

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: September 06, 2011

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Wabasha was held on Tuesday, September 06, 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.

Guest Presentation: Mr. Ryan Marking, City of Wabasha Ambulance Director, came forward and relayed his education and work experience prior to coming to Wabasha. He stated he feels he has an outstanding crew and that it is an accomplishment to have all but two crew members living within city limits.

Public Comments: None

Changes or Additions to Agenda: Councilperson Meurer requested that Council Salary be added under General Business. City Administrator requested moving item 10.4 to 10.2. The requests were accepted.

Mayor's Presentation: Mayor Hall announced the following:

- Red Bull Skateboarders came through Wabasha. They were doing an informational trip down the Mississippi River and had lunch in one of Wabasha's restaurants.
- NEC fence is up for weathering eagles.
- Septoberfest being held from September 17th through October 31st. Invited everyone to participate in the various events around town.
- Opening of Papa's Barn on Second Street during Septoberfest.
- MN Homefront Exhibit just closed and there were many visitors and many good stories and memories shared. Thanked donators, Paul Busch, Jewson Realty, VFW, Flicek Insurance, Wabasha Family Denistry, and American Legion Auxiliary.
- Stated he attended a meeting in Owatonna where K&C Fisheries and Rebound Enterprises were awarded \$200,000 loans from SMIF. There were no City funds.

Wabasha Good News: Thanked Carol Jeffers for contacting City Hall to compliment a City employee for their work.

6. Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Councilperson Friedmeyer reported the Planning Commission met on August 9th and granted K&C Fisheries a Conditional Use Permit and that project is ready to go. He stated they are working on an outdoor wood burner ordinance and that may be on the Council agenda on October 4th.

Park Board: Councilperson Hiers reported Michael Johnson, 2011 Pool Director, came to the last Park Board meeting and reported how he felt the season went and also brought forth suggestions for making the 2012 season better. She stated she was very impressed and very appreciative for his efforts. Park Board also talked about the smaller shelter at Beach Park and a number of people have expressed an interest in making

some effort to preserve that shelter. They are thinking about putting a metal roof on it and that cost would be approximately \$2,500 with a local person doing the work. The Shelter at Bruegger Park is getting fixed from storm damage monies. It was reported insurance money has been received for replacing the damaged equipment at the Skateboard Park.

Utilities Commission: Councilperson Schmidt reported that during high water, the City still has some low lying areas that have infiltration. Years back, the city had some sewer lines relined and there are more to do. The Utilities Commission has accepted a bid from Visu-Sewer to reline some of these lines. He also reported the City Water Tower is being cleaned right now to be repainted. There are a few repairs that need to be made. The Dept. of Natural Resources has mandated that January 1, 2012, any municipality that serves over 1,000 people, has to comply with conservation rates. Currently the City has a rate system that goes down with the more water that is used, and in order to promote water conservation, cities have to charge from the first gallon and increase the rate as usage goes up.

Councilperson Gallenberger reported she attended a party for outgoing Chamber of Commerce personnel, Mr. Chris Fancher and Ms. Theresa Smith. The gathering was to show appreciation and say thanks for their hard work. She stated the Chamber does so much along with community members towards community functions such as Riverboat Days, Septoberfest and other activities.

Administrator's Report: David Schmidt reported the following:

- August 31st – team of financial planners met with City staff and talked about personal financial planning.
- Army Reserve Center – Army does not have plan to use building and the City can look at the property. The City provided the land for that property.
- Possibility of acquiring an Election Grant to make City Hall more handicapped accessible such as remote door openers, etc.
- Army Corps. of Engineers has informed the City that they are planning a significant fill in the pit next year. City staff have been working with the Army Corps. for six to eight months on making sure the City well is protected.
- The Common Board, which consists of the City, County and School representatives, will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the Market Value Homestead Credit State imposed tax shift on Minnesota properties. The State removed the Market Value credit payments to cities and directed county assessor's to create new values for homestead properties but that places the burden on all other properties that are not homesteaded.
- K&C Fisheries bought their property in the Industrial Court and started clearing the property last week and demolition and concrete will start this week. The \$288,000 SMIF Grant which the City receives will be loaned to K&C Fisheries and when it is paid back to the City with interest, it can be used for a revolving loan fund.
- The Anderson House Business Subsidy Agreement with a \$5,000 payment was received and the closing is scheduled for October 10th.

