

COMMON COUNCIL

MARCH 3, 2014

7:00 P.M.

Mayor Randy Strasser called the meeting to order and led all present in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call: Dick Traeger, Carolyn Pearson, Brian Garrison, Nelson Smith and John Bennett were present for the meeting.

Minutes from the February 3, 2014 meeting were presented for approval. Dick Traeger made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Carolyn Pearson. Motion carried. (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

SRO- No one was present from the school for discussion. Mayor Strasser reported John Chapman and one school board member had attended the last meeting. Brian Garrison stated he had not been called back after the first meeting had been cancelled. Nelson Smith did not receive a call for the meeting. Brian stated issues for concern had been stated by Leanne and he thought the school was ready to go forward except for the need for a car. Mayor Strasser noted the city is not involved but the committee needs to get together to realize all working components and then make recommendations. Brian stated he thought we did let them know that we couldn't be involved. Mayor Strasser questioned if the council was ready to dismiss the issue or move forward. Brian stated he was ready to dismiss. Dick Traeger feels there are loose ends and feels we need to make a determination. Dick feels another meeting should be held, establish a plan and then make a determination. Nelson Smith stated the bottom line at previous meeting established the city would not put money into this project. Mayor Strasser stated the code establishes the officer must be certified and tied to a department. Brian Garrison did not read this information in the codes and would need to see the code being used as a reference. Mayor Strasser questioned if the council wants to table the issue until a meeting is called and then address at next meeting. Brian asked the Mayor if he was in putting himself on the committee. Mayor Strasser stated he was not – just setting up the meeting. Issue was tabled until the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Aaron Lyons from the street department brought the issue of recycling to the council members. Aaron explained we have two options.

Option 1: Currently we are in a contract with CCRC. The truck used for recycling is in bad shape and Aaron does the maintenance when needed and that is constant. The current contract is held with Flora, Burlington and Delphi. Flora contributes \$21,000+, Burlington contributes \$9,000 and Delphi puts \$25,000 towards the recycling. A new truck would cost over \$151,000 and would make us enter into another 5 year contract with CCRC. The truck is owned by CCRC and the employee is paid out of CCRC funds. At the present time, CCRC has over \$90,000 in the account. If a new truck is purchased, Flora would apply for a grant on a yearly basis and that makes the truck payment. Service would continue as in the past. A new truck could not be purchased until the grant has been applied for and awarded.

Option 2: A contract could be entered into with our current trash provider. The service to the city would change. One half of the city would be picked up on a Monday and the following Monday the other half of the city would be serviced. This means each household would receive service two times each month versus the weekly service with CCRC. Businesses will not be picked up with this service. At the present time, CCRC picks up from businesses and there is no charge. Aaron explained this was set up this way when the trash system changed. There would be an increase of cost to the city.

Aaron explained that Flora and Burlington are willing to purchase a new truck and continue with service. Carolyn Pearson feels a responsibility to CCRC and realizes they can't afford to continue operations without our participation. Carolyn also stated the local businesses should be paying for this service. Carolyn appreciates the effort made by Aaron to provide options but feels we should remain with CCRC. Nelson Smith stated if we can get a grant, purchase a new truck and keep the present schedules, we should continue with the present plan. Dick Traeger stated people have problems adjusting to change and he is not comfortable with taking their service to 2 times a month. Dick Traeger made the motion to secure grant funds, purchase a new truck and continue with service as is. Second by John Bennett. Motion carried. (5-0)

Mayor Strasser announced there will be a announcement for the approval of the loft apartment project with Kellar. Area IV is the lead agent. This is an \$8,000,000 project. Options will be taken on properties and should be ready to start after a 4to 6 week process with state agencies. Dick Traeger he understood the project will be in early 2015. Carolyn Pearson questioned about parking for the apartments and Mayor Strasser reported this issue is part of Stellar and is currently being worked on. This meeting will be held on Friday at 10:30A.M. in the REMC board room.

Mayor Strasser introduced Brock Dawson of Obear, Overholser and Huffer. Mr. Dawson has been working with Abby since August. Abby will be stepping down from her position as city attorney and Mr. Dawson will take over her duties.

Department Reports:

Clerk's Office: Leanne reported the 100R, Debt Report and Annual Report has been completed.

Area Plan: John Bennett reported 20+ people attended the public meeting held at the court house concerning the new ordinance. John attended the committee meeting and it was tabled. There will be a public meeting held on the 5th of April at 1:00 and after that the commissioners will have 90 days to approve or disapprove . If they disapprove it will return to Area Plan to consider and if they ignore it becomes an automatic pass.

Airport: John Gingrich reported there was nothing to address with the council. John will give the council members an update within the next couple months. On the 17th of March packets will be going out for bids on the new hanger. John Gingrich is the new president and Brent Flory has stepped up to be on the airport board.

Street: Aaron reported snow removal has remained an issue and maintenance on the equipment. John Bennett questioned the status of a salt storage building. Aaron stated nothing in the works.

Wastewater: Dick reported a mishap with carbon source due to driver making error. John Bennett questioned if we are looking at upgrading the lift station. Dick replied the check valve needs to be replaced and the lines need worked on.

Fire: Darrell reported on 16 calls, 2 water rescues. The building committee has been meeting and looking at financial sources. They are also looking at a truck that is due to be replaced in 2016 according to their capital plan. Mayor Strasser asked Darrell to make the capital plan available to the council members and Darrell replied they had done so at budget time but will do again.

Mayor: Mayor Strasser reported Mark Zimpher had been in and working with their people on the issues with drainage and will continue to work with Aaron and Dick. Preliminary subdivision plans had been given to Brock Dawson. Mayor Strasser also reported they did agree to curbs and sidewalks.

Mayor Strasser noted the following dates for the council members:

Wednesday of this week – pre bid on Opera House

Friday the 7th – Press Release

10th and 12th – Road School and Mayor Strasser asked to speak on safety issues and the decline in accidents.

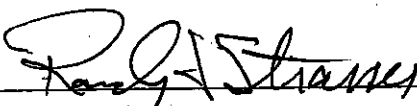
19th of March – bids opened at city building

Airport will be sending out packets on the 17th of March


Homes are being looked at for the owner occupied housing second phase.

Mayor Strasser also thanked the street department and utilities for keeping things going during all the bad weather.

John Bennett made the motion to adjourn. Second by Brian Garrison. (5-0) Meeting adjourned at 8:15 .



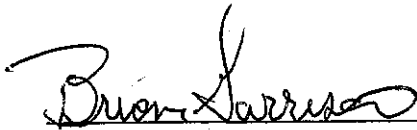
Mayor Randy Strasser



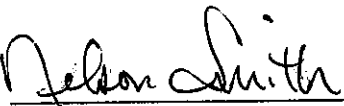
Dick Traeger, President




Carolyn Pearson



Brian Garrison



Nelson Smith



John Bennett