

**SAUK CENTRE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2012**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Sauk Centre City Council met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers pursuant to due notice being given thereof. Present were Council Members Al Coenen, Warren Stone, Mike Olson and Mayor Rykken. Also present were City Administrator Vicki Willer, Police Chief Bryon Friedrichs, City Planner Sarah Morton, City Engineer Yapp and Administrative Assistant Nicki Vogt. Mayor Rykken presided thereat. Council Member Johnson was absent.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with changes.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The August 1, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

4. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM (Comments Limited to 3 Minutes)

None.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

6. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

- a. Police Chief Friedrichs reported that in July there were 359 ICRs and 266 Warnings for a total of 625.

Chief Friedrichs warned the public that there has been a recent rash of vehicle thefts and to be sure to lock your vehicles.

- b. The Park Board met for their regular meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2012. Three requests were heard in open forum as follows:

- Request to blacktop the circle in the campground.
- Request to complete the electrical box installation at Sinclair Lewis Campground.
- Request to upgrade bathrooms in the campground.

Other items discussed were as follows:

- Camping fees for 2013. The Board is recommending that the fee for overnights be raised from \$27.50 to \$30.00 (including tax). Formal action will be taken when the fee schedule is adopted.
- 2013 budget proposal including 2013-2017 CIP.
- Unfinished business:

- Tree Planting – Tree Committee to reconvene and get some planting done this fall.
- Park Electric – Staff to coordinate with PUC to get done ASAP.
- Arena Concert Fundraiser – Discussed and recommended approval of 18+ rather than 21+.
- Campground Bathroom Upgrades – Reviewed completed tasks and future tasks.
- Water Feature/Splash Pad – Fundraising Committee to launch.
- Morning View Park – Discussed future plans of bathroom/shelter.

7. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Sauk Centre Public Utilities has requested that the City continue to participate with them for Safety Training. The PUC contracts with MMUA to provide safety training services and the City shares the cost. The contract which will run from October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 will increase from \$8,950 to \$9,300. The cost is split according to the number of employees. The annual cost under the existing contract is \$4,239 for the City share. The proposed rate for the City is \$4,371.

A motion was made by Council Member Olson and was seconded by Council Member Stone to approve continued participation with the Sauk Centre Public utilities in the MMUA Safety Training Program. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Olson, Stone, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion passed.

- b. The City of Sauk Centre, through City Attorney Tom Mayer, investigated a complaint raised by a citizen who requested to file a criminal assault charge against a Sauk Centre Police Officer. Because the complaint was against an officer, the Department could not investigate and/or file charges, if warranted, as they would if the complaint was against a member of the public. Therefore, the complaint was forwarded to the City Attorney who arranged for an investigation to be completed by Douglas County.

The report came back from Douglas County following the investigation that there was no evidence to support the filing of charges or the issuance of a citation as the actions of the officer were justified, lawful and proper.

Stearns County as well as the Personnel Committee agree that there was no evidence to support the filing of charges or issuance of a citation.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to affirm the findings of Douglas County. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. Abstain: Council Member Coenen. The motion passed.

- c. Payment Approval No. 1 has been submitted for payment by RL Larson for work completed on the 4th Street Project. The original project cost for the contract is \$2,535,789.63. The payment request is for \$1,862.00.

A motion was made by Council Member Coenen and was seconded by Council Member Stone to approve the Partial Payment Voucher No. 1 in the amount of \$1,862.00. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Coenen, Stone, Olson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion passed.

d. City Engineer Yapp presented the Council with the Feasibility Report for Pendergast Street as follows:

- Scope: convert the existing gravel roadway to a 32' wide bituminous roadway with concrete curb and gutter.
- Design Consideration
 - Streets: Reconstruction will consist of regarding the existing roadway including the boulevard areas to move the roadway closer to the center of the ROW.
 - Storm Sewer
 - Water Main
 - Sanitary Sewer
 - Services
- Cost Estimates and Preliminary Assessments: The total estimated construction cost is \$131,667.00 and the total estimated project cost is \$176,761.63.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to have the Operations Committee review (Council Member Olson will serve in Council Member Coenen's place) and report back to the full Council with their recommendation. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. Abstain: Council Member Coenen. The motion passed.

e. Removed from agenda.

f. The City of Sauk Centre owns and controls the Sauk Centre Dam on the Sauk River. The PUC operates the dam levels on behalf of the City.

