

July 10, 2017

The Stromsburg Mayor and City Council met in Regular Session Monday, July 10, 2017 at 5:35 p.m. at the City Office. Advance notice was published in the Polk County News Thursday, July 6, 2017, posted at the City Office, Economy Hometown Market, and the U.S. Post Office Thursday, July 6, 2017, and agendas were electronically delivered Friday, July 7, 2017. Members present were Ken Everingham, mayor; Lois Burke, Doug Lamoree, Terry Larson, and Dennis Nuttelman, councilmembers; Nancy Bryan, city clerk/treasurer; and Lenard Schaefer, public works director/city supervisor. Also present were Angel Eschenweck, Terry Galloway, Dwaine Ladwig, Tim Pallas, Pat Powell, and Vern Tallman. Jim Papik, city attorney, was absent.

Ken Everingham, mayor, called the meeting to order and all present recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Everingham gave notice that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted at the back of the room for anyone interested. There were no changes to the agenda or citizens present with business not scheduled on the agenda.

Lamoree moved, Nuttelman seconded, to approve the June 26, 2017 minutes. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

Dwaine Ladwig, Polk County Sheriff, was present to give the June, 2017 police report. It was reported progress has been made with vehicles. Lamoree moved, Larson seconded, to accept the June, 2017 police report. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

Jim Papik, city attorney, arrived at 5:38 p.m.

Impounding animals that have bitten a person or another animal was discussed. York Adopt a Pet and the York Veterinary Clinic are both able to take animals if they have room if the Osceola Veterinary Hospital is unable to board the animals. It was decided that the dogs would be declared vicious and the Sheriff's Department would transport the animal to be impounded for observation for 10 days. The owner would then be required to follow the ordinance pertaining to dangerous animals.

Terry Galloway from Almquist Maltzahn Galloway & Luth was present to discuss how the City should pay for the land purchase to expand Buckley Park and how it would affect the City's budget. It was decided to use funds from the park sinking fund which is money from Lucy Holm and Merwin Carlson. Approximately \$57,000-\$58,000 will be left in the park sinking fund after the land purchase is made. The other options would have taken money out of the general fund which would put pressure on the general fund budget and may have resulted in a property tax increase. Also discussed were the utilities which may need to have rate increases. According to the budget for 2017-18, the current rates do not appear to be covering operating expenses. Andrew Ross from NMPP Energy will be asked to review the 2016 natural gas rate study on August 14th when he will be in attendance to discuss other issues.

Angel Eschenweck, EMT Chief, was present to give the quarterly ambulance report. The Squad has had 50 calls since January 1, 2017. The average response time since then has been a little over five minutes. The page protocols have not been sent to the Polk County Sheriff's

Department as they need to be signed by the backup squad chief. All squads in the county and the Sheriff's Department have agreed to three pages at three minute intervals. Mrs. Eschenweck stated the program used to document run information has numerous reports that can be generated and she asked which reports the Council would like to receive. Examples of reports will be reviewed. The Squad will be doing inventory on an annual basis and will check supplies after each run rather than doing a monthly inventory count.

Lamoree moved, Larson seconded, to accept the resignation from Tonya Kaup from the ambulance squad with regrets. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

Discussion was held regarding the request from Pat Powell to shoot off fireworks for three to five minutes from the roof of the Victor Anderson Building during the First Friday Concert Event August 4, 2017. Since the fireworks would be shot off the top of the building the required restrictions on how far away they need to be from people, buildings, etc. do not apply. A state permit is needed. Tim Pallas, fire chief, does not object as long as there are spotters. After further discussion regarding possible liability to the city and the possibility of a roof(s) catching on fire the issue died for lack of a motion.

Discussion was held regarding open burning. If a resident has reason to believe something other than what is allowed by ordinance is being burned they should report it to the Sheriff's Department. No change will be made to the ordinance.

Nancy Bryan, city clerk/treasurer, presented the May, 2017 treasurer's report. Lamoree moved, Nuttelman seconded, to accept the May, 2017 treasurer's report. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

Nuttelman moved, Larson seconded, to introduce **Ordinance Numbers 1176-1178** to amend Sections 6-301 and 1-514 of the municipal code pertaining to animals running at large and council meeting times, to incorporate several sections into the municipal code, and to waive the three reading rule. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved. Nuttelman moved, Lamoree seconded, to approve **Ordinance Numbers 1176-1178** to amend Sections 6-301 and 1-514 of the municipal code pertaining to animals running at large and council meeting times and to incorporate numerous sections into the municipal code. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

Larson moved, Lamoree seconded, to approve the fax machine option for the office copier for \$556.00 from OfficeNet. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved.

