

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council meeting was duly held at City Hall on the 6th day of August at 6:30 pm.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

John Grutsch Mayor, Daryl Rachey, Hugh Knox, Terry Pflipsen – Councilors

Jodi Austing-Traut Clerk/Administrator

Absent: Al Ernst, Councilor

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Grutsch and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Three-Phase Power Extension along CSAH 9

Xcel Energy is planning to extend three-phase power to the north on County Road 9 to serve the Water's Edge Development, a lift station, and future demand for service. The City had looking at a number of options for getting the necessary service in place.

- 1) Place the power lines on the east side of CSAH 9 in the right of way in front of the elementary school and Community Church. There no major obstructions in this area, making the project easy to accomplish, but likely more visible and arguably less aesthetically pleasing.
- 2) Place the power lines on the west side of CSAH 9 in the right of way in front of the homes along the west side of CSAH 9. There are many trees that would need to be drastically trimmed.
- 3) Place the power lines in the utility easement behind the homes on the west side of CSAH 9. Xcel is currently looking into this option further, however, at this point, it appears that the 20' easement is not wide enough to accommodate their equipment. There are some sheds, fences, and trees that are obstructions within the easement as well.
- 4) Place the power lines on an alternate route utilizing Char Avenue (past Budde Trucking). It was concluded that this option is cost prohibitive. Initial estimates given by Xcel indicated that the city would have to contribute more than \$50,000 to utilize this alternate route, whereas with the other options there would be little to no cost to the city.

Mayor Grutsch explained that the most viable options at this time are Option 1 or 2 above. Property owners present voiced their concerns regarding the potential placement of poles in their front yards. Avon Community Church representative indicated that they would prefer the placement of the poles on the west side of the street.

Motion Terry Pflipsen to authorize placement of the poles in the right of way on the east side of CSAH 9, second Hugh Knox and carried unanimously.

Gary Nolden - Administrative Citation Hearing

Mr. Nolden was not present for the hearing.

Motion Daryl Rachey to uphold the citation, second Terry Pflipsen and carried unanimously.

Shane Eastman (Joseph's) - Request for consideration of 2AM Closing

Mr. Eastman was not present, however, the council did discuss this issue and the council is generally favorable regarding the 2AM closing. Staff will look into drafting an amendment as well as a fee schedule. Council had concerns about outdoor bands, music, and increased noise complaints. Staff will check with the league to try to gauge how this has been working in other cities.

Planning Commission Update

Public hearing on the zoning ordinance will be held at the next regular Planning Commission meeting the 3rd Tuesday of August.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of 7/2, 7/16, 7/23
2. Planning Commission Minutes of 7/17, 7/20
3. Claims Register and Monthly Expenditures/Revenues
4. Capital Expenditures, Legal Fees, Engineering Fees Detailed Reports
5. AFD Mutual Aid Agreement Amendment
6. Wage Proposal
7. Change to Personnel Policy
8. Parks Board Recommendation to turn down the request to place sculptures on sidewalks
9. Pay Application #1 Water's Edge Phase III in the amount of \$39,346.62

Motion Daryl Rachey to approve consent agenda, second Hugh Knox and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Randy Jenniges, City Engineer, S.E.H

Public Hearing Chinook Ave Extension

Mayor Grutsch opened the public hearing opened at 7:30. Randy Jenniges, City Engineer presented some background on the proposed extension of Chinook Avenue from CSAH 54 to 2nd Street (near the City's Maintenance Shop). With the recent construction of Avon Estates an opportunity has arisen to provide access to properties along 2nd Street access to CSAH 54 via a proposed extension of Chinook Avenue. Currently most of the properties along 2nd St. must travel through the lumberyard to access their property. The Chinook Ave extension would provide an alternate crossing across the Lake Wobegon Trail. There is potential, that once Chinook Ave is extended, 2nd Street could be vacated and Lumber One could fence in their property. Terry Schmidt suggested that the council consider assessing 3 additional properties (418 Sundown Dr and 413 & 415 4th St.) that utilize 2nd Street as a secondary access to their properties. City Engineer stated that the council could face contestment because the benefit to those additional 3 properties would not likely be as much as the assessment because it is just a secondary access for these properties. Terms of assessment might be something like 10-year assessment at 6% or so. Rick Ballman of Lumber One stated that Lumber One is in favor of the Chinook Ave extension only if 2nd St. will indeed be vacated. Randy Jenniges suggested that the city and Lumber One enter into a memorandum of understanding to agree that once Chinook Ave is extended, 2nd St. will be vacated.

