

MAPLE LAKE CITY COUNCIL

December 5, 2006 - Minutes

The Maple Lake City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Messina in the Council Chambers of the City of Maple Lake.

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

ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Council Elect Deb Geyen, City Attorney Rhonda Pagel, City Engineer Jeremy Mathiasen, and City Clerk/Treasurer Linda Hruby.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

A motion was m/s/p, Kelly/Northenscold, to approve the Consent Agenda including Approval of the November 21, 2006 Minutes; Approval of Disbursement List #06-23 and #LS12-05-06; Approval of the Following 2007 Licenses: Split Liquor and Sunday Liquor to Madigan's Pub & Grill, Inc, J.L. Pettit Investment, dba Maple Lake Bowl, and Off-Sale Non-intoxicating Beer License to H & H Sport Shop, Contingent upon submitting a Certificate of Insurance, and Approval to Close Out Excess Balances from the 2003 Street Improvement Capital Improvement Fund to the 2003 Street Improvement Debt Service Fund.

Move Council Meeting

It was the consensus of the Council to move the next Council meeting to Wednesday, December 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

New Business

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing, 7:00 p.m.

The Council watched a DVD entitled "14 Reasons Property Taxes Go Up and Down.". The regular meeting closed and the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing opened at 7:15 p.m. No one was present for the hearing. Hruby stated that the 2007 proposed budget is \$1,133,790, an increase of \$75,620 in the budget over last year. The 2007 proposed levy is \$497,287, an increase of \$69,297 in the levy over last year. The 2007 proposed tax rate is 35.845, compared to 34.610 last year.

A subsequent hearing to adopt the 2007 Final Budget and the 2007 Final Property Tax Levy will be held at city hall on Wednesday, December 20, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The public hearing closed and the regular meeting reconvened at 7:17 p.m.

Utility Study

Mathiasen presented a Storm Sewer and Street Lighting Utility Study. Mathiasen stated that the city currently does not have fees for either of these issues and that the goals of this study were to analyze present conditions, upcoming projects and propose fees to help defray the costs.

Mathiasen stated that the City currently has seven storm water sedimentation ponds covering approximately 14 acres. The City is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of these ponds. The ponds require sedimentation removal at a minimum of every 10-15 years, at an estimated cost of \$99,375. The City currently has no way to fund this upkeep. His firm suggests that the City consider fees of \$1.00 per month for residential accounts and \$2.00 per month for non-residential accounts. For new developments a Trunk Storm Sewer Charge of \$500 per buildable acre is also being recommended. The anticipated annual revenue would be \$10,680.

Street lighting fees were also discussed. The City's General Fund currently pays approximately \$25,000 annually for street lighting. A fee of \$1.50 per billing period (every 2 months) would generate \$1,174.50 or \$7,047 annually to help defray the street lighting costs. A discussion was held regarding the issue that street lighting is included in the City levy and would residents be paying for this service twice.

Mathiasen stated that the proposed fees were in line with what other communities are charging. Messina stated that this is something the City should have been doing years ago to build a reserve to pay for storm water costs. Pagel stated that the Planning Commission is reviewing the Fee Schedule at their meeting next week and will make a recommendation to the Council. This issue will be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Old Business/Directive

Franchises

Nothing new

Heritage Development Update

Pagel informed the City Council that the final changes to the purchase agreement were completed and it has been signed by all parties. The closing date is scheduled for no later than December 20, 2006. The Council needs to consider whether action should be taken at the next meeting if the closing does not occur as scheduled. It is the attorney's recommendation that the Council draw on the surety if the closing does not occur as scheduled.

Administrative Issues

Nothing new

Open Forum

Adjournment

A motion was m/s/p, Dircks/Kelly, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Attest,

City Clerk/Treasurer