67	
Bill Pmt -C	09/20/2012	6203	Black Hills Energy	Natural Gas	-112.47	
Bill Pmt -C	09/20/2012	6204	Clapper Tree Service	Tree Trimming & Removal	-1,700.00	
Bill Pmt -C	09/20/2012	6205	Hawkins, Inc.	Chlorine	-320.50	
Bill Pmt -C	09/20/2012	6206	UPS	Water testing	-10.71	
Bill Pmt -C	09/20/2012	6207	Verizon Wireless	Cell Phone	-43.28	
Check	09/20/2012	6208	Keefe, Patrick	Utility Deposit Returned	-150.00	
Deposit	09/26/2012			Deposit	4,783.42	
Bill Pmt -C	09/26/2012	6209	Alliant Energy	Electric Bill	-1,652.01	
Bill Pmt -C	09/26/2012	6210	Globe Gazette	Public notice/bids for Public Library	-38.18	
Bill Pmt -C	09/26/2012	6211	Menards	Tublar hangers,cleaning supplies,edger,ba	-87.93	
Deposit	09/30/2012			Interest	3.21	
Total Checking						-114.29
Petty Cash						
Check	09/20/2012		USPS	postage	-1.48	
Check	09/20/2012		USPS	postage	-1.08	
Check	09/20/2012		USPS	postage	-1.08	
Check	09/20/2012		USPS	postage	-5.75	
Check	09/20/2012			Car Wash	-4.00	
Check	09/20/2012			Car Wash	-4.00	
Deposit	09/20/2012			utility bills used by Eddie and reimbursed	4.00	
Deposit	09/20/2012			postage used by Eddie and reimbursed	2.25	
Deposit	09/20/2012			reconcile petty cash	0.06	
Deposit	09/20/2012			Deposit to Close Petty Cash	-88.92	
Total Petty Cash						-100.00
Total Operating Accounts						-214.29
Roads Revenue Accounts						
Deposit	09/30/2012			Interest	8.92	
Total Roads Revenue Accounts						8.92
Water Revenue Accounts						
Deposit	09/30/2012			Interest	3.99	
Total Water Revenue Accounts						3.99
Sewer Revenue Accounts						
Deposit	09/30/2012			Interest	4.23	
Total Sewer Revenue Accounts						4.23
TOTAL						-197.15