

City Council Meeting – Regular Meeting February 21, 2012

Mayor Paul Zimmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Hartford City Hall with the following city council members present: Mike Swier, Gail Olson-Duck, Leah Johnson, Eric Bartmann, and Mark Monahan. Bob Deelstra was absent with notice. Also present were City Administrator Teresa Sidel, Finance Officer Deb Macdonald, Public Works Superintendent Craig Wagner, and City Engineer, Scott VanderMeulen.

Approve Agenda: A motion was made by Olson-Duck, second by Johnson to approve the agenda – all voted yes, motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: A motion was made by Johnson, second by Swier to approve the February 7, 2012 regular meeting minutes – all voted yes, motion carried.

Approve Bills Submitted for Payment: A motion was made by Monahan, second by Johnson to approve the bills submitted for payment, as presented – all voted yes, motion carried.

Visitors

Christian Witt – Eagle Scout Project: Christian Witt of Hartford presented plans for his Eagle Scout Project. He will be building wooden benches including engraving donor names on the benches. He asked the council for permission to permanently place these benches on city property in Turtle Creek Park once they are constructed. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Johnson to authorize Christian Witt, with the assistance of Public Works Superintendent, Craig Wagner, to permanently place the wooden benches as part of his Eagle Scout Project in Turtle Creek Park – all voted yes, motion carried. To assist in funding this project, each council member in attendance offered to donate \$75 each if the lumber is purchased at Hartford Building Center.

Old Business:

Sports Complex – Mark Monahan. Councilman Mark Monahan addressed the council as follows: *“Let me start by saying I want my comments recorded in the minutes word for word. I do not want them compressed or edited. On February 8th, Mayor Zimmer posted on his facebook page (and I paraphrase) ‘the vote was 4-2’. ‘Be sure and thank Mike Swier, Bob Deelstra, Leah Johnson, and Eric Bartmann for supporting the Sports Complex Committee’. Myself and Gail Olson-Duck do support the Sports Complex Committee and we don’t approve or appreciate Mayor Zimmer using his facebook page to single out who he feels are non-supporters. We hope in the future Mayor Zimmer uses better judgment when posting city business and vote counts on his facebook page. The second thing I would like to address is the two funding options Mayor Zimmer proposed for Phases 1 and 2 of the Sports Complex. At the February 7th meeting, I asked the Mayor what the balloon payments were on the two loans. Mayor Zimmer did not know. On February 8th, I asked Finance Officer, Deb Macdonald to call Matt Gabbert at US Bank and get the balloon payment numbers for me. They are as follows: Option 1, borrow an additional \$171,000 with a balloon of \$379,761 after 5 years and Option 2, borrow an additional \$283,000 with a balloon of \$453,452 after 5 years”. In response, Mayor Zimmer commented: “I did not single out Mark Monahan and Gail Olson-Duck as voting no”.*

Reports:

Public Works Superintendent Report:

Streets – Wagner noted that the broom for the mower is in. The city has been cleaning out water ways, doing ditch work, and trimming trees. The siren antenna at the park has been installed; however there is still a problem that will be fixed by Two Way Radio next week. The dump truck has been repaired.

Water & Sewer - Wagner reported that the city was unable to discharge ponds due to high ammonia levels, but is hoping to discharge in March. In addition, the city rebuilt two pumps that malfunctioned at the main lift station as well as rebuilt the check valve on the third pump. The city continues to perform random sump pump inspections which may include inspections after hours. Anyone found to be illegally discharging their sump pump will be issued a \$200 fine per city ordinance.

Parks and Pool – Wagner reported that the city has begun to clean out the sports complex wetlands.

City Engineer Report: VanderMeulen has been in contact with Nolz Construction regarding the final SRTS-Phase 2 change order and pay request. Regarding the sports complex, VanderMeulen asked the council to consider having geotechnical work performed on the sports complex land. The soil borings would identify soil types, topsoil thickness, soil classification, water levels, and rock depths as well as provide soil bearing capacities for footings on any buildings. VanderMeulen recommended that the city authorize the geotechnical exploration be performed on at least Phases 1A, 1B, and 2A of the sports complex for the approximate cost of \$2,800 to \$3,200. Soil borings on the entire 55-acre site would cost approximately \$5,600 to \$6,000. After discussion, a motion was made by Olson-Duck, second by Monahan to table this matter – all voted yes, motion carried.

Finance Officer Report: Macdonald provided a list of upcoming events, a copy of the Bill Report, Revenue Report, and Expenditure Report as well as a summary of the January cash report and sales tax revenue. The council was reminded of the Annual District 3 Meeting to be held in Sioux Falls on March 28th. Macdonald will be attending an instructional meeting sponsored by the Minnehaha County Equalization Office on February 22nd. The deadline for election petitions is February 24, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

City Administrator Report: Regarding the Bike/Rec Trail projects, Wagner attended a Phase 2 pre-construction meeting and Sidel is working on the grant application for Phases 3 and 4. The fire station construction project is on schedule with the anticipated completion date set for March 27th. The Farm Lease Agreement between Mike Grace and the city will become official on March 7th. During the second meeting in March, the city will set the number and location of sports complex acres Mike Grace will be allowed to farm. Banner is compiling bid documents for rough grading on Phases 1A, 1B, and 2A of the sport complex. Sidel noted that Code Enforcer/Building Inspector, Paul Clarke has begun his duties with the city. The council requested that Mr. Clarke attend a future meeting to introduce himself.

Committee/Ward Reports:

Ward 1: Olson-Duck noted activity at the ice skating rink.

Ward 2: Johnson reported that the Swimming Pool Committee will be meeting on February 28th at Pizza Ranch.

Mayor's Report:

Appoint HADC Liaison: At the request of Economic Development Director, Gary Sandholm, Mayor Zimmer appointed Leah Johnson to serve as the city council liaison on the chamber transition team until May 2012. A motion was made by Bartmann, second by Swier to approve the appointment of Leah Johnson to serve on the chamber transition team as the city council liaison – Johnson abstained, Monahan voted no with Olson-Duck, Bartmann, and Swier voting yes, motion failed for lack of voting quorum.

Executive Session: A motion was made by Swier, second by Monahan to enter into executive session, pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2, at 7:56 p.m. - all voted yes, motion carried. A motion was made by Monahan, second by Johnson to exit executive session at 8:23 p.m. - all voted yes, motion carried.

Sports Complex Housing Eligibilities: A motion was made by Monahan, second by Johnson to put a hold on the re-plat of both housing eligibilities with two acres of land on the northeast corner of the sports complex – all voted yes, motion carried.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Monahan, second by Johnson to adjourn at 8:24 p.m. – all voted yes, motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Finance Officer, Deb Macdonald.

I, the undersigned, Debra L. Macdonald, Finance Officer in and for the City of Hartford, South Dakota, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes which is on file at the Municipal Finance Office.

Debra L. Macdonald, Finance Officer