The fiscal year 2017-18 budget was discussed. The general fund operating budget is workable after departments made cuts. The cost of a few items needs to be determined for next year's budget. Estimates for the current fiscal year will be sent to the auditors this week.

Jim Papik, city attorney, reported there may be another lot sold in the Elementary Park Subdivision that may be on the next agenda. Nuisance letters will be going out soon on six properties that either need to be brought up to code or demolished.

Nancy Bryan, city clerk/treasurer, reported Andrew Ross will be attending the August 14th council meeting to discuss a water rate for the Village of Benedict, the electric cost of service study, and the natural gas PGA. Quarterly payroll reports have been completed. The delinquent paving assessment for the property on 3rd Street has been paid. Job titles and wages will be published July 20th as required by state statute. A lien will be filed against a property for mowing. This will be the third mowing lien against the property. Mrs. Bryan is trying to clean up loose ends before going on vacation August 1st. Ascensus is still working on paperwork for the 457(b) retirement plan. Kirby Roth plans to meet with employees in July to get them enrolled in the 457(b). The proposed start date for the 457(b) is September 1, 2017.

Lenard Schaefer, public works director/city supervisor, reported Bluestem Energy is finalizing the equipment and battery storage that would be needed for the possible solar project. The walls to the sewer plant building may be delivered early next week. Daphany Lane plans to demolish the house at 112 West 5th Street.

Discussion was held regarding animals that are not on a leash. If the animal is on the sidewalk it is running at large. If it is in the owner's yard it is not running at large.

Lamoree moved, Nuttelman seconded, to approve the claims. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, motion approved. Claims approved were **July 3, 2017 NET PAYROLL-\$22,194.70; GENERAL & UTILITIES-\$138,796.65** as follows: Craige Allison, lease-\$335.80; Ameritas Life Ins., ins-\$549.48; Ascensus, 401(k)-\$2,219.81; BCBS, ins-\$11,769.18; Michael Bourke, se-\$1,037.45; Burg Auto Repair, re-\$19.67; Carl's Skrap, se-\$492.00; Ron Carson, re-\$108.00; Casey's, su-\$940.19; Central Valley Ag, su-\$63.57; City of Stromsburg, se & loan pymts-\$32,526.30; Colin Electric, re-\$2,431.41; Cornerstone Bank, HSA contr. & se-\$1,917.50; Cornerstone Ins. Group, ins-\$378.00; Cross County School, re-\$1,070.00; Steve Dubas, se-\$35.00; Economy, su-\$1,512.00; EFTPS, p/r tax-\$6,663.74; EMP Emergency Medical Products, su-\$232.48; EMS Billing Services, se-\$487.78; Ericson Cash Hardware, su-\$360.62; Jennifer Graham, se-\$460.00; Harless Oil, su-\$482.08; Hawkins, su-\$919.09; HD Supply Waterworks, su-\$2,962.05; Heritage Bank, se-\$51.54; HSA Bank, HSA contr.-\$435.00; Industrial Process Technology, pay request #1 sewer building-\$36,162.00; Interstate All-Battery Center, su-\$56.80; Jackson Services, se-\$717.53; Klein's Blue River Power, su-\$297.27; Norman Kronberg, se-\$99.90; Kjell Marsden, re-\$36.94; Matheson Tri-Gas, su-\$7.84; Nebr. Dept. of Rev., p/r tax-\$1,371.00; Nebr. Sweeping, se-\$1,910.04; NRECA, se-\$82.33; NRECA Group Benefits Trust, ins-\$732.21; One Call Concepts, se-\$22.74; Physio-Control, equip-\$10,854.20; Pinnacle Bank, HSA contr.-\$850.00; Polk Co. Clerk, contract-\$6,365.36; Polk Co. News, se-\$1,202.78; Polk Co. RPPD, su-\$688.58; Postmaster, se-\$166.99; Rally Auto Parts, su-\$512.27; State of Nebr., re-\$250.00; US Cellular, se-\$586.48; Van Diest Supply, su-\$3,914.55; Wesco, su-\$518.95; Windstream, se-\$430.15 and Clark Yungdahl, se-\$500.00.

No further business appearing, Larson moved, Lamoree seconded, the meeting be adjourned. Burke, Lamoree, Larson, and Nuttelman voted yes, meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. The next meeting of the Stromsburg Mayor and City Council will be Monday, July 24, 2017 at 5:35 p.m., such meeting being open to the public. An agenda, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

City Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor