

MAPLE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

August 21, 2007 – Minutes

The Maple Lake City Council was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Messina.

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

ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: City Attorney Rhonda Pagel, City Engineer Jeremy Mathiason, Public Works Director Jerry Sawatzke, and City Clerk/Treasurer Linda Hruby.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made/seconded/passed, (m/s/p), Kelly/Dircks, to approve the agenda, with the following addition under New Business: e. Jerry Sawatzke – Maintenance Concerns, and under Old Business: a. Hanson Welding Update

Consent Agenda

A motion was m/s/p, Northenscold/Kelly, to approve the Consent Agenda including Approval of the July 31, 2007 and August 16, 2007 Minutes; Approval of Disbursement List #07-15 and #LS08-21-07; and Approval of Payment No. 3 to Gridor Construction for the Water Filter Improvement in the amount of \$279,164.00

New Business

Planning Commission – Thomas Elsenpeter Rezoning

Northenscold reported that Thomas Elsenpeter requested rezoning of his property located at 416 North Street East from R-1, Urban Residential, to B-2, Highway Business, to allow used car sales on his lot. Northenscold stated that a public hearing was held and after a lengthy discussion, the Planning Commission recommended the City Council deny the application of Thomas Elsenpeter to rezone his property from R-1 to B-2 because it is inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and safety concerns and per recommendation of memo of Dean Johnson dated 8/9/07. On August 21, 2007 Thomas Elsenpeter submitted a written request to withdraw his application to rezone his property.

Northenscold also reported that the Planning Commission continued revisions for the Sign Ordinance.

Ramsey Lake Heights Feasibility Costs

Mathiasen reported the cost estimate to complete a field study and feasibility report for the Ramsey Lake Heights Utility Improvements would be approximately \$17,000 based on 190 hours of labor. Mathiasen stated this cost could be less depending on what can be used from prior studies of this area. Mathiasen also stated that the cost of this feasibility report will become part of the project at the time of construction and will be paid by the property owners. A group of Ramsey Lake Heights residents were present and the following comments and concerns were expressed: how sewers would be hooked up to the city system – back yard or front yard; has a topography study been done; 3 lots owned by the lake association; township costs to be included and paid by whom; use of directional

bore; grinder pumps – city owned or homeowner’s responsibility; process for eliminating private septic systems; project to include sewer, water and street; retention of private wells; paying for the feasibility study; having someone else do a feasibility study at a lower cost; and not doing anything until the people on Ramsey Lake make up their minds as to what they want to do.

A discussion was also held regarding the percentage required for a petition. Pagel stated that the city has an agreement with the township that you need at least a majority of the property owners to sign a petition for annexation. However, the city could require a higher percentage. Pagel stated that the MPCA does not have any authority to control the percentage that the city could require.

The Mayor called for a recess at 7:54 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 8:08 p.m.

Lawrence Manuel – Softball Association – Sewer Concerns – Bolduan Park

Lawrence Manuel, representing the Softball Association, was present and stated he had three items as follows: 1) City’s plans for storm sewer to be dug across the softball fields; 2) Raffle to raise money to install lights; and 3) Wish list of improvements in Bolduan Park.

1. Mathiasen stated that the city had plans and specs for the storm sewer improvements for Bolduan Park and also had a bid from LaTour Construction. A problem with the easement put this project on hold. The easement problem has been resolved and Mathiasen requested Council approval to finish the details of the easement and contact LaTour Construction to do this project this fall.

2. Manuel stated they are doing a car raffle to purchase lights for the ball fields. Manuel stated he isn’t sure that they will be able to raise enough money for the lights and stated that 18 years ago the Jaycees obtained a quote of \$46,000 for lights. Sawatzke will check on used lights and a list of vendors from the LMC will be given to Manuel.

3. Wish List

- Wipe out balance of loan, \$4,923.66. The Softball Association is making payments to improve a city park.
- Dirt Work – coincide with storm sewer project.
- Concrete dugout and bleacher areas.
- Lights – fund raising, may need additional help.
- Sprinklers
- Clean up dead trees, underbrush, etc.
- Cushman field maintenance machine.
- Fence guards.

The dirt work, sprinklers and clean up of dead trees, underbrush, etc. should be included in the storm sewer project. Sawatzke stated that there is a 1 inch water line to this area and this should be replaced with a 4 inch line. Mathiasen stated that the outfield will be disturbed and sprinklers could be installed, as well as additional work on water control including incorporating catch basins into the system. Sawatzke stated that his department will remove the ag-lime and replace with new ag-lime. Sawatzke reported that he has black dirt for the outfields and Mathiasen stated that a roller would be available. Sawatzke also stated that his department could do the concrete dugout and bleacher areas. A motion was m/s/p, Messina/Kelly, authorizing the city engineer to contact LaTour Construction to

update his prior bid for this project and also to get prices from LaTour for any additional work, including the extension of the water line to a 4 inch line.

Staff was instructed to set up a Park Board meeting on September 11 or 13 at 5:00 p.m. at city hall to discuss the other items on the wish list for Bolduan Park and to obtain any costs relating to these items prior to the meeting.

Deb Geyen – Update on Speed Zone Study for CSAH 37

Geyen reported that a double line has been installed on County Road 37 and that the County Commissioners have approved a study of that area. Bill Cordell, Wright County Highway Department, stated they will conduct a turning movement count, which might result in a 3 way stop at County Road 37 and County Road 8. Cordell also suggested that local people on County Road 37 actually go 30 mph in this area as that might assist the lowering of the speed limit.

Jerry Sawatzke – Maintenance Concerns

Sawatzke stated that he has obtained two quotes through the state bid process for a new loader as follows: Ziegler Cat at \$140,000 and John Deere at \$137,033.55. Both quotes include the trade-in value of the 1991 Cat loader. Sawatzke stated that he would prefer the Ziegler loader. A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Messina, authorizing the purchase of the Ziegler CAT loader at a price of \$140,000, and authorizing Sawatzke to purchase an extended warranty at his discretion.

Sawatzke reported that he has a bid of \$2,580.50 from Keith Wurm and Kip Blizil to dig out the ditch from 6th Street down to Spruce Avenue. A motion was m/s/p, Dircks/Kelly, accepting the bid from Keith Wurm and Kip Blizil to dig out the ditch from 6th Street down to Spruce Avenue at a cost of \$2,580.50.

Old Business/Directive

Hanson Welding Update

Pagel reported that the lawsuit naming the city as a defendant in the Hanson Welding case because of the \$26,000 escrow for landscaping has been resolved. The city is required to deposit the \$26,000 with the Wright Court Administrator and will be dismissed from the lawsuit. A motion was m/s/p, Messina/Kelly, authorizing staff to deposit the \$26,000 escrow for Hanson Welding with the Wright Court Administrator.

Administrative Issues

Reminders: Budget Committee meeting – August 28, 5:00 p.m. at City Hall; City Council Workshop/Retreat – August 29, 5:00 p.m. at Ney Park.

Adjournment

A motion was m/s/p, Dircks/Kelly, to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Attest,

City Clerk/Treasurer