

Wahpeton City Council

July 1, 2013

5:00 p.m.

Present: Schmidt, Hansey, Bertsch, Mitskog, Sturdevant, DeVries, Dale, Bajumpaa, and Bohn

Absent: None

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

Meeting called to order by Mayor Sturdevant.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ETC.

Hearing Westside Rezoning is pending and shall be continued

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 June 17, 2013

Approval of minutes of Special Council meeting held June 24, 2013

Games of Chance Licenses, Site Authorizations & Special Permits

Mary Peterson Benefit – Games of Chance

Three Rivers Archery Club – Games of Chance

Breckenridge/Wahpeton Swim Team – Games of Chance

Other Games of Chance and/or Special Permits

Presentation/Approval of Reports

Waste Management

The Independent

Otter Tail Power Stewardship Report

Bois de Sioux Watershed District Minutes April 18, 2013

**Motion by Bertsch, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.
Motion Carried.**

ITEMS REQUESTED MOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA None.

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND STAFF

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Request from Mark Sand & Gravel Huwe said Mark Sand & Gravel of Fergus Falls, MN has requested consideration for a temporary conditional use permit at the former Valley Motel site, and she requested their inquiry be referred to the Public Works Committee for further consideration. Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

State Water Commission Flood Mitigation Reimbursement Huwe said in July of 2011 the City submitted a letter requesting additional cost participation from the State Water Commission on their Army Corps of Engineers Flood Mitigation project. The estimated total project cost is \$21.026 million with \$12 million in Federal financing and \$9.26 million in State and local funding. Huwe said the State Water Commission has made a concerted effort to participate in 50% of the non-federal costs of the Wahpeton project, requiring an additional \$1.013 million commitment in addition to the previously received \$3.5 million. She said the City of Wahpeton received this additional funding amount on June 24, 2013. Huwe said several elements of the Army Corps project are still ongoing, including relocations, easements and a slurry wall project – the final project costs are yet to be determined. She said the 2013 legislative session included over \$515 million to support flood protection, water management and water supply needs across North Dakota. Additionally, she said the City received \$121,500 and \$71,493 in grant proceeds from the ND Dept. of Trust Lands for the Briarwood Levee project and Westside Natural Drain project.

Discussion of 2014 Budget Premises – request referral to Finance & PW Committees Mayor Sturdevant will refer this item to Finance, Economic Development & Personnel Committee and, also, to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

City Hall Closed July 4th Huwe announced that due to this holiday, garbage usually picked up on Thursday will be picked up on Friday, and Friday's will be picked up on Saturday.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Jobs Training Act – request to participate Priebe announced that a local business is expanding again and has applied for the New Jobs Training Program through Job Service ND. She said the program has been in existence for quite some time, and initially a business could apply for a self-financing option and receive back 60% of the State income tax withheld for the employees that were trained, or they could borrow the money from a lender and pay back the loan plus interest with 100% of the income tax that was submitted. Priebe said about 6 years ago they allowed for grantors to act as a go-between so the company could receive 95% back, and since the grantor is a touch-point the State check is sent to the grantor who reissues the money directly to the company after retaining a 4% fee. Priebe said the company involved is ComDel and the intent is to keep the business local with a check as a Wahpeton check or visual commitment to the business. She said the City benefits in that the service fees can be charged and the checks from the State arrive quarterly, and the only commitment as the City is to enter into an agreement with ComDel Innovation Services, Inc. (CDI), which she said they have researched the Jobs Training Community Agreement and come up with an agreement that will work. Priebe explained that this is a 10-year commitment that can be extended. Marilee Tischer was present to further elaborate. She said both CDI Services and Heartland Precision are primary sector businesses which is one of the qualifying requirements for the program. She talked about new services being provided and said over the next 24 months they plan to hire approximately 50 people for that business, and expect about 70% of those new employees to be from ND. Tischer said every quarter they will send in the required documentation regarding those new hires, the State of ND will calculate what the income tax was for that quarter, calculate the amount due to CDI for the training, a check will be issued to the City with the City retaining their administrative fee, and issue a check for the remainder of the money to CDI. She said they will be doing the training with their local in-house experts, including engineering, quality control and maintenance. Tischer said approval has been received from the State, the preliminary agreement has been signed by Job Service on June 17th, so anyone hired after that date would qualify under this plan. Discussion held. **Motion by Mitskog, seconded by Hansey, to authorize the Mayor and City Auditor to sign a North Dakota New Jobs Training Community Agreement between the City of Wahpeton and ComDel Innovation Services, Inc. Motion Carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Economic Development Report Priebe shared progress pictures of Town Centre Square and also the Bell State Bank project. She also noted that the next Planning Commission meeting will be held July 18th with a hearing on the 6th Street South rezoning being held. Priebe then mentioned that in the Summer 2013 issue of North Dakota Horizons magazine Louise Erdrich is recognized for receiving the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

PW Report New Public Works Director Dennis Miranowski was introduced and welcomed. After thanking the City Council for this opportunity, he gave a brief background of his education and employment history. He then announced that on July 1st, tonight, at 8:00pm an aerial mosquito spray will take place given weather conditions allow it.

REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee Report

Bohn said the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee met at noon on June 24th.

2014 Budget Premises – discussion

Convention & Visitors Bureau Ordinance Update – motion to recommend to accept the changes as presented and offer first reading of the revised ordinance

Council member Bohn offered the first reading of the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 952
**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR A ONE PERCENT
TAX FUND GROSS RESTAURANT RECEIPTS**

Leadership Code of Conduct Amendments – discussion

Public Works Public Safety Committee Report

Hansey said the Public Works Public Safety Committee met at 5:00 p.m. on June 25th.

ND DOT Special Road Fund – Grant application for Hughes Dr. Improvements – motion to recommend proceeding to solicitation of cost proposals – **Motion by Hansey, seconded by Schmidt, to proceed to solicit cost proposals for a preliminary design of Hughes Drive Improvements. Motion Carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

2014 Budget Premises – discussion

Roof Repairs on Old City Hall – motion to recommend proceeding to request quotes for roof replacement – **Motion by Hansey, seconded by DeVries, to proceed to request quotes for Roof Replacement on Old City Hall. Discussion held. Motion Carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

Sewer Service Reconnection at 121 Dakota Ave. – discussion

Policy for designation of Handicapped Parking Spaces on Public Streets - discussion

Leadership Code of Conduct Amendments – discussion

Penalties and Fines for Class B Misdemeanors and Infractions – motion to recommend offering first reading of revised ordinance

Council member Hansey offered the first reading of the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 953
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PENALTIES
FOR MISDEMEANORS AND INFRACTIONS**

Rezoning Property Fronting West Side of 6th St. S. from 7th Ave. to 11th Ave. – ongoing discussion

Disposition of City Owned Lots – ongoing discussion

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following Committee Meetings were then scheduled:

- a. City Hall Closed Thursday, July 4th
- b. Finance Committee July 8th, 12:00 Noon
- c. Public Works Committee July 9th, 12:00 Noon

Motion by Mitskog, seconded by Bertsch, to adjourn at 5:30pm.

Mayor Sturdevant

Lynelle Amos, Finance Assistant