

On Tuesday, March 10, 2015, Mayor Dave Johannes called to order the Stockton City Council meeting at 7:01 PM. Council members in attendance were Lisa Gibbs, Travis McElmury, Neil Hjelmeland and Jack Roberts.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Public Voice Forum: Jack Roberts informed the council of an email he received from the MN Association of Small Cities in regards to a Transportation Resolution to help cities fix streets. The council asked Clerk Winchester to look into this and it will be discussed at next meeting if Clerk Winchester thinks it is worthwhile.

Jack Roberts made a motion to accept the agenda as written, motion seconded by Neil Hjelmeland. Motion passed unanimously.

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to accept the financial report and to pay all bills, motion seconded by Lisa Gibbs. Motion passed unanimously.

Jack Roberts made a motion to accept the February 10, 2015 minutes, with a second from Lisa Gibbs. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Excel Energy- Scott Holz from Excel Energy gave a presentation to the council and all those in attendance explaining the plans to bring Natural Gas to the City of Stockton. Juan Galloway from Excel Energy and Pam Gorman, Community Relations Manager of S.E. MN were also here to answer questions. Mayor Johannes asked them to explain what the cost shortfall was. Scott explained it is the cost of bringing natural gas into town and maintaining it minus the revenue from the consumption of this natural gas.

Other notes of interest from the Excel Energy presentation:

- 1: It was noted that the bond could be paid off earlier than expected if the revenue from gas consumption is greater than forecast. The New Area Surcharge could also be done early if more customers sign up than the forecast.
- 2: The New Area Surcharge is just for those that hook up to natural gas.
- 3: There are rebates available for Excel Energy customers who purchase certain energy efficient equipment, such as a new furnace or new water heater. There are also programs to help customers purchase new appliances through Excel Energy.
- 4: A Natural Gas Service Agreement & Minimum Burn Agreement will have to be signed with the largest consumption customer, which is currently TDI.
- 5: If there is no New Area Surcharge, and the \$2,435,000 is bonded, construction would be able to start sooner. If there is a New Area Surcharge of \$17.65 and \$1,690,000 Bond, the State has to approve the application for the NAS before things can move forward.
- 6: They will directional bore or trench the pipeline in the City of Stockton and anything they disturb on Public Right of Way, will be fixed by them.
- 7: Included in the construction cost is 75 feet of pipeline from the property line on your side of the road to your home. Anything over 75 feet will be the property owners responsibility.
- 8: Mayor Johannes has a speaker for the April 14, 2015 meeting that is interested in the Natural Gas Project.
- 9: There was more discussion on the financial aspect of bonding and NAS after the Excel Energy representatives left.

Radium Violation

Bill Trygstad talked about the Radium Violation and the booklet he prepared with 3 options to fix the

violation. The 3 Options are as follows: Option 1-Build a Water Treatment Plant for \$2,061,700, Option 2-Drill a new well & construct an addition to the well house for \$541,100, and Option 3-Using the Mobile Home Park Well for \$444,300. All of these amounts include construction Costs, Contingency, Engineering Fees and Soil Boring. He told the council a decision needs to be made soon because the application needs to be in by May 1, 2015. PFA has money available for financing with low interest rates for cities in need. Bill Trygstad said he felt we would qualify as a city in need. Also a user surcharge or rate increase may be needed to help pay for the cost. There was discussion on the three different options. Jack Roberts made a motion to begin working on Option 2 and pursue financing with the PFA. Neil Hjelmeland seconded it. Motion passed with Travis McElmury voting against it. Bill will contact the Minnesota Health Department and get us on the list for potential funding from the PFA.

Park & Rec

Mayor Dave Johannes stated he had read through the last 2 years of minutes and wanted to address Park & Rec projects that have not been completed. There was discussion about the multi-use plan from August of 2014. The Bike path was approved previously, but not yet completed. Discussion followed about regrading the 2 lots in Garvin View Estates, the parking lot and playground. Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to go ahead with the regrading of the two lots in Garvin View Estates. Travis McElmury seconded it. There was a brief discussion about not including the parking lot or playground, so the previous motion was amended by Neil Hjelmeland and seconded by Travis McElmury, to go ahead with the regrading of the two lots in Garvin View Estates but no parking lot or playground would be included. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Dave Johannes mentioned that TDI would like to donate some money for park improvements, since they are celebrating their 40th year in Stockton this year. There was discussion on what needed to be done, such as repairs to the pavilion or a type of shelter to provide shade for those that accompany children to the playground. Mayor Johannes said he would contact contractors for estimates for new posts for the pavilion, other repairs that may be needed and shade shelters. Lisa Gibbs said she would look into benches for some of our green space lots. This would give TDI a few ideas for park improvements.

Mayor Dave Johannes shared his plans for holding Stockton Days this year on August 15, 2015. Mayor Johannes asked if the city would be able to donate \$5000 to be used as start-up funds. There was discussion by the council and Lisa Gibbs brought up the point that he needed to apply for a 501C3. Stockton Days needs to be an organization that is separate from the City of Stockton. The council told Mayor Johannes to come back and ask for a monetary donation once he has officially formed the Stockton Days organization. He can then ask for a donation as a member of the Stockton Days organization. The council would also like to see a plan of what activities will be taking place during the celebration, which will be held on City Property.

Jack Roberts made a motion to close the Stockton City Council meeting, with a second from Neil Hjelmeland. Motion passed unanimously, meeting adjourned at 9:11PM.

A closed meeting was held after the Stockton City Council meeting, those in attendance were Mayor Dave Johannes, Jack Roberts, Lisa Gibbs, Travis McElmury, and Neil Hjelmeland. Mayor Dave Johannes took the minutes for this meeting.

Dave Johannes opened the closed meeting at 9:15pm.

General discussion was held regarding the current status of employees and employment practices as it relates to establishing performance reviews. The following topics were discussed:

Individual responsibilities/expectations
Part time employees – hrs needed vs. actual
Task tracking/accountability and software
Ordinance rewriting
Wages/hours
Conduct policy
Dress code
Breaks/ Smoking – 25ft from entrance
Lawn mowing – get estimates for contracting it out
Pay scale
Non employees in office area
Motion to adjourn made by Jack Roberts, motion seconded by Lisa Gibbs at 9:45pm.

On Tuesday, April 7, 2014, Acting Mayor Jack Roberts called to order the Board of Appeals and Equalization at 7:00 P.M. Council members in attendance were Lisa Gibbs, and Neil Hjelmeland.

Winona County Assessors John and Perry were in attendance to discuss the assessed properties. Clerk Winchester received the printout for the City. Lisa Gibbs was certified by the Department of Revenue for this meeting.

Winona County Assessors had a change for Mike Wadewitz property in the Garvin View Estates. There were six values reduced by \$2500 and one reduced by \$5000. Jack Roberts made a motion to accept the changes to Wadewitz property values, motion seconded by Neil Hjelmeland. Motion passed unanimously.

There were 8 home sales last year, with another five this year already.

Discussion was held on if the City did not have a certified person; the meetings would change to an open book appointment at the County Assessor's office. Any changes there would go to the County Board for approval, and the City would not have any authority to make changes. The City would also have to wait another year, until someone is trained on the City Council to hold their own Board of Appeals and Equalization again.

Neil Hjelmeland made a motion to close the Board of Appeals and Equalization, with a second from Lisa Gibbs. Motion passed consistently, meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.