

Wahpeton City Council
October 3, 2011

Present: Bertsch, Hansey, Hartman, Mitskog, Sturdevant, DeVries, Dale, and Bohn

Absent: Bajumpaa

Also Present: Huwe, Lies, Nelson, Thorsteinson, Broadland, Priebe, MacIver, Amos, and Gutzmer

Meeting called to order by Mayor Sturdevant.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (presented by the Mayor) Mayor Sturdevant asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent agenda and there were none.

Approval of minutes of regular meeting held September 19, 2011

Games of Chance Licenses, Site Authorizations & Special Permits

Doug Voigt Medical Benefit – Game of Chance Permit

Other Games of Chance and/or special permits

Presentation/Approval of Reports

NDPDES Waste Water Discharge Permit

Midcontinent Communications Franchise Renewal

NDLC Annual Report

Motion by Bohn, second by Mitskog, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion Carried.

ITEMS REQUESTED MOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA None.

REPORTS

FINANCE DIRECTOR/AUDITOR

State Water Commission Action on Request for Additional Funding Huwe said Council members Dale, Hansey and herself attended the ND State Water Commission meeting on September 21st. The City of Wahpeton had made a request for continued cost-share from the State Water Commission in the local expenses related to the flood mitigation project, and the Commission summarily approved an additional \$1,013,000. The Governor made the motion and it was adopted unanimously. This was really good news for the City of Wahpeton as construction of the final phase of the project continues.

Potential Bond Refunding R/I Series 2007 – request referral to Finance Cmt. Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Finance & Personnel Committee.

Midcontinent Communications Franchise Agreement Renewal Notice – request referral to Finance Cmt. Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Finance & Personnel Committee.

NDLC 2011 – 2012 Resolutions Huwe gave an update on the NDLC Annual Conference held recently in Fargo, of which Huwe was a delegate for the City of Wahpeton allowing her to participate in the annual election of officers for the League of Cities and also to vote on the proposed measures. She provided a copy of the resolutions adopted by the League of Cities. Huwe then explained that one of the pressing topics discussed was Initiated Measure #2 which will be on the ballot next June and deals with the potential abolition of property tax. She expressed the need to make sure good information is provided locally, and said the League of Cities feels that the loss of local control is not acceptable. As information is made available, Huwe will refer it to the Finance Committee.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Economic Development Report Preibe said photos of the Classy & Classic Car Show II are available on the City's website, and reported that the event was very successful.

Priebe reported on the IEDC Conference in Charlotte, NC she attended recently. She said Wahpeton's Appearance Grant Program was recognized with an Honorable Mention for populations under 25,000 for the category: Neighborhood Development Initiatives. Priebe then shared some of the topics covered at the conference.

Priebe then announced she will be attending the Governor's Workforce Summit in Minot this week.

Priebe said the Planning Commission met earlier today to discuss a request for a 20' right-of-way vacation along 3rd Avenue North south of Central School and are recommending the request be approved. She then asked for suspension of the rules to set a hearing date and cover the details of the recommendation. **Motion by Bertsch, second by Mitskog, to suspend the rules. Motion Carried.** A map of the area was then viewed and discussion held. **Motion by Hansey, second by Bertsch, to set a hearing date of November 21st at 5:00 pm for the vacation of a 20' right-of-way along 3rd Avenue North south of Central School. Motion Carried.**

Dan Reilly – SBDC Report Reilly provided a year-to-date performance metrics report through August 31, 2011, which he used to review the number for job retained, jobs created, unique client, business start-ups, consulting hours, and business investment. It was noted that Reilly's contracts with the City of Wahpeton end on December 31st of this year and he will be presenting to the EDC and CDC at their next meetings.

POLICE CHIEF

Introduction newest police officer, Lisa Bersheid Police Chief Thorsteinson introduced new police officer Lisa Bersheid, who is replacing April Jose. He also introduced Kasey Marohl as the new Administrative Assistant, replacing Janelle Wittenburg.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR NELSON

Cost Participation, Construction, and Maintenance Agreement with NDDOT for Pedestrian Crossings on Railroad Nelson said that this is related to the Safe Routes to School project Phase 2 which is currently in progress. The railroad crossing materials and installation that would be funded by this agreement at a cost of approximately \$30,000 with the City's share at 10% or \$3,000, and the NDDOT's share the remaining \$27,000. Nelson suggested the Council approve the participation subject to Attorney Lies' review and approval. **Motion by Mitskog, second by Hartman, to approve Cost Participation, Construction, and Maintenance Agreement with NDDOT for Pedestrian Crossings on Railroad, contingent on document drawn up by City Attorney Lies.** The funding source for the match was then discussed. **Roll Call vote 7-0. Motion Carried.**

Cost Participation, Construction, and Maintenance Agreement with NDDOT for 6th Street South Shared Use Path Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Nelson requested referral for **Red River Telephone request for antenna space on water tower #1.** Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Nelson requested referral for **River Bank Cleanup north of Highway 210 north of Briarwood.** Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Nelson requested referral for **Change Order #1 for Well #1 pump, motor and electrical equipment replacement with Water Smith, Inc.** Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Nelson then reported on the progress of the Stage 3A levy (by Dakota Avenue and park), saying the volunteer park has a completion date of November 17th. The river-dependent work at the river's edge, the concrete sidewalk and overlook, has been completed. The remaining hard surfacing is underway preparing for topsoil installation and tree planting. Nelson said Stage 3B project through the golf course is on track to be completed at the end of October. Nelson then said there is a request to the DOT by the City and the County for 'No Engine Brakes' signing on Highway 210. The DOT has ordered the signs and it is expected they will be installed the second week of October.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL

16th Avenue Shared Use Path – Alderman Mitskog Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

DeVries then reported that he was a guest at the Circle of Nations that morning at their opening ceremonies and said it was good to see the interaction with staff and students there. He said he has contact information for Chris Kappes if anyone is interested in attending in the future.

REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Finance Committee Report

Bohn said the Finance Committee did not meet so had nothing to report at this time.

Public Works Public Safety Committee Report

Hansey said the Publics Works Public Safety Committee did not meet so had nothing to report at this time.

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following Committee Meetings were then scheduled:

- a. Flood Committee October 7th, 7:00 A.M.
- b. Finance Committee October 10th, 12:00 Noon
- c. Public Works Committee October 11th, 12:00 Noon

Motion by Mitskog, seconded by Hartman, to adjourn.

Mayor Sturdevant

Lynelle Amos, Finance Assistant