

On Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at Stockton City Hall, Mayor Dave Johannes called to order the Stockton City Council meeting at 7:00 PM. Council members in attendance were Lisa Gibbs, Jack Roberts, Travis McElmury and Neil Hjelmeland.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Voice Forum: Jack Roberts stated the bus transit is blocking D Street from Highway 14 while picking up the Mayo bus riders at 7:00 AM. Council would like to email the bus company and request that pick-up be at the same place on D & 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Clerk Winchester took off the Water meter subject, and added Winona County Bridge inspection under City Maintenance. Dave Johannes made a motion to accept the agenda with corrections. Motion seconded by Lisa Gibbs, motion passed unanimously.

Jack Roberts made a motion to accept the Financial Report and to pay all the bills. Motion seconded by Neil Hjelmeland. Motion passed unanimously.

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to accept the December 8, 2015 minutes. Seconded by Travis McElmury, motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Radium Violation:** Bill Trygstad was in attendance with a plan for the well and the piping to the wellhouse site. He does not have the plans for the wellhouse addition or the well mixing, but should have them for the next meeting. The Council will look at the plans and approve of them at the next Council meeting to be sent to the state. Mr. Trygstad stated the timeline for approval to the state will be in March, out for bids in April with construction in May/June. When the bid goes out, the loan paperwork will come through and estimations will be made at that time on whether the rates will need to be raised.

**Bike Path:** Mark Potter stated that the bridge was supposed to be used for ATV's, and he would pull the I-beams if the council won't pull the "No motorized vehicle" signs. Lisa Gibbs stated the sign should then say "No cars, snowmobiles, speed is 10-mile an hour, etc.". Dave Johannes stated just take the sign down and leave it be as is. But the other path can be left as is. Jack Roberts made a motion to remove the signs on the path at the end of Old Co. Rd. 23, motion seconded by Dave Johannes. Motion passed unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Appointments:**

#### 2016 Appointments:

City Attorney – Wayne Schauble  
City Building Inspector – Greg Olson  
City Auditors – Russell & Associates  
City Depositories: Winona National Bank, Merchant's Bank  
City Engineer: Zenk, Read, Trygstad & Associates  
City Newspaper: Winona Post  
Tree Inspector: Lisa Gibbs

Fire Warden: Beth Winchester  
Weed Inspector: Lisa Gibbs  
Emergency Director: Beth Winchester  
Acting Mayor: Jack Roberts

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to accept the 2016 appointments, with a second by Travis McElmury seconded the motion. Motion passed, Jack Roberts abstained from the vote due to conflict of interest.

**Fee Schedule:** Discussion was held on the Usage No-Read Fee of \$20, the Council considered it as too low. Lisa Gibbs suggested a progressive no-read fee of \$25 first month, \$50 2<sup>nd</sup> month, and \$100 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> month, and those that the Clerk's forgive can only be once in a year. Discussion was held on financial forgiveness, Council would like to see the first no-read to be forgiven only if it's the first one in a rolling year. Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to accept the Fee Schedule and the changes to the Water Usage No-Read fee, and the first month's forgiveness. Motion seconded Jack Roberts, motion passed unanimously. A note of their no-read fee progressive change will be added to their next bill, with changes taking effect on March 10, 2016 billing cycle.

**Comprehensive Plan:** Clerk Winchester is working on the Comprehensive Plan, which is 40+ years old. It is a work in progress, currently 32 pages long. Council should read it and make any suggestions on changes.

**City Maintenance:**

- Winona Co. Highway Department has inspected the North Broadway Bridge and stated there are cracks on the deck and sidewalk that needs to be sealed. Chad Larson said he would be able to take care of it.
- Chad Larson complained about Dan Merchlewitz dog running loose, he has been called in for the last two weekends to try and catch the dog. Mr. Merchlewitz has received the first warning letter, and the Clerk was told the dog was not his, but his son's who is currently staying with him. Lisa Gibbs pointed out that for the third violation on the fee schedule there is no fee for Chad's time and effort on catching the dog and taking him to the impound. Lisa Gibbs would like to charge \$100 for the third dog violation and that any dog that doesn't have a tag be impounded immediately with the \$100 charge. The Domestic Animal Ordinance #3A will need to be amended first.
- Mayor Johannes asked to have the ice rink shoveled if it snows again, and check on the yard hydrant that Chad usually shuts off for winter.
- Mayor Johannes contacted PMG to replace the urinal since it's cracked, replace the mop faucet in the furnace room since it leaks, replace the outside spigot on the East side of the building since it's stripped, and replace the drinking fountain without a coolant in the back hallway.

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to close the Stockton City Council meeting, with a second from Jack Roberts. Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM

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Jack Roberts made a motion to open the closed employee meeting at 8:11 PM. Motion seconded by Neil Hjelmeland, motion passed unanimously.

The employees requested a 3.5% raise for the year 2016. Discussion was held on employee reviews and why they were not done last year.

Discussion was held on Mike Lafky's job and what it entails and how many hours he has been working. Chad stated that he gave the Maintenance of City Hall to Mike as he wouldn't be able to care for it properly with his other tasks.

Mayor Johannes brought up that the Council has no way of seeing what the employees are doing at any given time. He is looking at a task tracker for our time and have it segregated out for what tasks are taking the most time. Council is looking for accountability and transparency of what the employees are doing each day.

Jack Roberts asked that Outlot A, behind his home be added to Chad's summer list to take care of. There is some junk, dead wood and weeds that need to be taken care of.

Council would like a spreadsheet for the tasks we do at the next council meeting.

Jack Roberts made a motion to give the employees a 2% raise across the board and to prorate it to January 1, 2016, with a 1.5% raise once the employees create and implement the spreadsheet. Travis McElmury seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

All employees are required to take a break. The Clerk's counter needs to be closed and no one should be behind the counter unless researching or meeting with Clerk Winchester.

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to close the closed employee meeting with a second from Lisa Gibbs. Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:02PM.