

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a City Council meeting was duly held at City Hall on the 5th day of April 2010 at 6:00 pm.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:

John Grutsch - Mayor, Jim Stang, Kurt Marthaler, Hugh Knox and Margie Evens – Councilors

Jodi Austing-Traut - Clerk/Administrator

Absent: None

Local Board of Appeals and Equalization

Kelly Lemke and Tina Diedrich were present to discuss valuations.

A representative of Franklin Advertising was present to contest the valuation of his billboard site in Avon. This is the first year that the county has exercised their right to tax billboard sites. The county would have liked to base the valuation of billboard sites on income but billboard site owners have been reluctant to provide income data to the county. This has put the county in a position to use traffic count/potential for visibility as the basis for valuation. No new data was presented. The council felt that it would be best to allow Stearns County to handle this appeal at the county level as more information becomes available.

Motion Margie Evens to take no action

Second Kurt Marthaler

Passed Unanimously

Jeff Manthe was present to contest the valuation of his property located at 953 Hamlet Drive North (PID 42.26326.0000). Ms. Lemke suggested that she visit the home with Mr. Manthe and prepare findings for the city council. Ms. Lemke will present further information at the council meeting in May.

Motion Hugh Knox to table Mr. Manthe's request upon review of the property by Ms. Lemke

Second Kurt Marthaler

Passed Unanimously

Lamar Advertising Company provided a written appeal.

Motion Hugh Knox to take no action

Second Margie Evens

Passed Unanimously

An appeal was presented by Kelly Lemke for 1051 Hamlet Dr. This property was listed as having three bedrooms; Ms. Lemke inspected it and changed it to a one bedroom.

Motion Hugh Knox to change the valuation of 1051 Hamlet Drive North to \$200,700

Second Jim Stang

Passed Unanimously

Motion Hugh Knox to recess Local Board of Appeals Meeting until 6:30 on Monday April 12th

Second Margie Evens

Passed Unanimously

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Grutsch at 7:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of March 1st and March 3rd, 2010
2. Claims Register and Monthly Expenditures/Revenues, Cash Flow
3. Capital Expenditures, Legal Fees, Engineering Fees Detailed Reports
4. Approve Gambling Permit Church of St. Benedict for event on 07/11/2010

Motion Kurt Marthaler to approve consent agenda

Second Jim Stang

Passed Unanimously

OTHER MINUTES NOTED:

PC Minutes

ACIC/EDC Minutes

Fire Board Minutes

David Drown – Refunding

David Drown updated the city council on the work that has been done. Representative Larry Hosch has drafted legislation to have a great portion of the city's wastewater debt forgiven. Mayor Grutsch and Ms. Austing-Traut will be meeting with the PFA and Rep. Hosch and Sen. Fischbach sometime next week to pursue options further.

Mr. Drown presented a resolution to refund several of the city's bonds. The purpose of the refunding is to extend the term of the bonds and lowering payments.

Motion Jim Stang to adopt a Resolution Approving the Issuance of \$1,700,000 G.O. Refunding Bonds, Series 2010A

Second Kurt Marthaler

Passed Unanimously

ISSUES BY STAFF

Clerk/Administrator:

SHIP Grant: The city is has applied for grant funds through the SHIP program to research the development of a community garden as well as a beach to Wobegon Trail connection.

County Road 54 Seal Coat Project Stearns County has proposed to seal coat a section of County Road 54. Their usual protocol is that the city would pay for seal coating the shoulder. In our case this would be a cost of approximately \$2,000. Council consensus is that we are not interested in assisting Stearns County with their seal-coating project.

Public Works: Written Report

Discussion of reshingle roof on the bathroom at the beach and making minor repairs to the wall.

Motion Hugh Knox to authorize street sweeping bid from Lange Trenching

Second Kurt Marthaler

Passed Unanimously

Police: Written Report

Water/Wastewater: Written Report

The house in Avon Estates is having problems with stale water. The owner called Traut Wells and they recommended that she install a carbon filter. Property owner would like the city's help in paying for the carbon filter.

ISSUES BY COUNCIL

Beach

Councilor Knox met with Chuck Wocken regarding the presentation that he made to the Stearns County Parks Board on February 10th. Mr. Wocken indicated that it is important that the city partner with townships within the county and request a portion of their dedicated park and recreation funds obtained from housing development. These could be leveraged against the county funds.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Margie Evens to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk/Administrator