

Councilpersons:
First Ward: Gallenberger, Friedmeyer
Second Ward: Schmidt, Hiers
Third Ward: Meurer, Bricher

Mayor: Rollin Hall
City Attny: Peter Ekstrand
City Adm: David Schmidt
City Clerk: Susan Schamaun
Date: October 4, 2011

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Wabasha was held on Tuesday, October 4, 2011, and was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Rollin Hall.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Councilpersons Gallenberger, Friedmeyer, Schmidt, Hiers, Bricher, Meurer and Mayor Hall.

2. Guest Presentation: Brian Fries, Coffee Mill Ski Area.

Mr. Fries gave a presentation on the Coffee Mill Ski Area current and upcoming events. He stated that the ski hill season passes are currently on sale and they have kept rates consistent for the past five years, there are also stay and play packages available with the local hotels. They are looking into adding tubing for non-skiers in the next couple years. He also stated that he has been approached about paint balling; mountain biking; Frisbee golf; and other non-skier activities and welcomes people to contact him with ideas.

Mr. Fries also provided an update on the Red Bull BMX event that was held at the ski hill. There were 16 riders brought in from around the world for the event, they prepared their own course. He stated that the event had brought in about \$60,000 of revenue into the city. He is hoping they will be back again next year.

3. Public Comments: None

4. Changes or Additions to Agenda: None

5. Mayor's Presentation: Mayor Hall announced the following:

- There are two openings on the Library Board; anyone interested should contact Michele McCaughtry at the library.
- The Anderson House project is back on track and closing date is expected in early November
- The Personnel Committee met after the last council meet and is working on a performance review process. A performance review form should be complete prior to the next council meeting to hand out to council members for review, after which the council can complete the City Administrators performance evaluation.
- Thanked and complimented everyone including Carolyn Klees for all the Septoberfest decorations throughout the city.

6. Committee Reports:

Utilities Commission: Councilperson Schmidt reported that the water tower has been repaired and filled with water; however it still needs to be tested for bacteria so it will not be back online for a couple more days. He also reported that the commission is working on water rates.

Street Commission: Councilperson Bricher reported that Pete Ochsner a Lawrence Blvd resident attended the last Street Commission meeting with a request for signage for RV and Trailer parking; issues with the painting on the street during event races; and a water runoff problem. He also reported that the state has relaxed the date required for installing reflective signage.

Planning Commission: Councilperson Friedmeyer reported the Planning Commission is working on a storm water mapping project which will help to understand where all the surface water runs into the ground water and will help with future development and the wellhead protection plan. The commission is also working on an ordinance for wood burning furnaces within city limits.

Ambulance Commission: Councilperson Friedmeyer reported that the commission reviewed the process for improving the ambulances and also reviewed other equipment that needs to be replaced including the heart monitors.

Park Board: Councilperson Hiers reported that the board approved re-roofing the old shelter at Beach Park. She also reported that the Falcon Youth Baseball group had come to the last meeting and the board approved the group to make improvements to the field with donations they received including removing the old fence and installing a new fence and new backstop.

Councilperson Gallenberger agreed with the mayor on decorations throughout the city. She also welcomed back owners of Thomas Industries to community.

7. Administrator’s Report: David Schmidt reported the following:

- Water tank will be back online tomorrow – citizens should call city hall if there are any problems
- City personnel and others took a tour of the Army Reserve center on September 16. Working with Senator Klobuchar’s office. The city could take transfer of the building for a cost of \$1.00. The Port Authority has obtained 3 years of utility records and requested blueprints for the reserve center building. The Port Authority has formed a sub-committee to look in to city property and determine what city properties would be considered excess if the property became available. The timeframe would be sometime in 2012.
- Election grants – on the consent agenda
- Army Corp of Engineers wants to fill the pit this year. The city needs a clay dyke to protect the city well prior to the pit being filled; the process could begin as soon as 2 weeks from now.
- Common board meeting on Wednesday.
- Updated the council on the Anderson House project
- Updated the council on the K&C Fisheries project

8. Consent Agenda: Councilpersons Meurer and Hiers moved to approve the following consent agenda: Adopted unanimously.

Approved the September 6, 2011 Council minutes
 Resolution of Support to Apply for Grant Funds for Election Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities
 Approved the following warrants as presented:

Mayors	General Fund	
Pool	“	720.97
Legal	“	3,500.00
Park	“	3,772.06
City Hall	“	16,668.27
Streets	“	5,349.13
Planning & Zoning	“	1,013.55
Police	“	2,864.81
Ambulance	“	3,463.29
Fire Department	“	2,743.87
Emergency Management	“	7.57
Engineering	“	1,736.07
Summer Rec	“	93.35
Total		\$41,932.94

9. Public Hearing: None

10.1 Sheriff’s Presentation

Wabasha County Sheriff Rodney Bartsh spoke to the council about contracting police services with the county. A formal proposal has not been presented. Sheriff Bartsh stated that county would need direction from the council on what protection they would be expecting in order to prepare a proposal. He also stated that he had received several questions from the police dept. and had just gotten some of the questions answered today. Sheriff Bartsh also stated that the proposal would depend upon what level of service the council wants. The county currently contracts with several cities already at different levels of service.

Discussion included officer pay; maintaining current level of service; school resource officer and protection schedules.

City Attorney Peter Ekstrand informed the council that there may be a problem with the city charter; 2.06 states that in time of public danger or emergency the mayor may take command of the police to maintain order and enforce the law. The charter also gives the mayor general control and direction of the police. These items and others would conflict with a contract with the county and the charter would have to be amended.

Sheriff Bartsh stated that the county is interested in preparing a proposal with the council’s approval and direction. It was decided that a subcommittee of Council persons, Friedmeyer, Bricher, Gallenberger and City Administrator David Schmidt would meet with Sherriff Bartsh to discuss a proposal.

10.2 City Attorney Contract

Council members discussed the proposed City Attorney Contract provided. After all discussion Council member Gallenberger moved and seconded by Friedmeyer to adopt the Contract for City Attorney Legal Services between the City of Wabasha and Ekstrand Law Office. Adopted Unanimously.

10.3 Road Project Discussion

Council members discussed the proposed 2012 Road project. City Engineer John Stewart was also present.

Council discussed the project including assessments, the need to do another public hearing; and project cost. Mayor Hall stated that \$200,000 has already been spent on the project over the last year and the city has gone 3 years without a street project. Other discussion included project cost; public hearing process; other options including doing nothing, paving a portion, gravel roads; and bonding issues.

Mr. Stewart addressed the council and provided the following information:

- He received the plans prepared for the project by previous city engineer
- He informed council members that the plans are usable but that they do have a shelf life
- The city needs a planned approach to the street projects and it is poor planning not to have a regular schedule
- Grants may be available for low/moderate income families for assessment abatement, but the project has to be setup a certain way to quality and it takes time. He will look into it.

After all discussion it was decided that the city engineer should work together with city staff and Mike Buboni and move forward with a projected cost proposal and bring it back to the council after which the council could decide if they want to move forward with updating the feasibility study and scheduling a public hearing.

Having no other business at 9:08 pm, Councilpersons Friedmeyer and Bricher moved to adjourn. Adopted unanimously.

Patty Heraty, Administrative Assistant