

CITY OF PELICAN RAPIDS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 12-13-04

The City Council of the City of Pelican Rapids met in regular session on Monday, 12-13-04, at 5:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 315 N. Broadway. Mayor Wayne Runningen, Council Members Denise Magnusson, John E. Waller, III, David Gottenborg and Ben Woessner were present. No one was absent. Clerk-Treasurer Glenys Ehlert, Police Chief Scott Fox, Utilities Superintendent Brent E. Frazier, Street and Park Superintendent Tom Soberg, Fire Chief Trevor Steeves, Don Solga, incoming city administrator, Tom Hintgen of the Pelican Rapids Press, Mimsi Weckworth, Jesse Fahje and Mike Magnusson were also present.

Mayor Runningen called meeting to order.

Items added to the agenda included Land Appraisal, Skating Rink and Street Reconstruction.

Utilities Superintendent Brent E. Frazier reported on work completed in the utility department. Frazier also reviewed the Wellhead Protection Plan for the City of Pelican Rapids. The Minnesota Department of Health worked on the plan with Frazier providing data. Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Magnusson to approve the Wellhead Protection Plan Part 1, as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Police Chief Scott Fox presented his report.

Street and Park Superintendent Tom Soberg reported on work in his departments. He reported on work at the Public Works Facility. He worked with Richard Peterson on the Airport Five Year Capitalization Plan. Mayor Runningen thanked Airport Committee member Richard Peterson for his work on the Airport Capitalization Plan and Soberg for keeping the streets cleaned and for the work on the Airport Plan.

Fire Chief Trevor Steeves reviewed the planning for a new fire hall. The Fire Department's Building Committee is recommending that the City Council approve the hiring of Baker, Hogan, Houx of Perham, to develop schematic design options for a new Fire Hall Building. This firm has experience in building fire halls in surrounding communities. The fee to provide architectural services is set at a maximum of \$4,150. He said there are many safety considerations that point to the need for a new fire hall. The present building is appraised at \$70,000. Estimated cost of the building is in the neighborhood of \$600,000. Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Waller to authorize hiring Baker, Hogan, Houx to develop design options for a fire hall at a cost not to exceed \$4450. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Woessner asked Trevor Steeves about hiring Moore Engineering to do a hydrology study in the area of the skating rink. Steeves said the school asked Moore Engineering to take a look at the area, but did not proceed on a project.

Mimsi Weckworth of Weckworth Animal Hospital presented information on the problem of cats. She has been studying the problem for the past eight years. She reviewed the Barnesville Animal Control Officer program. Funds are generated from \$10 and \$5 licenses, impound fees and donations. She provided the City Council with a notebook of research on the situation, forms, ideas and listings of various organizations and useful websites. Mayor Runnigen thanked Mimsi Weckworth for her work and the helpful data. Council Member Gottenborg said we need to look at what the costs and funding sources would be prior to making decisions about having an Animal Control Officer. Mayor Runnigen agreed that the City will need to get an idea about what the costs would be. Weckworth said a Task Force would be able to do the research for the Council. Motion by Waller, seconded by Gottenborg to appoint a committee to develop information on animal control, consisting of Mimsi Weckworth, Denise Magnusson and Police Chief Scott Fox. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Magnusson, seconded by Waller to approve the minutes of 11-3-04 and 11-05-04 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Magnusson to approve the Accounts Payable Listing of 12-13-04 as corrected and with the library bills as approved by Library Board Member Gary Lage. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Waller to designate State Bank Mortgage & Loan as an official depository. Motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed bus fares. Council directed Clerk-Treasurer Ehlert to develop costs for driving the bus and number of fares.

Motion by Waller, seconded by Gottenborg to introduce a resolution to enter into an Agreement with the State of Minnesota to provide public transportation service in the City of Pelican Rapids and authorizing the Administrator and/or Mayor to sign contracts on behalf of the City of Pelican Rapids. Motion passed unanimously and resolution declared duly adopted.

Motion by Magnusson, seconded by Waller to approve the following licenses:
2005 Cigarette Licenses: Cynthia Stotesbery, Larry's Supermarket; David Huseby, Park Region Co-op; VFW Gilmore Weik Post #5252 and Rick Loerzel, Pelican Bp.

2005 Recreational Gaming Licenses: Gary & Leah Deschene, GLD Lanes; Janice Stetz, Pelican Tastee Freeze; and VFW Gilmore Weik Post #5252.

2005 Business Licenses: Z & Z Associates, Mobile Home Park

2005 Plumbing Licenses: Marty Hanson, Pelican Plumbing; Craig Kotte, Kotte's Plumbing & Heating; Rodney Hanson of Hanson's Plumbing & Heating; Glen Smith, Smith Appliance Repair; Jim King, Jim's Plumbing; Jerome Toftely, Jerome Toftely Plumbing, Corley B. Benson, Grant's Mechanical; Howard Wrigley, Wrigley Mechanical; Dwight R Carlson, D. Carlson Plumbing & Excavating.

2005 Charitable Gaming Licenses: VFW Gimore Weik Post #5252, VFW Gimore Weik Post #5252 Auxiliary, Pelican Rapids Firemen's Relief. Motion passed unanimously and above licenses were approved.

Mayor Runningen reviewed the Truth in Taxation Hearing. No members of the public were present. Council reviewed the Proposed 2005 Budget and discussed various items.

Motion by Woessner, seconded by Magnusson to accept the 2005 Proposed Budget and certify the levy for General Taxes in the amount of \$497,163 and Special Levy in the amount of \$83,860 to Otter Tail County. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Runningen reviewed several proposals to sell city land to a neighboring property owner. City Attorney Scott Dirks will assist the City in the sale of land. Dirks recommended that the City obtain an appraisal of the property. Motion by Magnusson, seconded by Gottenborg to authorize Appraiser Steve Zimmerman to appraise city owned land, per drawings, at a cost between \$500 and \$700, not to exceed \$700. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Gottenborg discussed the street reconstruction project. "At the very least we need to look at working on Maplewood Drive, 9th Ave. SW and 10th Ave. SW," said Soberg. Motion by Gottenborg, seconded by Woessner to have Street and Park Superintendent Tom Soberg talk to Moore Engineering about a street reconstruct and come back with scope of project. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Glenys Ehlert, CMC
Clerk-Treasurer