Motion Hugh Knox to move forward with the project based on the preliminary assessment roll and adopt a Resolution Authorizing S.E.H. to Develop Plans and Specifications, second Terry Pflipsen and carried unanimously.

Public Hearing 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan

Randy Jenniges presented Streets Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) information. Streets have been rated on a scale of 1-10 based on their condition. Options for street repair 1) crack filling 2) seal coating 3) mill/overlay 4) full reclaim (of class V and bituminous). Phase I of the Streets CIP

suggests 1st St. S. from Chinook to Avon Ave & Chinook Ave from Windsor Way to CR 54. This 1st Phase cost estimate is at \$635,800. Phase II includes seal coating a number of streets. David Drown was present to address funding of this CIP. The city is looking at funding the streets projects by continuing to levy for bond issues that are falling off the tax rolls, thus having little impact on the property tax levy. The city intends to revolve funding source and do a street project or phase every 3-4 few years. Randy Jenniges will hold a neighborhood meeting with the property owners along Chinook/1st St to discuss the project.

Motion Hugh Knox to adopt a Resolution Adopting a Street Reconstruction plan and approving the Issuance of General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds, second Daryl Rachey and carried unanimously.

Motion Hugh Knox approve feasibility report, order plans and specifications, and authorize advertisement for bids, second Daryl Rachey and carried unanimously.

Update on Water's Edge Phase III Mr. Jenniges mentioned that work is in progress.

Update on Avon Estates

Avon Estates is progressing. Construction progress meetings are being held Thursday mornings at 11:00 am at the Village Bean. Council is welcome to attend. Tree spading has been put off due to dry conditions. Three on site wells have been found. One will be used for watering; the other two will be abandoned/capped. Change orders we are looking at are 1) Changing retainage from 5% to 10% 2) South side realignment 3) Chinook Ave extension 4) Jacking and boring 5) Storm water pond revision 6) Possibly Electrical – we need 3 phase power for the lift station. Xcel does not want to bring 3-phase power out to the site until it is partially developed and they can recoup their cost. This means a \$25,000 increased cost for our lift station in the mean time. The city will push this issue with Xcel.

ADMINISTRATIVE

DBD Proposal/Request The Downtown Business District Committee is looking for funding for an ongoing internship position. An SCSU Community Development intern was interviewed last week and is willing and eager to work for us, even without pay if necessary. The council could consider using the Initiative Foundation Grant (\$1,000) that the city recently received. Among other activities, the intern will be responsible to try to find funding for us to be able to have an ongoing internship available in the area of economic development. Discussion ensued about how much of a stipend is a reasonable amount to offer a student. Council consensus to add a line item to the budget to fund an economic development intern. Consensus to use the \$1,000 grant from the Initiative Foundation toward an internship position for this fall.

RFP for Facilities Pre-Plan

Ms. Austing-Traut presented a draft Request for Proposals to for analysis of building space needs for the Avon Fire Department, Avon Police Department, and Avon City Hall. The city is requesting proposals to engineering services to analyze the city's current and future space needs and to assist the city in determining how to best utilize existing space and how to plan for future expansion of the city's facilities.

Motion Hugh Knox to authorize staff to send out RFP, second Daryl Rachey, and carried unanimously.

ISSUES BY STAFF

Ray Schmidt: Written report provided. Ray requested approval to authorize Nate Brenner to issue weed violations. Enforcement is still through standard procedure. The Mayor authorized Nate Brenner to issue weed violations.

Corey Nellis: Written Report. Chief Nellis requested approval to make improvements to the PD's office space and to construct an evidence locker.

Motion Daryl Rachey to approve remodeling PD office utilizing Creative Cabinets Furniture at a cost of \$3,295 second Terry Pflipsen and carried unanimously.

Chief Nellis will get bids on the construction of an evidence locker and will bring them back to the council for consideration.

People Service: Written Report. Discussion of service being provided by People Service. The council wishes to see employees log in and out at city hall as well as logs of maintenance being provided and the associated expenses.

ISSUES BY COUNCIL

Daryl Rachey presented an update of his participation on the school district facilities planning committee.

The parks board would like approval to proceed with installing sprinkling systems. The cost of the systems would be donated; the water would be the only city cost.

Mayor Grutsch mentioned that the Lions are in process of getting their budget together. If there are any city projects that city staff is aware of, please submit requests to Lions.

Motion Hugh Knox to adjourn at 9:30 second Daryl Rachey and carried unanimously.

***Respectfully Submitted by,
Jodi Austing-Traut
City Clerk/Administrator***