St. Ansgar City Council

August 14, 2017

Mayor David W. Tollefson convened a regular meeting of the St. Ansgar City Council at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 14, 2017 in the council chamber of the St. Ansgar City Hall. Council Persons Myrna Jorgensen, Bonnie Eustice, Michael Esdohr, and Rose Krahenbuhl answered roll call, Paul Groth was absent. Employees Lance Schutjer, Lonnie Hillman and Justin Gooder were in attendance. Others present included: Gary Fossey, Karen Robertson, Bob McNutt, Alex Schmidt-EJ, Marilyn Schotanus, Melissa Schmidt, Amy and Derrick Powers, Jeff Heil-Northland Securities, Jennifer Andrade-MCEDC, Mike Juhl, Jim Squier, and Bill Trygstad from Z.R.T.

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

There were no request from citizens for future agenda items.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve minutes of July 24, 2017 and on roll call vote ayes four.

Eustice presented a motion, seconded by Jorgensen approve the payment of bills submitted for the month of August along with the additional bill to Underwood Tree Services in the amount of $2,450.00 for tree service and on roll call vote ayes four.

Jeff Heil Municipal Advisor for Northland Securities was present to share information on the issuance of the GO 2017A bond and the debt capacity of the City. Eustice presented a motion seconded by Jorgensen to approve **Resolution 2017-19 Issuance of GO Bond 2017A for the amount of $784,000** and on roll call vote ayes-Krahenbuhl, Eustice, & Jorgensen, Esdohr abstained.

Heil also explained to the Council the results of the water rate study and the need for the City to increase revenue in the water fund to meet the obligations of the current SRF loan and also to fund the new bond. Heil provided the Council with a few different options to look at.

Trygstad presented change orders 13, 14, and 15 for the 2016 Street and Utility Improvements Project to the council to review along with pay estimate #7. Change order 13 included culvert and rock that will be billed to the property owner. Jorgensen present a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve change order 13, 14, & 15 along with the payment of pay estimate #7 in the amount of $16,808.11 and on roll call vote ayes four

Trygstad presented the Council with an estimate for additional ditch work to be added to the current project in the amount of $112,850.00, or this could be added to the road surfacing project next year. Jorgensen presented a motion seconded by Eustice to approve the additional ditch work to be added to the current project with a completion deadline of October 15, 2017, and on roll call ayes-Eustice, Esdohr, & Jorgensen, nay-Krahenbuhl.

Krahenbuhl presented a motion to fine Farm Tile Pro $500 a day for each day following the October 15th dead line that the project is not completed. Motion died due to lack of second.

Police Chief Schutjer reported that since the part-time police officer position had been changed to a reserve officer position that this position needed to be opened up again and posted. The position has been posted with a dead line of August 21, 2017 for applications to be turned in. Schutjer has contacted prior applicants to see if they would be interested in the reserve position. Schutjer also requested the Council to consider having 2 reserve officers and increasing the hours available to be split between the reserves.

Water, Waste Water Superintendent Hillman presented his work report to the Council and discussed the 2nd round of e-coli testing at the lagoon was completed and the 3rd round will done in September.

Municipal Superintendent Gooder reported that they have been working on trees and have taken down 22 so far and 15 stumps have been ground. More street signs have come in and will be installed.

Mayor Tollefson shared information on a tandem truck to look at purchasing to replace the old one. Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to allow the Mayor and Gooder to look at this tandem truck and purchase with a limit of $18,900, and on roll call ayes four

Eustice presented a motion, seconded by Krahenbuhl to approve the July 2017 financial reports and on roll call vote ayes four.

Niemoth was not present to discuss the sink-hole issue requested to be put on the agenda at a prior meeting. This was tabled.

Jennifer Andrade who replaced Brenda Dryer as the Director of the Mitchell County Economic Development Commission was present to introduce herself to the Council. Andrade shared future plans for recruitment into the area and that the housing study has been completed and plans will be made moving forward.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve the closing of 4th Street from the alley of the Food Center to George Street for Fall Festival September 9, 2017 and on roll call vote ayes four.

Jorgensen presented a motion to deny the placing of a culvert in the ditch north of his residence died due to lack of second. Eustice presented a motion, seconded by Jorgensen to leave the ditch as is and on roll call vote ayes-Krahenbuhl, Eustice, & Jorgensen. Esdohr abstained.

Powers and Schotanus requested to plant a tree on the boulevard. Council and citizens discussed the Tree Ordinance and the reason for the change to not allow for planting of trees in the boulevard which include the damage to sidewalks and ditch issues.

Schotanus also shared concerns about sidewalk damage that was done during the street and utility project work. The project is not complete and the contractor will be replacing the sidewalk that was damaged.

Schmidt requested to have a tree removed from her boulevard that was trimmed by the company hired by Alliant that is causing the tree to lean toward her house. The tree is still a healthy tree so the City will not remove a healthy tree.

Jorgensen presented a motion, seconded by Eustice to approve **Resolution 2017-20 pay amendment for attendance of Municipal Professional Institute** increase in clerks wage and on roll call ayes four

Des Moines Noise Ordinance information was brought to City Hall to share with Council members by Gene Mouw. Mouw also discussed the information with Chief Schutjer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

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Mayor David W. Tollefson

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Tami Woods, City Clerk