

Bellechester City Council

March 12, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Keegan Quinn at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge to the flag.

Roll call was taken: The council in attendance: Mayor Keegan Quinn, Council people, Kim Gilsdorf, Paul Reding, Jason Nurnberg, Richard Majerus also Clerk Lisa Redepinning. Also present was Ag Partners representative Lynn Watson, Brett Smith and Goodhue County Patrol Commander Kris Johnson & Rich Arendt. Absent was Kyle McKeown.

Minutes of February, 2014 meeting were approved as written - a motion by Kim Gilsdorf and 2nd by Paul Reding to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed and a motion by Jason Nurnberg and 2nd by Paul Reding to approve and pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Public Forum – Ag Partners - Building Permit – Lynn Watson presented a plan for remodeling and upgrading of building. Motion was made by Kim Gilsdorf to approve the plans as presented. A 2nd was made by Jason Nurnberg. Motion carried.

Brett Smith – building permit for reroofing - A building permit application was given to him to move forward. Motion was made by Rich Majerus to approve the plans as presented and a 2nd by Paul Reding. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Review of utility charges and past due accounts – city was verified with a drive by for addresses and account numbers. Recycling was discussed. Empty houses are going to be charged for 1 person rate minus garbage. Rentals will be handled by property owner for their tenants. Rich Arendt inquired about checks taking so long to be cashed. Kyle will be informed that they need to be deposited weekly. Property owner letters were reviewed and some changes will be made and will be sent to council prior to sending property owner.

SEMLM Legislative Policies Draft for Re-Review and Vote – review of the policy was done and motion to vote on this policy. Motion was made by Kim Gilsdorf to vote yes and 2nd by Rich Majerus. Motion carried.

New business:

2014 Goodhue County Sheriffs Contract – Review & Approve. Rich questioned reporting and how we receive them. Council will receive reports as they are received by the clerk from Goodhue County. We are receiving the same rate as 6 years ago for police presence and service. Suggestion was made by Commander Kris Johnson to maybe doing a 3 year contract versus a yearly one to save time. This will be considered for next year. Motion was made by Kim Gilsdorf to approve the Goodhue County Sheriff contract for 2014 and 2nd was made by Rich Majerus. Motion carried.

Micro loan conversion for current bonds Review & Vote - This microloan will replace the current 5.25% and 4.5% water and sewer bonds to a 2.6% microloan saving \$9,533 over the remaining 10 year payoff period. The total for the microloan will be \$116,000. Motion was made by Kim Gilsdorf to accept the microloan for full amount and pay off the current USDA bonds and a 2nd was made by Paul Reding. Motion carried.

Ambulance Board Meeting Update – Kim updated the council on Ambulance Board meeting. Ambulance received new vehicles and calls for other agencies to assist are down due to this. Calls are up. Agreed to keep the per capita tax collection levee the same at \$3.00 per capita . They will be raising the rates for ambulance service. President of the board remained the same and they elected a new secretary. Next meeting will be in August. They encourage if anyone wants to do a ride along or tour facilities, to contact them.

Fire Association Update – Rich updated on the meeting he attend. They bought a new pumper truck and new pickup vehicle. Our rates increased. Reroofing will be necessary in the future.

League of MN Property / Casualty Renewal Application – Review was done of the application and motion was made by Kim Gilsdorf to renew the League of MN Cities Property and Casualty insurance with a 2nd by Jason Nurnberg. Motion carried.

Clerk Report – Met with both counties on election procedures. Will attend training at both counties this summer. Registered the domain name of **ci.bellechester.mn.us** for our website. Need to wait for registration confirmation to begin work on site.

Treasurer Report – none

Water/Wastewater/Facility Report - none.

Mayor Concerns: - none

Council Concerns: A defibrillator was received by Rich. Angie from the Ambulance service will put on a class on it. Possible CPR class may be done if interest. Send Dan Poncelet a note to thank him for clearing snow for us. Rich plowed out some snow and may have done some damage to the lights on Dan's flagpole. If damage was done, we need to assess it. Kim has the financial report for Ambulance Board Meeting and gave to clerk to file.

Motion was made by Jason Nurnberg to adjourn the meeting with Kim Gilsdorf making a 2nd. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:42.

Submitted by Lisa Redepenning – City Clerk

Reminder – All future council minutes will be in published in the Messenger starting in April. The minutes published will become available after the council approves them at the next meeting. As soon as our city website is completed, they will also be available there when approved. At any time, you can contact the city clerk for a hard copy to be mailed to you.

Due to continuous extreme cold weather this winter, the frost table is lower than previous years and this is resulting in frozen water service lines in some places. You can help prevent your line from freezing by letting the water run at a pencil size stream from a faucet. Another indicator of an impending water service line freeze up is to check the temperature of your water after running it until it is cold. (Allow your water to run until it is cold and then check the temperature.) The water temperature should be around 45 degrees. If the temperature drops to 40 degrees or below, you may have an impending freeze up and the frost may be getting close to your service line. Please continue to use these practices until April 1st.

2014 Spring Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting is scheduled for April 14th from 5:00 – 5:30 at the Community Center . The monthly city council meeting will coordinate with this meeting and move to this date for the month of April and will start immediately following.

Reminder – homeowners are responsible for the utilities that are due each month for their properties. This includes any properties that you rent out on a monthly/quarterly/yearly basis. If the rental becomes late, you will be billed and responsible for bringing the property utility bill up to date.