

**MINUTES of the ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL  
for Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.  
830 Whitewater Avenue  
St. Charles, MN 55972**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Nick Koverman City Administrator  
Bill Eckles, Police Chief

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Lee Groebner, Cathy Groebner, Dave Engstrom (MN Association of Small Cities), Joel Young (MN Association of Small Cities), Nancy Heim, and Craig Hilmer (St. Charles Press).

**1). ESTABLISH QUORUM/CALL TO ORDER**

Quorum was established with Mayor Spitzer calling the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2). PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3). APPROVAL of the AGENDA with the following deletion/addition:**

17. Amy Sikkink to the Park Board

**Motion to approve the agenda: John Schaber**

**Seconded by: Dave Braun**

**Motion carried.**

**4). APPROVAL of the MINUTES**

*October 12, 2010*

**Motion to approve: Wayne Getz**

**Seconded by: Orv Dahl**

**Motion carried.**

*October 26, 2010*

**Motion to approve: John Schaber**

**Seconded by: Dave Braun**

**Motion carried.**

**5). NOVEMBER PAYABLES**

**Motion to approve: Orv Dahl**

**Seconded by: John Schaber**

**Motion carried.**

**6). Notices and Communications.** Various notices were given with highlights made. Mayor Spitzer asked about MediaCom and Admin. Koverman explained the changes within their organizational structure and that he had recently been in contact with the new Governmental Representative Lee Grassley. They will be meeting in the next several weeks. The mayor also asked to look into the old city sign on the bike path. It was also noted that the United Church of Christ grant had been closed and the final costs of the project was \$90,653.73 well under the estimated \$130,000 first entailed. The cost to the City would be \$22,717.81 with the Department of Employment and Economic Development picking up have of the \$90,653.73 and a quarter being supported by the school district.

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

**8). Resolution #34-2010 Canvassing Municipal Election.** Mayor Spitzer read the resolution that outlined the election results which posted Mayor Spitzer, Councilman Braun and Getz as the top vote receiving candidates. A motion to approve the resolution was made

**Motion to approve: John Schaber**

**Seconded by: Orv Dahl**

**It was questioned regarding the appropriate dates within the resolution as Nov. 2 and 2010 and a friendly amendment motion was made to amend the accepting of the resolution with those required changes: John Schaber**  
**Seconded: Orv Dahl**  
**Motions declared carried.**

**9). MAOSC Representatives.** Dave Engstrom and Joel Young were present and highlighted the various components, policies, and goals of the MAOSC for the Council.

**10). Pool Report.** Park and Recreation Director Rick Schaber presented the 2010 pool summary report to the Council. Following the end of the season the total savings through the reduction to the season as well as labor efficiencies, utilities, etc. was \$19,832 which brought the total loss to the pool to numbers comparable to the 2006 pool season.

**11). 2011 Enterprise Budgets.** The Council reviewed the statements for the 2011 enterprise budgets and noted that with the additions that the electrical budget at current was \$9,329.00 over budget. The mayor requested that the administration look to balance the overages. No other questions were asked at that time. The CIP plan was reviewed briefly with a conversation with the sweeper being taken into account and the understanding of budgeting \$30,000 for repairs and potentially \$120,000 for a new unit in 2012.

**12). 2011 SEMDC Contract.** The contract was reviewed for 2011 services and it was expressed that Mr. Gastner had been serving the city almost double time since the fire of 2009. A motion was made to approve the 2011 SEMDC contract

**Motion: Wayne Getz**

**Motion carried. (The Council began initiating the rules that had been previously adopted which did not require a second to motions.)**

**13). Resolution #33-2010 Recommending Approval of Modification.** Admin. Koverman highlighted that the Planning and Zoning Commission reviewed Resolution #33-2010 and the TIF Modification for the proposed commercial/business park. After reviewing the resolution they recommended approval of the TIF Modification plan set forth by Mike Bubany of David Drown & Associates.

**14). Holiday Lighting LED Rebate.** Admin. Koverman highlighted the state's mandated electric utility program that called for a reduction in a community's consumption as well as the requirement to spend 1.5 percent of its gross revenues. Admin. Koverman highlighted that the City had been working with several businesses to help reduce their consumption but that projects had been delayed or fallen through. One potential option he presented was for the City to reduce its own consumption by including LED Holiday lights. The estimated savings from kilowatt usage was 35,027 or a dollar amount from \$5,200.86 to \$297.08 for the holiday season. Clm Braun expressed his concern for the spending and it was reiterated that because St. Charles is its own utility that the state mandated that program. This program had also been initiated in other communities as indicated through a SMMPA newsletter. The City also hopes to bring forth a program for residents to save on LED holiday lighting to see further reductions. The mayor expressed that he would like to see a plan, which Dave Krause, the electrical engineer, is working on according to Admin. Koverman. The cost of the project was quoted at \$29,905.76. The City will continue to check with area businesses to see if there are potential projects. A motion was made to table the item until the next meeting.

**Motion to table: John Schaber**

**Motion declared carried.**

**15). Parking Exemption.** Mr. Hannah's request for a parking exemption was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the exemption.

**Motion to approve: John Schaber**

**Motion declared carried.**

**16). Sanitary District Inspections.** Admin. Koverman informed the Council that the Sanitary District would be conducting inspections of area restaurants to ascertain the location of a customer potentially dumping large quantities of cooking oil which has recently been found clogging the new lift station. No discussion was held.

**17). Park Board Approval-Amy Sikkink.** The nomination of Amy Sikkink was reviewed and a motion to approve Amy Sikkink to the Park Board was made.

**Motion to approve: Dave Braun**

**Motion declared carried.**

*Unscheduled Appearances. None.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

**Motion to approve: Wayne Getz**

**Motion declared carried.**

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**William J. Spitzer, Mayor**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Nick Koverman, Administrator**