St. Ansgar City Council

June 13, 2017

Mayor David W. Tollefson convened a regular meeting of the St. Ansgar City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2017 in the council chamber of the St. Ansgar City Hall. Council Persons Myrna Jorgensen, Bonnie Eustice, Paul Groth, Michael Esdohr, and Rose Krahenbuhl answered roll call. Employee Lonnie Hillman was in attendance. Others present included: Gary Fossey, Chad Sparks- Midland GIS, Logan Koster, Karen Robertson, Bob McNutt, Brad and Pam Squier, Alex Schmidt-EJ, Dallas Kuper-Farm Tile Pro, Richard Brumm-County, Jim Squier, Diane Miller, Mike Juhl, Stan Walk, Amanda Kimber Dave Falk, Ivan Wold, and Bill Trygstad from Z.R.T.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Esdohr to approve the consent agenda and on roll call vote ayes five.

There were no residents wishing to present items for future agendas at this time.

Groth presented a motion, seconded by Krahenbuhl to approve minutes of May 22, 2017 and on roll call vote ayes five.

Krahenbuhl presented a motion, seconded by Esdohr to approve the payment of bills submitted for the month of May with the corrections being made to the Cemstone invoice to $820.76 and the Cedar Valley Vet for $87.50 and on roll call vote ayes four.

Chad Sparks from Midland GIS presented to the council information about mapping the water and sewer lines for the city.

Trygstad presented pay estimate #5 for the amount of $53,392.52 to Council for approval along with addressing questions and concerns from the council and citizens about the project. Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve the payment of $53,392.52 to Farm Tile Pro and on roll call vote ayes-Jorgensen, Groth, Esdohr, and Eustice, Nays-Krahenbuhl.

Police Chief Schutjer was not present.

Water, Waste Water Operator Hillman presented the Council with his work report along with explaining the radio read heads that he is installing.

Municipal Superintendent Gooder was not present but, provided his written work report for the council to review.

Groth presented a motion, seconded by Jorgenson to approve the May 2017 financial reports and on roll call vote ayes five

Brumm updated the Council on the Hwy 105 project which the estimated start date is the end of August. There are concerns about how to pave through the Grain Millers entrance that will have to be worked out and also some manhole adjustments will be needed.

South Square has agreed to allow the elections to be held there.

Woods will be meeting with Jeff Heil from Northland Securities to begin the work on converting the short

term debt into a long term debt and provide information for a rate study.

Esdohr presented a motion seconded by Eustice to deny the request for removal of the West sidewalk at 412 W. 6th Street and on roll call ayes five. The Council will look at options for how to handle the tree roots causing the problems with sidewalks.

Wold presented to the Council the success of the Seasons Housing Development and requested that the City enter into another housing development with the EDC looking at maybe 12 to 15 lots. Groth presented a motion seconded by Jorgensen to enter into a housing development agreement with the EDC and on roll call vote ayes Krahenbuhl, Eustice, Groth, & Jorgensen, Nays-Esdohr.

Concerns about the purchasing of culverts by residents was addressed. Homeowners are responsible for the purchase of the culvert when it is placed under a driveway. The City is responsible for culverts under roads and alleys.

There was also discussion about the need for improvement on communication with property owners when this type of work is being done.

Jorgensen presented a motion seconded by Groth to approve the START equipment, trail, and bike agreement gifting these items to the City and having these added to the City’s Insurance policy and on roll call vote ayes Esdohr, Jorgensen, and Groth-nays Krahenbuhl and Eustice.

Eustice presented a motion, seconded by Jorgensen to approve the CRP License agreement with Tim Halvorson and Sally Halvorson for the drainage buffer strip and on roll call vote ayes five.

Request from Citizens to oil the streets to control dust was presented to the Council. The Council denied this request.

The fence permit denial issue was tabled

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve the request to close Washington Street from 5th Street to 6th Street in front of South Square to hold Bingo on the 18th during Oatmeal Days and on roll call vote ayes five.

Jorgensen discussed the recent issue with the train blocking the crossings in town and that she has spoken to the Railroad along with Senator Brown about this issue.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

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Mayor David W. Tollefson

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Tami Woods, City Clerk