For several years the DNR and the City had an agreement whereby the City would lower the level of Sauk Lake each winter by two feet. This was in response to lake owners' concerns of lakeshore damage due to ice heaves, etc.

For the past three years an agreement was in place to lower the level by one foot. This was in response to concerns that lowering the lake by two feet was causing habitat damage resulting in lower fish population.

The agreement defaults back to the two foot agreement unless a new agreement is reached.

A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, August 15th at 5:00 prior to the Regular Council Meeting. At this meeting pros and cons about lake adjustments were reviewed. The group present at this meeting included the Lake Association, DNR, Sauk Centre City Staff and City Council Members. It was agreed upon by this group that there be a 1 foot drawn down until 2020.

A motion was made by Council Member Olson and was seconded by Council Member Stone to approve a 1 foot draw down until 2020. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Olson, Stone, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion passed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. At the July 18th Council Meeting, the Council directed City Engineer Yapp to prepare a cost estimate of what it would take to add to the 4th Street project if sidewalks were extended from Ash Street to East Street. The sidewalk cost on the south side was initially included in the bidding; however, did not include extra excavation and installation of a retaining wall.

In addition, Yapp was asked to determine how high of a retaining wall it would take to accomplish this.

City Engineer Yapp reported that a two foot maximum height retaining wall construction cost would be approximately \$15,703 and the total estimated project cost would be approximately \$21,748.66. If the retaining wall could be eliminated, it would save the City approximately \$1,500.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Mayor Rykken to leave as is. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Member Stone and Mayor Rykken. Against: Council Members Olson and Coenen. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion failed due to lack of majority vote.

A motion was made by Council Member Olson and was seconded by Council Member Coenen to have City Engineer Yapp investigate easement options and cost. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Olson and Coenen. Against: Council Member Stone and Mayor Rykken. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion failed due to lack of majority vote.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The Sauk River Watershed District is working on its 2013 Grant Request Cycle and has requested that the City be included in the grant request for a potential storm water infiltration project.

The requirement to work with the Watershed on some future infiltration project was a condition of the permit approval for the storm water pond for the 4th Street Project.

Staff will be meeting with the Watershed in a preliminary way to begin brainstorming some potential areas this could be implemented.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

The Council then considered the following Consent Agenda:

- a. Schedule of Claims – Total of unpaid claims of \$33,391.21 and paid claims of \$1,068.85 for a total of \$34,460.06.
- b. List of July checks totaling \$414,150.48 (Check No. 032858 through Check No. 032950 and No. E1601E through No. 1626E and three payroll ACH transfers).
- c. Resolution No. 2012-56, Resolution Accepting Contributions. The contribution totaled \$208 from the Men’s Card Playing Group to be used for the Senior Center and Oscar Rueckhert donated a 26” Sanyo flat screen TV valued at \$212.
- d. Request from Jim Winters representing the American Legion Post 67 for a Temporary 3.2 On Sale Beer License for the term of one day on September 8, 2012 for the Grillin’ and Chillin’ event at Sinclair Lewis Park.
- e. Request from Jim Winters representing the American Legion Post 67 for a Temporary 3.2 On Sale Beer License for the term of one day on September 22, 2012 for a Snowmobile Swap Meet at the Stearns County Fairgrounds.
- f. Request from Tina Rhode of the Mustang Bar for a 2 day Premise Extension Permit for September 8-9.

A motion was made by Council Member Olson and was seconded by Council Member Coenen to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Olson, Coenen, Stone and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion passed.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. The agenda has been released for the 2012 LMC Annual Regional Meetings.
- b. Budget Meeting is set for August 22nd, 2012 at 3:00 p.m.
- c. CMIS Meeting Synopsis.
- d. Public Hearing regarding Hospital/Centracare integration is September 19, 2012.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to adjourn the meeting. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Johnson. The motion passed.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Rykken adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Dennis Rykken

City Administrator Vicki Willer