

City of Oronoco  
Special City Council Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 12, 2006  
6:000pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Bertsinger called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

All Present

**II. WHITTINGTON ACRES PRELIMINARY PLAT**

*Deadline for preliminary plat is June 3, 2006.*

Information session held last week instead of the special meeting because there wasn't a quorum. GGG is willing to offer paving the trail down to the park; and gravel down to the storm pond; seed it with good grass; separate private driveway and trail to park by 8' grassy area as described in drawings; minimum 6" of black dirt over the 100' X 100' playground area and seed it. Adam Brase was in favor of the notes. \$6,000 getting in lieu of remainder of parkland dedication, and taking it and putting it back towards the trail by paving it. Discussion continued on where Parks should be, and that other Park areas priorities. Another option was to put in the 100' x 100' area, and gravel the access, and don't pave the trail. Questions that need to be asked are: 1) Why is the City taking the land as a Park? 2) Why was Cedar Woodlands' not taken in for Park. If the City doesn't take the land, there would be difficulty with access to the storm water pond; and then an easement would be needed. Would it be a selling point to that area if there was a Park? Gravel on the access may wash out, as well as a paved trail. **Novak motioned to keep offer, no pavement, and keep \$6,000 for the Park Board; Hall second;**

**DISCUSSION:** Question asked If GGG would be willing to kick in another \$2,000 for paving, would it be more reasonable, and is paving necessary? City should make a plan (a certain % developed then playground goes in there). **All in favor, motion carried.** Clerk Nymann will send a letter to GGG outlining the information. **Bertsinger motioned to accept preliminary plat for Whittington Acres based on acceptance of Parkland Dedication, and details requested by engineer; Novak second; all in favor, motion carried.**

**III. PROJECTOR**

*Authorize more \$ on projector, used one pricey and hard to come by.*

\$600 authorized on a projector, and can't find decent ones; but can buy new for \$850, projector picked out \$799.99 now. Anybody's laptop can be linked to it. Discussion on whether another laptop should be purchased to have available for Council Meetings. Discussion on whether it's necessary to use. Township requested it to be here also. Or the city could do a rental for them, or they could kick in half of money. Money in BSOP. **Bertsinger motioned to expend up to \$850 for a projector. Novak second; DISCUSSION:** Mr. Howe check with Mayo Clinic to see if they have any laptops. Novak checked with projectors from IBM. **All in favor, motion carried.**

**7. COMMUNITY CENTER ELECTRICAL**

*Install 400 amp capacity instead of 200 amp for an additional \$975.00. Both Council Member Kevin McDermott and Maintenance Man Kent Nymann recommend going to 400 amp capacity.*

Switch to 400 and give upgraded version, any amount of power now needed for the building. Peoples Co-op is now bringing in heavier lines to feed the building. It's an upgrade now, it will save future \$1500-2000 expense, and it's well worth it now. Add more outlets to do more expanding. Clerk Nymann will make a list of the upgrades made to the Community Center this year, and send a letter to Township. 100 amp in there now was outdated 10 years ago. Discussion to whether or not the Community Center needs to have that possibility of numerous outlets. **Novak motioned to upgrade electrical to 400 amp, Hall second; AYES: Bertsinger, Novak, McDermott, Hall; NAYE: Keigley; motion passed.**

**V. AMEND 2005 BUDGET & ADOPT 2005 SPECIAL DEBT SERVICE BUDGET**

*City Audit revealed this should occur. Debt Service (Street & Road Project and Overpass) should not be included in General Fund Budget. The City should adopt a Special Debt Service Budget which includes the levies for Street & Roads Debt Service account and the Overpass Debt Service Account. This will reduce the general fund levy because the levy for this goes directly into the Special Debt Service Budget.*

**Bertsinger motioned to adopted special fund budget, as recommended by Tom Cummings, Keigley second; all in favor, motion carried.**

**VI. RESOLUTION 06-06 SUPPORT FOR HAVA GRANT APPLICATION**

**Bertsinger motioned to accept Resolution 06-06, Keigley second; all in favor, motion carried.**

**VII. WORK SESSION**

*Discuss where we are as a City and what the Council sees as priorities this year. Possible topics: Capitol Improvement Plan, Comp Plan, Hwy 52, Water/Sewer. Process for plat and development approvals. Items discussed during meeting with Oronoco Township (3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, Zumbro Hills), frontage Road, Parkland dedication process.*

Clerk Nymann attended the Open House meeting Monday night; Council was unavailable to attend. Bertsinger wanted this time to regroup and set priorities with discussions on where the City is going. As far as a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), the City could begin gathering information, and then bring in bond counsel.

Items of discussion:

- 1) Resurfacing current blacktopping, and new blacktopping.
- 2) West Frontage Road.
- 3) Maintenance on the Buildings & Parks
- 4) Sewer & Water (WAC/SAC Fees)

Discussion on that it would be difficult to draw up a CIP until a Comprehensive Plan is completed.

Joe Palen is our new rep from Bonestroo (Rich has left Bonestroo) and came at 6:50PM. Council asked Joe "Why do you think you can step into Rich's position?" He knows background of Oronoco, and works with LHS on Hwy. 52 project, as well as city's with similar size as Oronoco, and feels

comfortable taking the position, and he's confident that he can step into Rich's position. He is here tonight to get to know the City's concerns of the future.

