

Minutes

Kennedy City Council Meeting
September 9, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor T. Truedson called the meeting to order at 7:12 P.M. Council members present included Justin Osowski, Cindy Urbaniak and K. Hanson. Paul Larson was absent. City employees present included Greg Mitziga and Mary Cooney. Tressa and Brian Anderson were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: C. Urbaniak made a motion to approve the July 2013, August 2013 and 2014 Budget Meeting minutes as presented. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: Brian and Tressa Anderson requested the renewal of their "Sanitation Services Agreement". All rates will remain the same, provided landfill tipping fees remain the same. Should landfill tipping fees increase, a proportional increase will be passed on to Anderson's customers. C. Urbaniak made a motion to extend Anderson's Sanitation Services Agreement with the City of Kennedy for the period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

Anderson's also presented a draft copy of a proposed franchise agreement they are seeking to use with the City of Kennedy, requesting the City review the agreement and discuss requested changes with them in the near future. The purpose of the franchise agreement is to level the field should the City decide to put its sanitation contract out for bids in the future. Brian and Tressa Anderson left the Council chambers at 7:45 p.m.

CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk presented 2013 Delinquent Garbage Assessment Roll for Council review, which was reviewed and returned to Anderson Sanitation with no changes.

Clerk presented the January 6, 2013, Highway 75 Accident Insurance Claim, as submitted by the City to State Farm Insurance for the accident at the old community center site. The State Farm August 13, 2013, reply was also presented. State Farm is offering a settlement amount of \$241.37 on the City's \$1,206.84 claim. As stated in their reply, State Farm's position is, "...this accident was the result of the actions of an unidentified vehicle... and our insured may possibly be found only a small percentage at-fault." T. Truedson stated he had an appointment the following day to speak with City attorney J. Hane on a personal matter and he would also discuss this City issue with Hane at that time. C. Urbaniak made a motion to table further discussion on the City's open claim with State Farm Insurance until next month's Council meeting. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

J. Osowski made a motion to accept the Clerk's Report as presented. C. Urbaniak seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The City's financial report was presented, including Checks Issued in August, 2013; Unpaid Bills Detail as of September 8, 2013; 9/8/2013 Cash Balance Sheet; 08/28/2013 Bank Statements, and Open Invoices as of September 8, 2013. Large receivables this month included the KodaBank tractor loan in the amount of \$41,000, which passed through the account, in and out, on 8/8/2013 and 8/9/13. Large payables this month included: \$41,000 to Hanson's for the tractor purchase; \$2500 to Ingeman Trucking for rocks for the lagoon; \$6924 to LMCIT for liability, vehicle and property insurance; and \$5200 to Ralph Twamley for the demolition of the Halbert property. Reimbursement of the Halbert property demolition fee is being sought from the property owner.

Clerk was directed to write a letter to the delinquent cold storage account holder, requesting payment in full by 10/31/2013.

A discussion was had about the \$800 annual license fee paid by the City of Kennedy for the utility billing system. Clerk was instructed to inquire with the software provider about the possibility of reducing the annual fee due to the small number of bills generated per month.

K. Hanson made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report as presented. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS: K. Hanson made a motion to pay all bills as presented, totaling \$23,454.71. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Attached, with the following additions: 1) a "NO BURNING" sign will be posted at the City compost site; 2) the City shop paint contractor will be informed the shop either needs a second coat or some very extensive touch up work to be completed prior to payment; and 3) a citizen complaint was received about the piles of dirt and debris behind the bus garage that are covered in weeds. G. Mitziga will look at what can be done.

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C. Urbaniak made a motion to accept Maintenance Report as presented. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Attached.

J. Osowski made a motion to accept Fire Department Report as presented. C. Urbaniak seconded. Motion carried.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT: The turbine is not running and the fault code is #8-low hydraulic fluid. Clerk was directed to notify NextGen but not to schedule a maintenance visit until after further Council discussion at next month's meeting. Prior to next month's meeting, Clerk will update the turbine earnings report.

Turf restoration assessment continues to reflect that after the June seeding, the grass growth is patchy. Additionally, mowing the area is very bumpy and difficult. Council agreed the area needs to be re-cultivated and reseeded.