Presentation: Kyle and Tonya Sather came forward to report to Council they are new co-owners of Loco Gringos Cantina and will be changing the name of the restaurant to Silver Saloon Grill and Bar. They will offer a Tex-Mex style menu with burgers and sandwiches and also have a kids menu called the Little Buckeroo Menu and stressed they will be a family-friendly restaurant. Council thanked them and wished them well.

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

Approved the August , 2011 Council minutes
National Catholic Society of Foresters Application for Exempt Permit for Quilt Raffle.
W-K Chamber Application for Exempt Permit for Raffle for Septoberfest.

PERA Resolution Correction

Liquor License/Restaurant Name Change: Loco Gringos to Silver Saloon and Grill contingent upon all applications and forms being submitted as required per State Requirements and submitting a new Liquor Liability Certificate.

Approved the following warrants as presented:

Mayors	General Fund	\$28,990.06
Pool	"	\$1,912.01
Legal		\$3,500.00
Dog Pound	"	\$10.32
Park	"	\$4,086.52
City Hall	"	\$1,561.92
Streets	"	\$8,627.67
Planning & Zoning	"	\$528.35
Police	"	\$3,745.66
Ambulance	"	\$9,066.23
Fire Department	"	\$1,856.12
Emergency Management	"	\$11.10
Engineering		\$3,648.90
Girls Fastpitch (Legion Donation)	"	\$170.00
Total		\$67,714.86

9.1 Public Hearing: None

10.1 Library Board – Repair Request: Mr. David Kennebeck, Library Board, came forward and stated the Public Library has a broken window and the cost to repair is approximately \$1,600 and there is also an issue with the back door that needs to be resolved. Staff can't open that door and this is a safety issue. He further stated they do not have money in their budget and asked if the City could pay for the repair and further stated the Library Board would start to budget monies for repairs.

After discussion, Councilpersons Meurer and Schmidt moved to approve authorizing up to \$3,000 to replace the broken window and also resolve the damaged door at the Wabasha Public Library with the understanding that the Library Board will levy monies for repairs starting in 2013 as part of their budget. Adopted unanimously.

10.2 Ambulance Replacement Request: Ryan Marking, Ambulance Director, came forward and stated the newest City ambulance, bought in 2005, has had numerous issues which has caused it to be out of service for extended periods of time, which has in turn caused the City to lose approximately \$40,000 in revenue. The motor was rebuilt in September, 2010, and there was an engine fire in January, 2011, which was repaired but has now led to more issues electronically throughout the whole ambulance. He had a company come and do electronic repairs costing approximately \$1,400 for about 6 hours of work. Since 2010, there has been about \$25,000 worth of repairs done to this ambulance of which \$10,000 was warranty work. He further stated that because of problems with that ambulance, he deems it necessary to be replaced. He also stated that the ambulance bought in 2000 is past its replacement age by almost two years. It is already 11 years old but the equipment inside of the ambulance is outdated and obsolete and not very conducive to a good working environment.

Mr. Ryan Marking stated he is recommending replacing both ambulances next year which is covered under Plan B of the Capital Improvement Plan and then stated he will devise a replacement plan so this is avoided in

the future.

Councilpersons Bricher and Friedmeyer moved to accept the bid from North Central Ambulance in the amount of \$259,732.00 for two ambulances as per attached specs. (See vote below)**

Councilpersons Bricher and Friedmeyer moved to table the motion until after Mr. Bubany's Capital Improvement Plan. Adopted unanimously.

10.3 Capital Improvement Plan – Mr. Mike Bubany: Mr. Bubany stated he was presenting the City of Wabasha's Capital Improvement Plan as requested by Council in 2010. He stated the following and gave a brief description of each:

- Wabasha has "average" tax base
- Wabasha has "below average" tax rate
- Higher LGA funding and lower tax levies
- Low Median Household Income
- Adequate General Fund balance
- Moderately low debt levels
- Water rates are low/Sewer rates are high
- Total cost of taxes and utilities are below average

He presented:

- Plan A in which \$200,000 was designated for the purchase of an ambulance in 2013.
- Plan B in which the purchase of two ambulances were included in the year 2012.

After discussion, Councilpersons Gallenberger and Friedmeyer moved to adopt Plan B of the 2011 Capital Improvement Plan as submitted. Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Meurer, Hiers, Bricher, Gallenberger, Friedmeyer, Mayor Hall

Nays: Schmidt

10.2 Ambulance Replacement Request (Cont.): Discussion was held on whether one or two ambulances should be purchased. Some Councilpersons felt replacing one and using one of the ambulances as the back-up would ease the financial burden of buying two. Other Councilpersons felt neither current ambulance was reliable enough to use as a back up vehicle. It was reported the City was receiving a better price with the caveat of buying two.