There is an outline of a Comp Plan that P & Z recommended to adopt in 2002, but it was never adopted by the Council. However, the land use plan was adopted with changes.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW

The road authorities have to justify additional costs. Do traffic counts pre and post construction; OR don't spend money up front and show maintenance history on it. Olmsted County may be willing to do traffic analysis also. It's not wide enough to pave (3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue). The frontage road should be built soon or 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue needs to be paved, but funding not there to rebuild it, it would be more financially feasible to build the new frontage road. A reminder that the City and Township share costs on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue SW. Another option would be to have new development (Fitzpatrick) pave it. Zumbro Hills may be in the city in the future also in sharing with the costs of that. Cravath addition would also be utilizing all the improvements made. The Streets Committee has already made a determination on all the roads in the City. Engineer also needs to be involved with this plan. Palen suggested setting up a seal coat program and evaluate streets that need it. Mill and overlay some areas also, and then solicit quotes. Then, budget for it. It could be done in a couple of hours, and costs associated are easy to calculate. Joe gave an example that Kenyon sets aside \$20,000 per year and every 2 years they meet and determine which streets need to be done. Seal coating vs. overlay price difference. Overlay in long run more cost effective. Seal coat weatherproofs it. Preexisting items like this won't matter in comp plan.

### COMMUNITY CENTER

Clerk Nymann will get idea on what it would cost to remove asbestos tiles.

### ARKS

Does Playground equipment go in comp plan? Not necessary for next year or two. The parks committee should put together a concept for trails, and estimate on miles of trails; put park into comp plan instead of a CIP ( Joe estimated \$25 per foot for blacktop trail) if on CIP, a grant may be possible. Streets, Roads, Parks, Building (asbestos tiles, clerk's office expansion, air quality) PLUS engineer could give ideas on what to include in the CIP plan. These suggestions will be brought back to Clerk Nymann for the May meeting.

### COMP PLAN

This needs to be addressed. It's a time consuming project. Somebody needs to do something in a plan. Suggested for Council to review and bring to May meeting. Do something basic for now and take on more later. Dedicate 10 minutes at council meeting. Review transportation section for the May meeting.

### Hwy. 52,

Open House had 350 people the first night and over 100 people the second night MOT meetings , everyone can see what's going on now and they know their options. The website about Highway 52 is a concern. Planning & Zoning is looking at zoning changes along the corridor, developing building guidelines, and changes in zoning requirements.

### Water & Sewer Committee

It has 10 to 12 people per meeting with varying opinions. They will be receiving a \$3,000 matching grant. Clerk Nymann will draw up a resolution for acceptance. Areas of city could be divided up and where help is really needed. Compare neighborhood areas to look at possibilities. (For ex. Locations available on the web site). There will be a letter going out to residents to inform them of this process. Phil Wheeler talked to P & Z on what would happen if city services weren't offered; and growth around

the interchange probably wouldn't happen. Phil was surprised at how quick Rochester is coming north. Suggested getting south end of town on some type of municipal service for the new developments. Problem is occurring and people need help, that's why the city needs to address this now.

*Council Member Scott Keigley left at 8PM*

Development

Need to keep things flowing and a process on how it's done. There should be a Checklist from the engineer for developers (Reviewing specs and timelines). Joes will get the City an estimate for Monday night, with a projection of cost. He will provide a Plat Review and letter of recommendation to Clerk on plats. Orderly annexation agreement states annexations come right to council, no public hearing necessary.

Items discussed with Township Meeting

Couple issues may be taken care of in CIP. How to handle the subdivisions that abut the City. Cravath would have to be taken by petition because it's not surrounded by the city. Zumbro Hills can be taken because it's completely surrounded by City. Clerk Nymann will send a note to Joy on the minutes from when MnDOT talked about traffic counts on 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Mike is working on chloride issue. Incurring costs mainly in June and July (also add motor grade hours and maintenance on the road).

Parkland Dedication Process

Monday night there were 25 kids and 12-15 adults utilized the Riverwood Park. P & Z is working on the Parkland Dedication Process also.

Hwy. 52 (ORONOCO PROJECT)

Susan at Amish Store told Kevin that MnDOT took her building, and she wanted to be on the auction list when it went up. Someone bought the building for \$1,500 and MnDOT never notified her that it went out for bids}. It was suggested to bring in these people that have gone through these issues, and bring in our representatives, legislatures, and county commissioners and tell them the stories. . Send out a memo to the representatives of the area, and to people who this happened to. Send a letter to everyone who had their property taken, and heard how the process treated them, that the City wants to help by visiting with Council and have their time to tell them what happened to them. Joy will contact Rep. Demmer, Sen. Senjem, and Comm. Ohly. Clerk Nymann will speak to Ruth Oleson. There are similar stories of mistreatment by MnDOT in Preston.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

McDermott motioned to adjourn, Hall second; meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Joy Bertsinger, Mayor

  
Cheryl Nymann, City Clerk/Treasurer