

MAPLE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

February 5, 2008 – Minutes

The Maple Lake City Council was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Michael Messina.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Geyen, Kelly, Messina, and Northenscold.

ABSENT: Dircks.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk/Treasurer Linda Hruby.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made/seconded/passed, (m/s/p), Kelly/Northenscold, to approve the agenda.

Consent Agenda

A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Geyen, to approve the Consent Agenda including Approval of the January 22 2008 Minutes; Approval of Disbursement List #08-03 and #LS02-05-08; Approval of November Financial Statements; and Approval to Purchase a Replacement Computer for City Hall at an Estimated Cost of \$1,400

New Business

Personnel Committee Report

Messina stated the Committee reviewed the various options for health insurance. Staff filled out applications this year and Medica had the most favorable premiums. The Committee discussed a Health Savings Account (HSA) and the City would save approximately \$15,000 a year using this account. The Personnel Committee and staff will meet with Jim LaTour tomorrow for an informational meeting regarding an HSA plan. Staff will be meeting with Alliance Benefit Group to enroll in the HSA plan this week. A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Northenscold, to award the health insurance contract to Medica and to use Alliance Benefit Group for administering the Health Savings Account plan, per Personnel Committee recommendation.

Street Committee Report

Messina stated the Committee decided to proceed with the Birch Avenue improvement. Meyer will continue to pursue grants for this project. Northenscold requested that a comparison cost analysis be completed showing the cost of the street at its present width and the cost if the street were made narrower in the residential area. Hruby reported that the Chamber of Commerce Promotion Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 13, 2007, at 6:00 p.m. at city hall to discuss this project. The Street Committee also discussed the following issues: Park and Linden Avenue, Elm Avenue by Rob's Upholstery, Geneva and Cedar Avenues, and seal coating of Paumen 1st and 2nd Additions and Happy Knoll 1st Addition this year.

Joint Sewer Commission Report

Messina reported that the Joint Wastewater Commission included the following: a project engineer's update, financial issues, pay requests, vehicle costs, operator position, and snow removal/mowing. Messina stated that if anyone was interested in touring the plant, they should call Brad DeWolf to arrange an appointment time. Hruby stated that the City of Annandale will be buying a truck and that the use of the truck will be charged to the Wastewater treatment plant operations based on annual

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usage. The cost will include cost of vehicle, depreciation, insurance, and maintenance at an estimated monthly cost of \$177. Mileage will be based on monthly miles times fuel cost on date of billing. Messina reported that John Meyer recommended replacing the vehicle prior to the expiration of the warranty period, which could result in a significant savings. Depreciation on the vehicle would still be over a 10 year period.

Messina also recommended talking with Sawatzke regarding the two cities sharing the mowing/snow removal at the facility.

Old Business/Directive

Ed Skomoroh – Annandale Community Food Shelf – Donation

Messina stated that the Council requested Ed Skomoroh be present at this meeting to answer any questions from the Council. Skomoroh stated that the Annandale Community Food Shelf does not receive any money from the State or Wright County. The food shelf relies on donations from area churches and local governments to pay for rent, which is \$7,200 per year. The food shelf does keep track of who receives donations and has asked local governments to donate according to their resident's usage. The food shelf has no paid staff, it is all volunteer. In 2000, 2,085 people used 45,000 lbs. of food. In 2007, 3,500 people used 85,000 lbs. of food. Skomoroh stated that the food shelf is a temporary, emergency relief for people in need. Geyen stated she did not feel that governments should get involved in donations, questioning whether the food shelf has approached other sources such as the Lions, pull tabs, etc. Skomoroh stated they have received donations from various groups, but rely on such groups for food donations, not rent. Northenscold questioned if an organization gave money for rent, would they not give food donations. Skomoroh stated that would be the case, but that the City of Annandale would pick up the rent cost if the food shelf did not have enough money. Skomoroh stated that very few organizations do what the food shelf does – we feed the hungry within our own communities. A motion was m/s/p, Northenscold/Kelly, to donate \$1,000 to the Annandale Community Food Shelf to pay for rent. Geyen opposed.

Donald Jude Claim

Messina gave a brief account of the joint venture between the City, Donald Jude and Bradley and Brian Paumen regarding the storm sewer project completed in 1999. Total cost of the project was \$97,685.02, with each party paying 1/3 of the cost. Jude and Paumens undertook this project with the expectation that they would be reimbursed by the City. To settle this claim, offers were made by Paumens and by Jude, with Jude threatening litigation if this matter was not settled. A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Northenscold, to adopt **Resolution #R2008-09**, authorizing the City to pay \$25,000 to Donald Jude and \$25,000 to Bradley and Brian Paumen in full satisfaction of any and all claims relating to the Storm Sewer Project completed in 1999, subject to Jude and Paumen's signing of the Release and Settlement Agreement. All present voted aye.

Sewer Roder Equipment

Messina reported that he had contacted contractors regarding this equipment and they advised the city selling this on Ebay. A motion was m/s/p, Messina/Geyen, authorizing Sawatzke to sell the Sewer Roder Equipment on Ebay.

Administrative Issues

The Wright County Northwest Quadrant Meeting is on Wednesday, February 6, 7:00 p.m., Maple Lake High School Common Area. Northenscold stated that part of this discussion will

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include water/lakes in this area and that there are no representatives from the area lakes on the Committee.

A meeting will be held with Strata Corporation in March. Council is available for this meeting on March 4, 5, or 6. Messina will contact Bill LaFond to set up a date for the meeting.

Hruby reported that she had contacted MnDOT regarding the duration of time the stop light allows for crossing Highway 55. MnDOT has checked the light and stated that it is set at the proper length of time.

Open Forum

None

Adjournment

A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Northenscold, to adjourn the meeting at 5:47 p.m.

Attest,

City Clerk/Treasurer