Further, City Administrator, David Schmidt, stated the City felt by not trading in current vehicles it would enable the City to keep those vehicles for other uses or another back-up.

Mr. Marking stated that he would not recommend retaining the current 2005 Ambulance as a back-up emergency vehicle as it is not currently fit for primary emergency service. He would recommend keeping the older (2000) ambulance as a back-up.

****Vote for previous motion: Councilpersons Bricher and Friedmeyer moved to accept the bid from North Central Ambulance in the amount of \$259,732.00 for two ambulances as per attached specs.**

Ayes: Friedmeyer, Bricher, Hiers, Meurer, Mayor Hall

Nays: Gallenberger, Schmidt

10.4 Early Retirement Program: David Schmidt reported that the Finance Committee met and discussed an early retirement program. The recommended program has the following incentives to be paid from the general fund using 2011 LGA in excess of budgeted funds:

- Payment of \$10,000 to be made to the employees VEBA (health care) account
- 12 weeks pay

He stated, if the Early Retirement Program was approved, packets would be sent to eligible employees with an October 15th signed application dead-line with a December 31st dead-line for eligible employees to receive the incentive. The last working day for such eligible employees who choose to accept this offer, would be December 31, 2011.

Councilpersons Meurer and Bricher moved to adopt the Early Retirement Program and direct City Administrator and Mayor Hall to meet with eligible staff. Adopted unanimously after the following discussion.

Discussion: Councilperson Bricher asked about budget implications. David Schmidt stated it is typically 5 or 6 years before you break even. Part-time staff that could be hired would drop that time-line down to about 3 years. Councilperson Gallenberger stated she commends staff for providing this information and thanked the Finance Committee for working on this option and bringing it forward. She stated she trusts the Finance Committee and how they developed the program. Councilperson Schmidt concurred. He stated it is a benefit to the City.

10.5 Relining of City Pool: David Schmidt stated the pool was relined in 2006. It is a cement based pool and the current product the City is using has a 20 year life but no one will warranty it for that long a period due to the pool being an outdoor pool. It is the only product on the market for this type of pool. He stated he examined the pool with Mr. Mike Sorenson and it has been determined the pool needs attention.

There were two bids received for this restoration project:

- Sorenson Restoration - \$35,861
- Jody Beth - \$37,500

Councilpersons Gallenberger and Bricher moved to table relining of the pool until Council has discussion on whether the City wants to keep the pool or not. The motion failed unanimously.

Councilpersons Hiers and Schmidt moved to accept the low bid from Sorensen Restoration in the amount of \$35,861 and for the work to be completed in 2011. Adopted unanimously.

10.6 Ambulance Rate Adjustment: Councilperson Friedmeyer stated after review of rates, the Ambulance Director discovered that the City cannot itemize billings so in an effort to cover costs and realign rates, the Ambulance Commission is recommending a rate adjustment as submitted:

Current Billing Rates

Resident	\$550
Non-Resident	\$850
No Transport	No Charge
Mileage Rate	\$11.00/Mile
Oxygen	\$45
1 st Responders	\$50
Advanced Airway	\$60
Suction	\$60
Medications	\$60
IV	\$60
AED/Defib	\$75

Proposed Billing Rates

Resident	\$650
Non-Resident	\$950
No Transport	\$300
Mileage Rate	\$12.00/Mile

Councilpersons Hiers and Gallenberger moved to accept the Ambulance Commission's amended ambulance rate schedule as per submitted. Adopted unanimously.

10.7 Resolution Denying Double G Tax Forfeiture Parcels and Reinstating Assessments: David Schmidt stated this item is being requested by the Wabasha County Auditor and the Port Authority. Further, he explained that if the City would elect to purchase the land, it would have to be used as park land and the City does not want more park land. The County Auditor is requesting a Resolution from the City Council indicating the City's wish to purchase the parcels for "public use" or not to purchase. The Wabasha County Auditor has also informed the City that the special assessments which were levied before the forfeiture will be cancelled unless the City Council passes a Resolution reinstating the assessments to be placed on the taxes after the sale. He stated it is his recommendation to put the assessments back on the parcels and further stated that doesn't preclude those assessment to be negotiated at some other point.

Attorney Ekstrand stated the parcels may not sell with the assessments but the City can't acquire the assessments if they are not reinstated.

