St. Ansgar City Council

November 13, 2017

Mayor David W. Tollefson convened a regular meeting of the St. Ansgar City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2017 in the council chamber of the St. Ansgar City Hall. Council Persons Myrna Jorgensen, Michael Esdohr, Paul Groth, Bonnie Eustice, and Rose Krahenbuhl answered roll call. Employee Lance Schutjer was present. Others present included: Chrystal Berche-Press News, Bill Trygstad-ZRT, Rhiannon Warrington, Ben Walk, Charlotte Meitner, Travis Charlson-EJ, Karen Robertson, Ariel Schulmeister, Mike Juhl, Bob McNutt, Shawn Niemoth, Dianne Miller, Paul Hannam, and Norm Johnson.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve the consent agenda which included the renewal of the Liquor and Sunday sales license for Walter T. Enneberg Post #358 American Legion and on roll call vote ayes five.

Bob McNutt shared that he would like to see the current Mayor and Council members stay active in the activities they have been involved in even after their term ends. They have done a wonderful job.

Krahenbuhl presented a motion, seconded by Esdohr to approve the minutes of October 9, 2017 on roll call vote ayes five.

Groth presented a motion, seconded by Esdohr to approve payment of bills submitted for the month of November 2017, along with the additional bills of $25,348.13 to ZRT for engineering services, $240.98 to Nick’s Plumbing for services at well house, and $100.00 to St. Ansgar Landscaping for light rental and also excluding the payment of $246.50 to Croell for concrete for sidewalk repairs that will be billed to property owner, and on roll call vote ayes five.

Mayor Tollefson proclaimed November as “Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month” and November 16th as “World Pancreatic Cancer Day”. Ariel Schulmeister accepted the signed proclamation.

Bill Trygstad presented the Council with change orders #16, 17, 18, & 19 along with pay estimate #8 for Farm TilePro. After discussion from Council and Citizens Jorgensen presented a motions, seconded by Eustice to approve the payment which includes the change orders for the amount of $115,399.35 and on roll call vote ayes five.

Trygstad also discussed the issue of water drainage pooling behind Ivan Wolds residence. Something has changed over the years to cause this and he recommended that Council look into this and work with the property owners to come up with a solution.

It was also discussed having the Council look at some of the recent ditches that have been dug and possibly installing culverts in some of these locations.

Police Chief Schutjer reported that quotes for radio updates for both the police department and City Workers have been included in the Council packets for review. This would be updating from analog to digital. The current radios that work will be brought to City Hall and used for storm spotters or disaster communication. The Council suggested getting a few more quotes.

Truck traffic signs have been updated. Yield and RR crossing signs have been replaced. Chief Schutjer has also monitored the traffic at stop light and has not seen an issue.

Interviews have been done for the reserve officer position and references will be checked before an offer is made. John Beyer will be remaining on as a reserve officer.

NIMS training will need to be taken by the Mayor, Council, Dart and anyone who will be allowed into town during a disaster.

It was reported that Black Hills and Ray Huftalin commented on how well the fire department along with the City handled the gas leak situation.

Water, Waste Water Superintendent Hillman was not present.

Superintendent Gooder was not present. Gooder had provided the Council with proposals from Overhead Door to replace or update the doors to meet OSHA requirements. After Council reviewed and determined that there was no other location to receive quotes from Jorgensen presented a motion seconded by Esdohr to approve the proposals presented and on roll call vote ayes five.

Eustice presented a motion, seconded by Jorgensen to approve the October 2017 financial reports and on roll call vote ayes five.

Mayor Tollefson read Ordinance 439 Water Rates Increase. This ordinance states that effective February 1st 2018 minimum water usage will decrease from 2000 gallons to 1000 gallons with the minimum rate increasing by $.50 along with the additional usage rate increase from $4.10 to $5.10 for each additional 1000 gallons of water used. This ordinance also states that effective every July 1st there will be an automatic $.50 increase added to the minimum rate from the prior year.

Mayor Tollefson also read Ordinance 440 Sewer Rate Increase. This ordinance states that effective February 1st 2018 the minimum usage will decrease from 2000 gallons to 1000 gallons with the minimum rate staying at the current $30.00 and the additional usage rate per 1000 gallons will be $3.00.

This was the first reading of these ordinances. The second reading will be December 11th at the regular Council meeting.

Groth suggested that the Administrative Committee meet to review the Ordinance’s needing review for Iowa Codification. Clerk Woods will schedule a meeting with the Committee.

Niemoth shared her frustrations with her sewer problems. Council advised her to provide the Council with information on the damages and cost to review at the next meeting.

Removal of trees on 4th Street that are causing issues with the sidewalk were discussed. This will be looked at to see if they should be removed.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve **Resolution 2017-22 Urban Renewal Report** and on roll call vote ayes five.

Groth presented a motion, seconded by Krahenbuhl to approve **Resolution 2017-23 Resolution to Certify Annual Appropriation Tax Increment Rebate Payments** and on roll call vote ayes five.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Esdohr to approve **Resolution 2017-24 Approving the Transfer of Funds,** and on roll call vote ayes five.

Krahenbuhl presented a motion seconded by Esdohr to approve TIF Certification to Auditor and on roll call vote ayes five

Woods shared information on replacing the current copy machine with quotes from Marco to purchase or lease. Woods will get quote from Advanced Ssystem also.

Council discussed the recent breaks caused by utility digs. Mayor Tollefson commented on how well the fire department was trained in the gas leak situation.

Esdohr shared an email submitted from Brenda Esdohr about having the Council meetings live streamed or available on YouTube along with a survey she conducted. There was also an email request from Lynn Kirchgatter. Council discussed the pros and cons of social media. Groth presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to not have the meetings live streamed or uploaded to You Tube and on roll call vote ayes-Krahenbuhl, Eustice, Groth, & Jorgensen, Nays-Esdohr

The sidewalk that was replaced by the Westrem residence was discussed and Esdohr presented a motion, seconded by Groth that the bill for the concrete should be submitted to the property owner and on roll call vote ayes five.

Next agenda will include ways to notify residence to sign up for Mitchell County Alerts so they are notified of City issues that may concern them.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

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David W. Tollefson, Mayor

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Tami Woods, City Clerk