

**MINUTES of the ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL
for Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.
830 Whitewater Avenue
St. Charles, MN 55972**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilmen:
John Schaber
Dave Braun
Orv Dahl (absent)
Wayne Getz
Mayor Bill Spitzer

STAFF PRESENT:

Nick Koverman, City Administrator
Lyle Peterson, Fire Chief

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Pat Glynn and Dan White.

1). ESTABLISH QUORUM/CALL TO ORDER

Quorum was established with Mayor Bill Spitzer calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2). PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3). APPROVAL of the AGENDA: addition of item 19). Library Resignation of Dan White

Motion to approve the agenda: John Schaber

Motion carried.

4). Meeting Minutes

-May 10, 2011

Motion to approve: Wayne Getz

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

-May 24, 2011

Motion to approve: Orv Dahl

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

5). June Payables.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

6). NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS. None.

7). Reports of Boards and Commissions. Various reports were given.

8). Proclamation for Cancer Awareness Week-20th Annual Nessler. Mayor Spitzer read the proclamation aloud for the 20th Annual Nessler and declaring that week Cancer Awareness Week.

9). Electric Fund Refinancing-Mike Bubany. Mike Bubany from David Drown & Associates, the city's financial advisor was present to discuss the general obligation bond refinancing possibility. He outlined for the Council the old debt and the new debt with I-90. He outlined the possible savings and process for the Council and outlined that he would return at the next meeting to request flexibility in seeking competitive bids. The electric utility bond was also discussed and it was requested whether or not the Council would like additional money added to the bond for project. It was agreed that no new money would be added for the refinancing of the electric bond. He would return at the 28th meeting to discuss more and receive approval.

10). Minnesota Board of Firefighters Training and Education Licensing. Fire Chief Lyle Peterson led a discussion on a new license requirement for fulltime firefighters and how volunteer fire fighters possessed an option. However, after discussing this \$75 licensing fee which would grandfather the volunteers in for three years, it was noted that a lobbyist was able to push the legislation through. The fear of the department is that with 18,000 volunteer firefighters that at some point this would be mandated and that extra training and testing would be required. While over half of the current training is certified of the 72 hours required in the three years, Chief Peterson acknowledged that there may be additional costs associated within the training budget. After a discussion, the Council agreed that it would be in the best interest of the department to pay for the licensing of the volunteers for fear that a grandfather clause would not be extended again and that volunteers would be forced to retake tests or be burdened with additional training. A motion to approve the licensing fee up to \$2,100 be committed.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

11). Setting Public Hearing Date June 28-Orderly Annexation-Mollert. The City Council ordered the setting of the public hearing date for the orderly annexation of the former Mollert property for June 28 at 7 p.m.

Motion to approve: Wayne Getz

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

12). Local Results and Innovations-10 Performance Measures. Admin. Koverman led the discussion to regarding a proposal by the Council of Local Results and Innovations to adopt 10 performance standards. By participating in the program the City could receive .14 cents per capita in additional LGA in addition to being free of the levy cap requirement. As part of the 2011 program the City must publish a survey and the subsequent results in the performance areas outlined by the group. It was agreed that it was an informal report card and that it would be a good way to gauge public satisfaction of city services. Admin. Koverman did outline that at any time that the City chooses to, it may not participate in the program. A motion to approve participation in the local results and innovation performance measures was made.

Motion to approve: Orv Dahl

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

13. Board of Appeals representatives. The Council had a brief discussion on the dates and possible representatives for training at the August 15 meeting to be held from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Mayor Spitzer expressed that he would attend and Clm. Braun would look at his schedule and get back to the Admin. Koverman

14. Calling for a Special Assessment Public Hearing. Admin. Koverman requested that the Council call for a special assessment public hearing for July 12 at 7:00 p.m. for delinquent water, sewer, electric, or misc. charges be held. A motion to hold the public hearing and notices be sent was made.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

15. Resolution #14-2011 I-90 Electric Interfund Loan Reimbursement. Admin. Koverman highlighted the past conversation regarding the interfund loan from the electric department in order to purchase the Mollert property. As a recommendation by the auditors, providing a resolution that provided the necessary paper trail was required. The resolution outlined the terms of the interfund loan. A motion to approve the resolution as outlined made.

Motion to approve: Wayne Getz

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

16). Resolution #16-2011 Safe and Sober. The annual resolution to participate in the safe and sober program was presented. A motion to approve the resolution was made.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

17). County Legal Services Contract. It was discussed that the grant for legal services by the county would be expiring in August. A proposed contract with a rate of \$8,000 for services that included all of the current criminal prosecution services including 6 trainings was included. It was discussed that the Council was satisfied with the service and that having the connections with the County Sheriff's office was also a value to the contract. A motion was made to approve the professional services contract with the Winona County Attorney's office was made.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

18). WIFI Connections for Community Center/Senior Center. Admin. Koverman reviewed a bid that was requested by the Council to look at WIFI within the community center and senior center. Solution Builders submitted their bid of \$1,824.23 for the work to be performed. Clm. Schaber questioned various pieces of security including a segregated network and ability to change password. Admin. Koverman would recheck, but was confident that those issues had been addressed. A motion to approve the bid with \$1,200 coming from the city hall repair budget and \$624.23 coming from the city's senior center repair budget was approved.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

19). Accept Library Board Resignation-Dan White. The resignation of Dan White from the Library Board was discussed with the Mayor thanking Mr. White for his service. A motion to accept the resignation of Dan White from the Library Board was made.

Motion to approve: Wayne Getz

No further discussion.

Motion declared carried.

Unscheduled Appearances. None.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Motion to approve: John Schaber

Motion declared carried.

William J. Spitzer, Mayor

Attest: _____
Nick Koverman, Administrator