Councilpersons Schmidt and Friedmeyer moved to pass the following resolutions stating the City does not want the tax forfeited Parcels and further elects reinstating assessments at the original values: Adopted unanimously.

Resolution #787 : Approving the Auction of Tax Forfeited Parcels located within the City of Wabasha.

WHEREAS; The City Council of the City of Wabasha, County of Wabasha, State of Minnesota, has received notice from the Wabasha County Board of Commissioners of their desire to offer for sale parcels of land that have been forfeited to the State of Minnesota for non-payment of taxes; and

WHEREAS; Said Parcels are described as:

- R27.01306.00 Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32 Twn 111 Ran 010, 1.77 Ac, Lot 2 Blk 2
- R27.01307.00 Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32 Twn 111, Ran 010, 3.40 Ac, Lot 3 Blk 2
- R27.01308.03, Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32, Twn 111, Ran 010, 1.35 Ac, SEly 150' of Lot 4, Blk 2

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Wabasha City Council, in compliance with M.S. 282.01 approves the sale of the aforementioned property at public auction.

Resolution adopted this 6th day of September 6, 2011.

 Rollin Hall, Mayor

Seal of the City:

 Susan Schamaun, Clerk/Treasurer

Resolution #788 : Reinstating Assessments to be placed on Taxes after sale of Tax

Forfeited Parcels: R27.01306.00, R27.01307.00, R27.01308.03

WHEREAS; The City Council of the City of Wabasha, County of Wabasha, State of Minnesota, have approved the Auction of Tax Forfeited Parcels located within the City of Wabasha to the Wabasha County Auditor by way of Resolution #787, and WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Wabasha also requests the Wabasha County Auditor to reinstate the assessments (see Exhibit A-Schedule of Assessments) to be placed on the taxes after the sale of below said parcels described as:

- R27.01306.00 Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32 Twn 111 Ran 010, 1.77 Ac, Lot 2 Blk 2
- R27.01307.00 Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32 Twn 111, Ran 010, 3.40 Ac, Lot 3 Blk 2
- R27.01308.03, Wabasha Business Park, Sec 32, Twn 111, Ran 010, 1.35 Ac, SEly 150' of Lot 4, Blk 2

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Wabasha City Council hereby requests aforementioned assessments to be reinstated after the sale of said lands.

Resolution adopted this 6th day of September 6, 2011.

Seal of the City:
Rollin Hall, Mayor

Susan Schamaun, Clerk/Treasurer

EXHIBIT A

Schedule of Assessments

The total principal amount of the assessments is \$328,481.73. The following are the Assessments to be levied against each lot of the property:

Block Two, Wabasha Business Park	Assessments
Lot 2	\$95,575.71
Lot 3	\$178,429.06
SEly 150' of Lot 4	\$54,476.96

The principal amount of the assessments and interest thereon at the rate of 4.2% per year accruing as of date of receipt of the first tax statement after the property sale shall be payable in equal annual installments sufficient to amortize the assessments over an 8 year term.

10.8 Donation of Antique Police Car: Police Chief Kruger stated Mr. Terry Dennis has donated a 1962 Ford Galaxy police squad to the City. Chief Kruger stated he plans on storing it in the Schwalbe Building on Second Street. It was stated it could be driven in the Wabasha Riverboat Parade as well as the Watermelon Festival in Kellogg and to also park down by the National Eagle Center. It was stated this would be a good public relations article.

Councilpersons Schmidt and Meurer moved to accept the donation of the 1962 Ford Galaxy police car with the attached gifting letter from Mr. Terry Dennis. Adopted unanimously.

Mayor Hall and Council thanked Mr. Terry Dennis for his generous donation.

10.9 Council Salary: Councilperson Meurer requested his Council salary return to the normal rate of pay. It

was stated in 2010 Council pay was reduced by 50% during budget discussions. Discussion was held on whether all Council wanted to reinstate the pay rate back to its normal rate.

Councilpersons Bricher and Schmidt moved to restore Council salary to its original pay effective January 1, 2012, with each Councilperson having the option to accept or decline. Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Friedmeyer, Gallenberger, Bricher, Hiers, Schmidt, Meurer, Mayor Hall

Nays: None

11. Donations:

American Legion Post #50 - \$1,500.00 – Girl's Fastpitch Softball

Matthew Crans Services - \$120.00 – Police Squad Detailing

At 9:30 pm, Councilpersons Hiers Schmidt moved to adjourn. Adopted unanimously.

Susan Schamaun, City Clerk