

**City of Stewartville  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Stewartville City Hall  
July 22, 2014**

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL** – Mayor King called the meeting to order on July 22, 2014 at 7:00 pm. Present: King, Hanson, Stensrud, Timm and Burgr. Also Present: City Administrator Schimmel, Finance Director Neubauer, Public Works Director Stevens, Library Director Johnson and City Clerk Roeder.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Motion by Burgr second by Timm to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

**IV. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-**

Motion by Timm, second by Hanson to approve the minutes of the Special Council meeting (street tour) of July 1, 2014. Unanimously approved.

Motion by Hanson, second by Burgr to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of July 8, 2014. Voting in favor: Hanson, Burgr, Timm and King. Abstaining: Stensrud. Motion carried.

**V. FINANCE AND BUDGET**

**A. Accounts Payable** – Motion by Timm, second by Burgr to approve the accounts payable listing. Unanimously approved.

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financial Report** - Neubauer presented the 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr Financial reports ending June 30, 2014. She noted that the percent of budget should be no more than 50%. She reminded Council that this report does not reflect first half of the property taxes and LGA payments as they are received in July.

**VI. PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**A. Journey to Growth** – Gary Smith, RAEDI appeared before the Council to present “Journey to Growth”. He noted that the anticipated growth from the Destination Medical Center (DMC) initiative is an opportunity we look forward to as both residents and as business leaders. He noted that steps must be taken to diversify our economy in order to avoid becoming overly dependent on one sector and one major employer. RAEDI and the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce partnered to develop a five-year economic growth plan for our region. He stated that the success of the plan will depend upon everyone – people and organizations working together. He encouraged the Council to call him if there are any questions during the process of the plan.

## **VII. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**A. Chicken Ordinance Consideration-**Mayor King stated that a public hearing was held on July 8<sup>th</sup> to receive input on the proposed chicken ordinance. Hanson stated that he represents the majority of the citizens and feels that the majority isn't in favor of allowing chickens. Timm stated that after she went to Rochester and actually saw a home with chickens she is in favor of an ordinance. She stated that our ordinance would control any issues that could become a problem. King stated that he has been around farm animals his entire life and doesn't feel that Stewartville needs a chicken ordinance. He applauded the parents for wanting to teach their children responsibility but also noted that they can have their children do chores at home and for their neighbors to teach them responsibility. He spoke to Cooper Reed and praised him for putting a lot of time into his presentation. He also told Cooper that hearing no for an answer is also part of life. Stensrud stated that he hasn't heard a lot of comments, but those that he did hear were negative. He agrees with King and Hanson that Stewartville didn't need an ordinance. Burgr stated that the ordinance would be in place if a problem did occur and wondered if he didn't do enough to educate the other members of Council. He stated that this would be a positive way to teach children responsibility. He also questioned what sets us apart from other communities who do allow chickens?

Motion by Timm, second by Burgr to approve the Chicken Ordinance as presented. Voting in favor: Timm and Burgr. Voting against: King, Hanson and Stensrud. Motion failed.

**B. Ordinance Consideration – Brew Pub/Taproom -** With the recent popularity of Brew Pubs/Taprooms and with the inquiry from an interested prospect, an Ordinance Amendment to Chapter 4, Alcoholic Beverages has been created. This is the second reading of the ordinance.

Motion by Burgr/second by Stensrud to approve Ordinance 2014-3, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages. Unanimously approved.

**C. Dog Park Request –**Due to the recent request for a dog park, the Park Board has requested that the City Council set up a taskforce to research potential sites, policy language and general requirements/layout of a dog park. Staff is suggesting that four community members and one Council rep be appointed. Those interested in sitting on the community should send letters of interest to Mayor King.

Motion by Timm, second by King to approve setting up a Taskforce to research a dog park. Unanimously approved.

**D. Sign Retroreflectivity Policy-** In 2007, the US Dept of Transportation Federal Highway Administration enacted new regulations requiring agencies that maintain roadways to adopt a sign maintenance program designed to maintain traffic sign retroreflectivity at or above specific levels. Policies need to be in place by July 2104 with compliance dates of 2018. The City has been proactive with the replacement and should have all required signs completed by the end of this year or early next year.

Motion by Hanson, second by Stensrud to approve the Sign Retroreflectivity Policy has submitted. Unanimously approved.

- E. Christmas Decorations** – After looking at various options, the Committee is recommending a LED lighted snowflake that would complement the winter banners. The snowflakes will replace the wreaths on Main St. and two parking lots. The Committee along with the Finance Committee is recommending a transfer of \$2,665 from the City Beautification fund to help pay for the cost of \$12,665.

Motion by Stensrud, second by Timm to approve the transfer as requested. Unanimously approved.

- F. Liquor License Transfer Request-** Skip-n-Dale's are requesting to utilize Mn State Statute 340A.404 Sub.4, to sell intoxicating liquor at the Civic Center for a wedding on August 23, 2014.

Motion by Hanson, second by Burgr to approve the transfer for August 23, 2014. Unanimously approved.

- G. Liquor License Transfer Request-** The Down Under Bar & Grill is requesting to utilize Mn State Statute 340A.404 Sub.4, to sell intoxicating liquor at the Civic Center for a wedding on August 2, 2014.

Motion by Burgr, second by Stensrud to approve the transfer for August 2, 2014. Unanimously approved.

## **VIII. MAYOR, STAFF AND CONSULTANTS REPORTS**

- A. Mayor-** King commented on the following:
- Sympathy to the Families of: Wilbert Sparks III and Harriett Vrieze
  - Congrats to our Swim Team – Stewie teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> in 39 events at the swim meet on July 14<sup>th</sup> with Dodge Center & Kasson.
  - Gardens are producing – stop out to Striker's Corner for the Farmer's Market on Wednesdays from 4-7!
  - Miracles Happen Festival – Ironwood Christian Ranch – July 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Community Theatre present Cinderella – Aug 1, 2, 8, 9 & 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - School is just around the corner and if you are wanting to donate supplies drop them off at Eastwood Bank.
- B. Administrator-**
- Bi-Weekly Report
  - Pool had over 1,000 patrons one day, last week!
- C. Finance Director –**
- Working on preliminary budget – submit your ideas for 2015!
- D. Public Works Director –**
- Chip Sealing on August 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Construction of VB courts at Bear Cave will start

- Other project (bathrooms and pumphouse addition) are moving along

E. Library Director – Monthly report. The next Library Board meeting is August 19<sup>th</sup>

F. Fire Chief – No report.

**IX. COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS AND BOARD REPORTS**

- A. Care Center- No report
- B. Chamber of Commerce – No report
- C. EDA/HRA – Schumann Business Package II
- D. Finance- No report
- E. Library- No report
- F. Park Board – No report
- G. Personnel- No report
- H. Public Safety/Safety Committee- Deputy Breitenbach reported on National Night Out
- I. Planning & Zoning – No report
- J. Public Works- No report
- K. RAEDI – No report
- L. ROCOG- No report
- M. SCCC/STEW19 – No report
- N. WWTF – June O&M Report

**X. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Alliant Energy Corresp. – Rate Increase

**XI. RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S) OPEN MIC**

**XII. ADJOURN** – Motion by Burgr, second by Stensrud to adjourn. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Roeder  
City Clerk