The ball field grandstand claim was submitted as per the 8/19/2013 Council vote. Per a 9/9/2013 e-mail from insurance adjustor M. Nygaard, K. Hanson contacted him on 9/9/2013 to voice dissatisfaction with the Council approved submitted claim. After Council discussion, Clerk was directed to submit an amended claim and Council member Hanson was directed to discontinue further contact with M. Nygaard on this issue.

A bid from Minn-Dak Asphalt Inc., in the amount of \$12,200, for resurfacing the tennis court was reviewed and rejected.

125TH COMMITTEE REPORT: The 125th Anniversary Committee has a burger basket fund raiser scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2013.

J. Osowski made a motion to accept the Committee Reports as presented. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Long-term delinquent water bills now have 81 days to set-up payment schedules. Neither party has responded to date.

The scheduling conference regarding the condemnation of the Newman property took place on August 16, 2013. The evidentiary hearing is set for October 10, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. T. Truedson, G. Mitziga, J. Hane and M. Cooney will represent the City at the evidentiary hearing. C. Urbaniak made a motion, per City attorney J. Hane's recommendation, to adopt an Amended Order on the Newman property, under Minn. Stat. 463.24, adding the right to get rid of personal property left on the property premises. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

Regarding the demolition of the Halbert property, a letter and the invoice will be sent to Halbert this week, after attorney review.

Council agreed, due to City budget constraints, the 2014 condemnations will start with the Western Avenue property and move on to others as the City identifies the funds to do so.

Bob Bloomquist from the Insulation Place in Grafton will be here this week for a roof repair bid on the City office. It was Bloomquist that did the last roofing job and it has lasted a very long time. Luke Nordin from Lancaster Lumber will be here this week to begin the window replacement bid process.

The City has qualified for financing from MNDOH for the 2014 Kennedy water project. Representatives from the engineering firm KLJ will attend next month's Council meeting to discuss the City's next steps.

Six Kennedy residents have responded to the NWCA Owner Occupied Housing Rehab Program, with an additional two interested in weatherization only. NWCA will reach out to home owners in Kennedy that are currently receiving fuel assistance to see if they might have rehab needs. NWCA, looking for broader participation, will wait a while longer before proceeding.

BUDGET: The Council proposed an adjusted health insurance benefit for City clerk treasurer M. Cooney, an 80% City employee, to equal 80% of full-time employee City maintenance worker G. Mitziga's health insurance benefit.

The Council proposed a 4% salary increase for City maintenance worker G. Mitziga.

The Council proposed a 2% salary increase, with contingencies, for City Clerk Treasurer M. Cooney.

Based in these proposed salary and benefit numbers, the scheduled increase from North Kittson Rural Water, and the numbers confirmed during the August 19, 2013, Budget Meeting, the Council requested the Clerk to calculate the required 2014 tax levy.

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NEW BUSINESS: None.

OCTOBER MEETING DATE: The October Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 7, 2013, at 7:00 P.M., at the City Office.

There being no further business brought forward for the Council's attention, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM by motion made by K. Hanson and seconded by J. Osowski. All in favor and the motion carried.

Signed 10/18/2013

Mary Cooney, Clerk (Attest)

Signed 10/18/2013

Todd Truedson, Mayor

City of Kennedy Maintenance Report

September 8, 2013

1. August 6, 2013 – Trimmed shrubs at north and south “Welcome” signs.
2. August 7, 2013 – Trimmed trees and shrubs at park and school.
3. August 8, 2013 – Repaired curb stop at Randy Knutson’s 3rd Street property.
4. August 9, 2013 – Burn pile was lit on fire again.
5. August 13, 2013 – Halbert house tore down.
6. August 14, 2013 – Stump grinding, 35 total.
7. August 20, 2013 – Worked on wood fence at ball field.
8. August 27, 2013 – Sprayed weeds at ponds.
9. August 28, 2013 – All day water training in Warren.
10. September 5, 2013 – Installed door on 5th Street shed.
11. Vacation time will be used in October for beets.

City of Kennedy Fire Dept. Report

September 9, 2013

1. No monthly meeting held in August.
1. August 28, 2013 – Grass/field fire in Dean Carlson’s field in Section 23; was called in by Ristad.