

City of Ada
Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting – April 5, 2011

Members present: Mayor Ellefson, Members Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault.

Others present: Anne Rasmusson, Shelley Kappes, Gerrie Aasland, Tyson – Moore Engineering, Brian Rasmusson, John Kappes, Steve Petry, Lee Ann Holl, Eric Robb, Joe Kroshus, Vernon Habeck, Diane Ista, and others.

III. Citizens Forum. Diane Ista requested that the Council hold a public meeting to present the plans for a levy. She suggested that they hold it in June after all the spring work is done and in the evening so that more people could attend.

IV. Consent agenda. Listed on the consent agenda was: March 8 & 16, 2011 council meeting minutes, City pre – paid checks, City accounts payable in the amount of \$99,276.82. Added to the consent agenda was: Liquor and amusement licenses.

Motion by Member Robertson, second by Member Peterson to approve the consent agenda. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

V. Agenda. Added to the agenda was: Energy grant, All – School Reunion dance, EDA announcement, clean – up week, protocol for snow removal, minutes, publish minutes and the expense, charter committee, contracts – job descriptions.

Motion by Member Austinson, second by Peterson to approve the agenda with changes. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

VI. A. 1. Mayor’s report. Flood protection project update. Tyson updated the council on the lift station project. Tyson also stated that there will be a Senate hearing on April 8th in Moorhead that the Mayor will testify at in regards to flood mitigation for the area. The hearing runs from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Robertson to authorize the Mayor to testify at the hearing. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

Tyson went over the flood protection project. The council discussed pursuing the second option to check the feasibility of it.

Motion by Member Hansen, second by Member Peterson to investigate the costs of the second option to compare with the first option. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

Tyson gave an update on the flood plain mapping and stated that he has been informed that they will be done with the mapping on or before December 31, 2012.

B. 1. Dekko Community Center. Energy Grant Agreement. This would need to be signed to move forward.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Hansen to approve the Energy Grant Agreement. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

2. Approve advertising to hire part – time lifeguards and desk clerks.

Motion by member Pinsonneault, second by Member Hansen to authorize Eric to advertise for part – time desk clerks and lifeguards. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

C. Planning & Zoning. Nothing for action.

D. 1. Public Safety. All School Reunion dance. Shelley stated that someone was supposed to be present to ask for permission to have a dance outside at the V.F.W. during the All School Reunion. There are regulations that have to be followed when having an outside dance.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Robertson to approve the outdoor dance during the All School Reunion at the V.F.W. as long as the guidelines are followed. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

2. Enclosed trailer for hoses / fitting for pumps. Steve explained that Visser's have an enclosed trailer that they would trade the flatbed the City has and would ask for \$3,000 to boot. This would keep the hoses out of the weather and make them easier to roll out during flood times. This would be paid out of the interest earned on the long term designated funds.

Motion by Member Edwards, second by Member Erickson to trade trailers with Visser's giving them \$3,000 to boot. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

E. Public Works. Approve to advertise for part – time summer help. There would be two people for mowing and one person for the compost / mosquito spraying.

Motion by Member Edwards, second by Member Erickson to approve to advertise for part – time summer help. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

2. Catch basin work on West Main Street. Brian stated the City's share of the catch basin by the Public Safety building would be \$690.00 and the cost for the one by the V.F.W. would be \$1,640.75 for a total of \$2,330.75 which he would take out of the maintenance funds. He is waiting to hear back from the County as it would be a cost share with them.

3. Protocol for plowing snow. Member Pinsonneault asked if the council could be notified if the schedule is obscured for any reason so they can answer questions when residents call. He also questioned the hospital road not being cleared promptly after the last snow. Brian explained that there was a delay with the maintainer and normally that road is first on the list when they leave the shop.

4. City clean – up. Member Pinsonneault has received concerns about not having curb side pickup this year. Residents are wondering if there will be any help available with getting big items out to the compost site. Shelley stated that she has contacted several service groups about helping out during those times to those that need it. Residents could make an in-kind donation to those groups for their efforts.

F. 1. Economic Development Authority. Cougar Addition Expansion. Member Edwards explained that there are only a few lots available in Cougar Addition and that maybe it might be time to move on with Phase 2.

Member Edwards informed the council that there will be a meeting with Wilcraft at the Ag Country meeting room at 2:00 p.m. on April 6th. The council is welcome to attend. Wilcraft is looking to expand their business.

G. 1. Finance / Labor committee. Clerk / Treasurer report. Publish minutes and expenses.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Robertson to publish the approved minutes, expenses, and agendas on the website. Members voting for: Austinson,

Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

Shelley stated that the auditor's will be here in May to give their report. She also stated that the City has made its' final payment for the territorial agreement with Red River Valley Coop Power. The new census numbers are out and Ada has a population of 1,707 which is up from the 2000 census.

2. Liquor Store Manager report. Gerrie went over the numbers for the month and also stated that they are doing some painting to spruce up the place.

VII. A. Old business. Charter committee. Member Pinsonneault asked how the Mayor was coming along with appointing that committee. Mayor Ellefson stated that he thought that committee would have to be appointed by a district judge. He thought they would have to petition the judge to do this.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Peterson to have the City Attorney investigate this issue. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

B. Union contracts. Member Hansen questioned if there is a technology clause in the Union Contract. Anne stated she hasn't read the contract but could look into it.

Motion by Member Hansen, second by Member Robertson to have the City Attorney find out if there is a technology clause in the Union Contract. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

VIII. New Business. Choose Kaleidoscope reps. Member Austinson volunteered.

B. Assigning work to the City Attorney. Anne went over the role of the city attorney as described in the Charter. The council discussed different ways to ensure any one individual wasn't using attorney services excessively.

Motion by Member Pinsonneault, second by Member Robertson to allow individual council members, the Mayor, department heads and committees to contact the attorney subject to an monthly itemized report to see how the money is being spent. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Pinsonneault. Against: Hansen. Motion passed.

Member Hansen brought up the question of having the City Attorney present at all council meetings. It was mentioned that with the flood protection projects and other issues going on it would be helpful to have the attorney available at meetings. It can be looked at again down the road when things settle down. Anne stated that if she could know before the meeting any issues that she will need to report on it would help her to provide an answer. Anne questioned who the council would like to answer questions from the media. The council indicated that she should be the one to answer those questions.

Update on the mediation with Sellin Bros. Anne stated that mediation is set for April 14th in St. Cloud with Mr. Pemberton. Anne needs the council to authorize someone to negotiate on behalf of the City.

Motion by Member Erickson, second by Member Edwards to authorize Mayor Ellefson, Anne Rasmusson, and Tyson – Moore Engineering to negotiate and commit to a settlement on behalf of the City. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

C. Motion by Member Edwards, second by Member Hansen to close the meeting at 8:10 p.m. for the express purpose to discuss mediation and settlement strategies in regards to Sellin Bros. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

Motion by Member Edwards, second by Member Peterson to re – open the meeting at 8:48 p.m. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

IX. Motion by Member Edwards, second by Member Erickson to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Members voting for: Austinson, Robertson, Peterson, Erickson, Edwards, Hansen, Pinsonneault. Against: None. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Kappes
City Clerk / Treasurer

Jim Ellefson
Mayor