

City of Goodview
City Council Minutes
November 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Weimerskirch at 5:00 p.m.

Upon Roll Call: Mayor J.P. Weimerskirch, Councilmembers Dick Ledebuhr, Sandy Erdman, and Mike Alexander were present. Councilmember Steve Baumgart was absent.

City Staff Present: City Administrator, Dan Matejka, Director of Public Works Greg Volkart, Police Chief Kent Russell, Maintenance I Worker Aaron Lofgren, and Receptionist-Secretary Lori Eschweiler.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Consent Agenda: Councilmember Erdman moved and Councilmember Alexander seconded, to approve Consent Agenda as presented. The agenda included the minutes of the October 24, 2011 regular City Council meeting and the October 26, 2011 special informational meeting. All voted aye, and the motion carried.

Police Chief Russell introduced Dan Fritz, a new part time officer. The Chief added that Officer Fritz did well in his field training. The Council welcomed Officer Fritz, and congratulated him on his hiring.

There were no community comments or input.

There were no council concerns, complaints, or inquires.

Under Administrative Reports, City Administrator Matejka informed the Council that Mr. Charlie Andring has resigned as the City's representative from the Winona County Solid Waste Disposal Committee. He went onto say that Ms. Nancy Reynolds, who resides at 4455 West 7th Street, has expressed an interest in being the Goodview Representative on the committee. Councilmember Ledebuhr moved and Councilmember Erdman seconded that Nancy Reynolds be appointed as Goodview's representative on the Winona County Solid Waste Disposal Committee effective immediately. All voted aye, and motion carried. This information will be passed onto the County, and they will inform Ms. Reynolds of her appointment to the committee. Mr. Matejka reported that during the Council meeting on November 21, 2011, there will be a public hearing for the sign ordinance, and the Council will receive a third draft of the 2012 budget taking into account the new market value exclusion law.

Director of Public Works Greg Volkart gave updates on three different projects within the City: 1) A-1 Construction has a little bit of blacktop left to do in the Gunderson subdivision; 2) the Brom Subdivision drainage project will be closed out soon once some final paperwork gets completed; and 3) the recycling center on Theurer Boulevard will be closed effective December 1, 2011. This is due to the County going to its new individual

curbside recycling dumpster system. He also announced the City's compost site will be closed for the season effective November 12, 2011, although this closure date may be extended, depending on the weather.

Police Chief Kent Russell reported that his department received a grant through the State Department of Health to do alcohol compliance checks twice a year. One will take place in two weeks and another will occur in the spring of 2012. The Police Department has talked with business owners and it has been in the newspapers. Last year everyone was compliant. Chief Russell's department took a look at speeding on 6th Street and determined that it is not a problem. The Police Chief also addressed complaints about the property at 355 63rd Avenue and reported his department, along with City Administration, is working with the property owner to get it cleaned up.

Representative Steve Drazkowski was welcomed to the meeting and there was a discussion on current issues at the Capital. City Administrator Dan Matejka handed out a one-page document, "The effect on the City of Goodview due to the change from the Market Value Homestead Credit law (MVHC) to the Homestead Market Value Exclusion law (HMVE)" which illustrates the negative effects of the change in the market value law on the City of Goodview. A lengthy discussion followed. Representative Drazkowski said his bottom-line message to all units of government is that the picture is not looking any better for next year, and they will have to try to live within their means. He went onto say options to change things include cut spending, raising taxes, or a combination of both. The possibility of a new Viking's stadium was mentioned and this led into a discussion about the State using an expansion of gambling (i.e.; a Racino) as a revenue source. Goodview resident Ms. Joy Roth, 4625 8th Street, commented that there needs to be a common sense balanced approach to the solution and a share of sacrifice to the State's budget issue. Representative Drazkowski left the meeting at 6 p.m.

Unfinished business: City Administrator Dan Matejka and Public Works Director Greg Volkart met with Yaggy Colby engineers and MNDOT officials regarding the Safe Routes to School grant. They were told that the project can be altered if it stays within the "spirit of the program". An alternative presented by City Staff which they believe takes into account some of the resident's concerns entails not narrowing 8th Street, thus not putting in a 3' grass boulevard, but to keep the curb where it currently is and to butt the new 5' sidewalk right up against the backside of the existing curb. This would eliminate the "no parking" concept from the original plan. Goodview residents Ms. Diane Larson (815 49th Avenue), Mr. Greg Gabbert (4815 8th Street), and Ms. Joy Roth (4625 8th Street) spoke out in opposition to the proposed project, stating they don't believe that sidewalks are needed or will be used. Ms. Larson presented the Council with a petition titled "Goodview Residents Opposed to Sidewalks Being Installed On 8th Street" which held 71 signatures. Ms. Roth handed out an article, "More Money, More Sidewalks, Zero Walkers" printed from TwinCities.com. Mr. Matejka told the Council he believes the fate of this project comes down to one question; does the City Council want sidewalks in Goodview or not. Mr. Matejka indicated he will be attending another meeting with State officials on the proposed project next Monday (November 14), and he will try to get some more answers to the various questions both the City Council and residents have on the possibility of altering the project even further. The question on if an official public hearing needs to be held before the Council ultimately votes on this project was addressed, but will be looked into further by the City Administrator. Councilmember Alexander shared his opinion on the project, stating he is in favor of it.

Mr. Matejka reiterated that this grant is a competitive one, and if we reject it, the monies awarded to us will be re-awarded to another applicant who wasn't funded originally. Continued discussion, and a possible decision, will take place at the next City Council meeting on November 21, 2011.

A discussion continued concerning the extension of utilities to the 63rd Avenue area. City Administrator Matejka handed out a one-page summary with three scenarios of cost breakdowns. Councilmember Alexander suggested sending a letter to the affected property owners to see if there is interest in the project. Mr. Matejka agreed to send letters out this week, and will report back to the Council at the next meeting on November 21.

Under the New Business heading, Councilmember Alexander moved and Councilmember Ledebuhr seconded to approve the City Council meeting dates for 2012 as presented. All voted aye, and the motion carried.

A Budget Update for 2011 was reviewed and acknowledged by Council.

Councilmember Ledebuhr moved and Councilmember Erdman seconded to approve Pay Estimate #2 for the 2011 Brom Subdivision Drainage Improvements Project in the amount of \$13,581.71. All voted aye, and the motion carried.

City Administrator Matejka opened a discussion concerning renewal of the contract the City has with Construction Management Services (CMS) out of Rochester to once again act as the Building Code Administrator for the City in 2012. Mr. Volkart voiced a concern from a couple different contractors that CMS may not be responding quickly enough to their needs. From a City standpoint, both Mr. Matejka and Mr. Lofgren said there were minimal complaints about CMS. Councilmember Alexander said he is not in favor of renewing their contract because he called them during a personal home project and was not happy with their customer service. There was discussion about granting CMS the 2012 contract with a stipulation that the City will seek Request for Proposals (RFP's) in 2012, for 2013. Councilmember Ledebuhr would like to see a listing of fees charged by CMS to the City since April 2009 and an estimate of fees for 2012 before granting any renewal with the company. City Administrator Matejka will bring the requested information back to the Council at the next meeting.

Councilmember Alexander moved and Councilmember Erdman seconded to adjourn.

Adjournment at 7:10 p.m.

NOTE: The next regular meeting of the Goodview City Council will be on Monday, November 21, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. at Goodview City Hall.

Mayor

City Administrator

