

Special City Council
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2004

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jason Ottman called the meeting to order at 7:08PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Bertsinger, Keigley, McDermott, Nelson, Ottman, Clerk Nymann

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Addition: VI. Clerk Nymann

IV. HIGHWAY 52

Bertsinger submitted a summary of discussions at a Hwy. 52 meeting on September 2nd with Jai Kalsy. There were 13 points on the report, and the following items were discussed: It is in MnDOT's hands to provide Dwaine Stolp with access; pumping (filling in pits); Brandon Radkes' building permit will be on agenda at next regular council meeting, sediment run-off; enhancement funds; frontage road on west side; and the city sponsored Public Hearing on Hwy. 52 this Monday night. Bertsinger also submitted a letter to Mayor Ottman asking Council to address concerns of her ability or inability to continue to serve the Council as liaison to MnDOT, and recommendations to Council. A letter will be sent from the Clerk, stating that Council approves of her capability of being liaison. Nelson stated that he doesn't think sufficient information is being provided by MnDOT. To provide consistency with MnDOT, there was discussion to add another Council member to team the liaison position with MnDOT. **Ottman motioned to add Council Member Keigley as liaison with Bertsinger to MnDOT, McDermott second; DISCUSSION: Keigley is the only Council Member not up for re-election this fall, so he seems the obvious choice; all in favor, motion carried.** There is a binder in the Clerks office with all correspondence to and from MnDOT that Bertsinger has provided. **Ottman motioned to send a letter Mike Sheehan about requesting dialogue between the Olmsted County Board and the City regarding the issuance of bonds, and request support in the City's request that MnDOT honor their plans by completing the west frontage road as presented to the City in all of the past meetings, Bertsinger second; all in favor, motion carried.** Clerk Nymann will send out the letter. Jai asked Bertsinger who will conduct the meeting Monday night. **Keigley motioned to have the Mayor open the meeting, and then have Jai make his presentation, McDermott second; all in favor, motion carried.**

V. **2005 BUDGET**

Clerk Nymann submitted a memo which included a budget overview, completed revenues spreadsheet, expenses spreadsheet, special funds balance, survey on sick leave, survey on insurance and supplemental insurance, cit cost for percentage of wage increases, city cost for adding a part time deputy clerk, survey of council salaries, and items for additional consideration in the 2005 budget. Also, the EOC siren payments go through next year, and are then completed. Bids were discussed on the broom for the Johns Deere. Discussion on the need for a water softener. **Keigley motioned to purchase the water softener, Nelson second; all in favor, motion carried. Ottman motioned to go with Larsons on replacing the windows in the Clerk's office; DISCUSSION:** Ward needs to find out more specifics on the windows before the next meeting; **Ottman withdrew his motion.** Mary Lubahn was present to discuss the difference in wording about the New Rig & Equipment Fund for the 1st Responders. She stated that the 1st Responders and Fire Department don't want Bertsinger as their Council liaison anymore because the trust isn't there. Bertsinger thinks this has been blown way out of proportion. **Ottman motioned to appoint Nelson as the new 1st Responder liaison, Keigley second; all in favor, motion carried.** Council went line by line for the remainder of the budget. Discussion on Council salaries; **Keigley motioned to move Council salaries as follows: Council from \$1,000 to \$1,200 for the year with 2 paid meetings per month, and the Mayor from \$1,200 to \$1,500 per year with 2 paid meetings per month. Bertsinger second; DISCUSSION:** Compensation for Mayor and Council should be brought up close to the state average. **Keigley amended his motion to include four paid meetings per month for Council and Mayor, Ottman second; all in favor, motion carried.** Clerk Nymann will have the change in the Ordinance ready for it's 1st Reading for the next regular Council meeting on September 20th.

A brief recess was called at 8:30PM.

Called back to order at 8:45PM.

Discussions continued on repairs and new purchases. Whether items should be patched now and try to get the Community Center on the Historical list and then grants could be applied to for repairs. Ward needs to get bids for the electrical. For wage increases, Bertsinger contacted surrounding areas and the feedback she got was that Oronoco residents were concerned about the fast pace that wages were increasing.; Nelson suggested giving the employees a raise and a COLA raise. The clerk's wage was consistent with state averages, the maintenance wage was low according to state averages. **Keigley motioned to budget for a 3% wage for City Clerk, and a 4% wage increase for maintenance, Bertsinger second; DISCUSSION:** Concern over pay equity discussed. **The motion was amended to a 4% budget increase for both positions; all in favor, motion carried.** Insurance coverage indicates that the City is well below the state average. **Keigley motioned to increase the Health Insurance to \$200/month for full time employees, Ottman second; all in favor, motion carried.** Discussion centered around the need for an assistant in the office. Council

budgeted for a part time deputy Clerk's position at an annual cost to the City of \$13,581.60 (Roughly \$11.50/hour). In Summary, the expenses came out to \$366,707 and revenues were \$368,000. **Ottman motioned to adopt Resolution 04-15 which sets the 2004 Tax Levy, Payable in 2005 at \$368,000, Keigley Second; Voice Vote: AYES: McDermott, Keigley, Nelson, Ottman, Keigley, Bertsinger; motion passes unanimously, Resolution adopted.**

VI. CLERK NYMANN

John Stolp is asking Council to consider purchasing 8 Pass Devices which attach to the firefighters, and are motion sensitive, so if a firefighter goes down, it beeps and rescuers are able to locate the down firefighter. There is money in their budget to purchase the devices. **Nelson motioned to purchase the pass devices, McDermott second; all in favor, motion carried.**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Keigley motioned to adjourn at 10:00PM, Ottman second; all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Jason Ottman, Mayor



Cheryl Nymann, Clerk/Treasurer