

**City of Stewartville  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
Stewartville Fire Hall  
September 22, 2015**

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL** – Mayor King called the meeting to order on September 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Present: King, Stensrud, Timm, Uptagrafft and Anderson. 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 Stensrud, second by Anderson to approve the agenda. Unanimously approved.

**IV. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES-**  
Motion by Timm, second by Uptagrafft to approve Council meeting minutes of September 8, 2015. Unanimously approved.

Motion by Timm, second by Anderson to approve the Council Budget Workshop meeting minutes of September 14, 2015. Unanimously approved.

**V. FINANCE AND BUDGET**

Motion by Uptagrafft, second by Stensrud to approve the accounts payable listing. Unanimously approved.

**VI. GENERAL BUSINESS**

**A. 2015 CIP Assessment Hearing-** Mayor King closed the regular Council meeting to open a Public Hearing to consider questions and objections to the proposed special assessments. Neubauer presented all the legal requirements, which included the adopted dates of all resolutions required for the project, the determination of the assessable amounts, the payment schedule, the appeal process and the assessment deferment policy. She noted that if anyone were to object to the assessment amount, according to State Statute they need to do so before the Mayor closed the public hearing. She noted that the City pays for 75% of the streets, 100% of the utility main and 50% of the water/sewer connections. Neubauer informed the public that the total cost of the project was \$958,181.29 with the City's share being \$751,721.30 and the assessable amount being \$206,459.90.

Members of the public spoke in regards to the project, noting that they were very happy with Heselton Construction and SEH Inspector Troy Downs. Discussion was held in regards to the sod that was laid during a hot weather span and issues with the water truck from Sodko Turf breaking down the first weekend. Members of the audience told the City Council that a large majority of the neighborhood watered their sod. Councilmember Anderson stated that he felt that the Council should consider an adjustment due to the sod not being watered during the first weekend. Tony Lehrman spoke in regards to his driveway not being in the same condition as it was prior to the project. He stated that he had complained about a crack and the contractor responded by placing two cuts in his driveway. City Engineer Strauss stated that he would check into this issue and respond back to Lehrman. Suggestions were also offered on the format of the contractors meeting to best avoid conflicting answers.

Prior to closing the hearing, Mayor King asked if there were any objections to the assessments. Being there were no objections, Mayor King thanked the residents and closed the public hearing and reopened the public hearing.

Council discussed the sod situation with Strauss noting that he had watched the sod project, noting that the weather conditions were not ideal. Council questioned whether different specs for sod could be written into future contracts. He stated that the requirement is to keep it watered and moist during the first 10 days. Schimmel stated that the Contractor provides a 30 day maintenance period. He also mentioned that a punch list has already been started and urged residents to call with any concerns regarding the project. Council noted that the neighbors felt it was in their best interest to water the sod. Neubauer stated that she could do an estimate of the past year and credit back any amount that went above the estimate on the sewer portion of the utility bills. Strauss reiterated that it is a joint effort between the sod contractor and residents to keep the sod watered. Anderson replied that there was a unique circumstance as the water truck had broken down and felt that an adjustment was in order.

Motion by Uptagrafft, second Stensrud to approve Resolution 2015-31, A Resolution Adopting the 2015 CIP Improvements. Unanimously approved.

Motion by Anderson, second by Stensrud to approve adjusting the sewer portion of the utility bill due to homeowners watering the sod during the first 30 days after it was laid. Unanimously approved.

- B. 2016 Budget-** As a result of the Council workshops, Council directed staff to prepare the proposed certified levy based on the proposed preliminary 2016 budget of \$6,705,355. This budget amounts to a levy increase of \$2,619,875. The levy is made up of the general operating, swimming pool referendum and fire hall referendum. Neubauer stated that a Truth & Taxation Hearing needs to be scheduled between Nov 30<sup>th</sup> & Dec 29<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by Anderson, second by Uptagrafft to approve Resolution 2015-32, A Resolution Approving 2015 Proposed Tax Levy Collectible in 2016. Unanimously approved.

Motion by Timm, second by Stensrud to set the Truth & Taxation meeting for December 1, 2015 at 7pm. Unanimously approved.

- C. 2016-2017 Law Enforcement Contracts** – Olmsted County has submitted the contracts for approval. The contract amounts are: 2016- \$399,876 (\$11,647 increase) and 2017- \$411,872 (\$11,996 increase). Community Policing Offer contract: 2016- \$106,316 (\$3,068 increase) and 2017- \$108,475 (\$3,159 increase).

Motion by Timm, second by King to approve the two contracts as submitted. Unanimously approved.

- D. 2016 People Service Contract-** During the 2016 Budget workshop, discussion had been held regarding the City running the operation of the wastewater treatment plant beginning January 2016. The City is presently under contract with PeopleService until December 31<sup>st</sup>. If it is the interest of the City to operate the plant, a 90 day notice must be given to People Service. Council discussed taking over the plant and felt it was something that the city should strongly consider. They noted that if after a year, it wasn't the best option, we could seek a contract with PeopleService. Stensrud stated that he disagreed, noting that it would be difficult to go back to PeopleService after the City made personnel changes, etc.

Motion by Uptagrafft, second by Timm to notify PeopleService that we would not be renewing the contract effective January 1, 2016. Voting in favor: Uptagrafft, Timm, Anderson and King. Voting against: Stensrud. Motion carried.

- E. Current Services-** Neubauer requested Council approval to assess current services to the County. She stated that Mn Statute 444.075 and 429.101 allows the City Council to assess any unpaid charges for current services. Neubauer presented a listing of outstanding charges.

Motion by Stensrud, second by Anderson to approve Resolution 2015-33, A Resolution Adopting Special Assessments for Current Services. Unanimously approved.

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

- A. Mayor-** King commented on the following:

- Sympathy to the Families of: Arlyss Beise, Shirley Temanson, Twyla Hellcikson, LaVon (Podein) Birelo, Russell Nagel and Glen Johnson
- Happy 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday to Elaine Egler
- Thank you to the Morning Lions Club for putting on another great Fall Fest!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pets in the Park – Oct 10th

- B. City Administrator-**

- Bi-Weekly Report

- C. Finance Director –**

- No report

- D. Public Works Director –**

- Issues w/final walkthrough at water tower; hydrant flushing, crack filling to be finished and removing playground equip @ Bear Cave Park

- E. Library Director –**Monthly Report & special thanks to the Gwarecki family for Astronomy night!

- F. Fire Chief Report –** No Report

- G. City Engineer –** No report

## **VIII. COMMITTEE, COMMISSIONS AND BOARD REPORTS**

- A. Chamber of Commerce – No report

- B. EDA/HRA – HRA minutes of Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, EDA minutes of Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, Regional Marketing Mtgs

- C. Finance- No report

- D. Library- No report

- E. Park Board – Minutes of Aug 10<sup>th</sup>

- F. Personnel- No report

- G. Planning & Zoning - No report

- H. Public Safety/Safety Committee- No report

- I. Public Works- No report

- J. RAEDI – Minutes of July 28<sup>th</sup>

- K. ROCOG- No report

- L. STEW180– No report

- M. Transit Advisory Committee – No report

- N. WWTF – O&M Report

**IX. COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. Moody's Rating Report
- B. Charter Rate Adjustments

**X. RECOGNITION OF GUEST(S) OPEN MIC - None**

**XI. ADJOURN – Motion by Anderson, second by Uptagrafft to adjourn. Unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Roeder  
City Clerk