

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, an Avon City Council Meeting was duly held at City Hall on the 3rd day of February, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:**

John Grutsch – Mayor; Hugh Knox, Kurt Marthaler, Jim Stang, Jeff Manthe – Councilors

Jim Thares - City Clerk/Administrator

Absent: None

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

Pledge of Allegiance

**PUBLIC ACCESS FORUM:** Dick Glatzmaier, 958 Waters Edge Circle, asked when the new street lights will be installed in the north end of the City along County Road 9. Ray Schmidt, Public Works Director, said he would call Xcel Energy to learn about the schedule. Angie Corte, 981 Juliet Way, asked if the City is interested in a Community Garden. She inquired about a possible site and water supply. The concept is to involve various community groups and potential funding to support the Garden. Councilor Stang recommended Community Ed and Farm to School programs as possible collaborative partners. The County Extension office and local 4-H club were also identified as potential supporters.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

#1 Council Minutes – January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

#2 Claims Register

#3 Capital Expenditures, Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Detailed Reports

#4 Acceptance of Donations (\$50.00)

**Motion by Councilor Marthaler to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilor Stang. Motion passed unanimously.**

**OTHER MINUTES:**

Planning Commission Minutes – January 21st, 2014. Council clarified the purpose for the public hearing that will be held by the Planning Commission on February 18<sup>th</sup>. It is for impervious surface language amendments to the ordinance.

**COUNCIL BUSINESS:**

**Discussion with Jim Read, Democratic Candidate for MN 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District**

Congressional candidate Jim Read introduced himself to the Council. Council made Mr. Read aware of a broad variety of issues and concerns that cities face in dealing with federal agencies, programs and legislative mandates.

**Avon Estates – Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Application**

City Clerk/Administrator Thares reviewed the progress that Mr. Jesh is making on the apartment development. He also mentioned that he would like to have the Avon Estates Development Review Committee hold a meeting in early March.

**ISSUES BY STAFF:**

**Public Works** – Ray Schmidt, Public Works Director, noted that the City Hall/Fire Hall roof repair project is completed. The project has a 5-year warranty. Ray and the contractor will closely inspect the roof in the spring and any additional fixes will be made as needed at that time. He also reported that the amount of sand and salt that is being used on streets this winter is significant. The supply may not last through the entire winter season. He reviewed issues with frozen water service lines and stressed that the City is not liable for individual service repairs. Councilor Knox asked about the Xcel tree-trimming contractor and clarified that the City did not hire this firm.

**Police Department** – Police Officer Jason Luethmers offered to answer questions about the Police Department report.

**Water/Wastewater Department** – Jon Forsell, Water/Wastewater Utility Director, told the Council that he has been in during the middle of the night flushing hydrants on seven occasions this winter. He reported another seal failure on Hydromatic Pump #2 at Lift Station No. 7. Jon also asked Council for authorization to repair a broken lift station pump. The expected cost will be slightly in excess of \$1,500. He said the impeller retrofits have also been scheduled for the Hydromatic pumps. The oxidation ditch at the wastewater plant has frozen over due to the cold which is really unusual. **Councilor Stang motioned to authorize purchase of repairs at pump #2 in Lift Station No. 7. Second by Councilor Marthaler. Motion passed unanimously.**

**OTHER:**

Mayor Grutsch asked if the City had ever received the value of the grading work in Waters Edge Phase Four from the City Engineer. City Clerk/Administrator said he had not received that information from S.E.H. yet. He said he would follow up with the engineer. Councilors noted a benefit fundraiser for John Hayes' wife in Pequot Lakes on February 8, 2014. The Avon Fire Department was recognized for the 20 hours of training that they had in the month of January plus responding to three structure fires and other calls. The Department has responded to 50 calls since November 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor Grutsch noted that he was pleased with the presentation that Stearns County Attorney Jenelle Kendall had given to the Municipal League meeting.

**ISSUES BY COUNCIL:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilor Marthaler motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Second by Councilor Manthe. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted  
Jim Thares, City Clerk/Administrator