

KASSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 11, 2015

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular City Council meeting was held at City Hall on the 11th day of March, 2015 at 6:00 PM.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Borgstrom, Buck, Coleman, Egger, and Johnson.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE ABSENT: None.

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Rappe, Community Dev Director Martin, Finance Director Zaworski, City Engineer Neil Britton, Library Director Art Tiff, Judy Ruport, Burt Fjerstad, Earl Kopp, Maggie Fitch, Marlo Bungum, Gretta Becay and Randy Carlsen.

Mayor Johnson called meeting to order at 6 PM.

COUNCIL

Agenda: Motion by Coleman and second by Borgstrom, with all voting aye, to approve the March 11, 2015 agenda with the following amendments:

Add: F.2 Change date in Ad for Administrator
F.3 South Fork update from Planning Commission meeting

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Egger and second by Coleman to approve the March 11, 2015 consent agenda. All Ayes.

- a. **Minutes:** Approved the February 25, 2015 regular meeting minutes as submitted.
- b. **Claims:** Approved all claims paid after the February 25, 2015 regular meeting, as audited for payment in the amount of \$238,315.91.
- c. **Acknowledgement of Committee and Meeting Minutes:**
Library Board 1-13-15
Park Board DRAFT 2-17-15
EDA DRAFT 3-3-15
- d. **Resolution Certifying Delinquent Bills to Taxes:**
(on file)
Resolution #3.1-15
Resolution Certifying Delinquent Claims to the County Auditor
- e. **Approve Refuse Hauler Licenses:**
 1. Skjeveland Enterprises
 2. GarbageMan of Rochester
 3. Advanced Disposal Services
- f. **Temporary Liquor License**
 1. Kasson Fire Department April 18 Bean Bag Tourney for Festival in the Park
 2. Kasson Fire Department Aug 8-9 Festival in the Park

g. **Conferences:**

1. Mike Martin LMC Annual Conference June 24-26, 2015 Duluth, MN

h. **3.2% Liquor License**

Shopko Hometown

VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL

PUBLIC FORUM

Burt Fjerstad –903 West Main Street would like consideration on fees being charged on his utility bill for his rental property at 902 West Main St., (West Main Street Apartments). Due to doors being left open he had pipes burst and would like the City Council to reduce the sewer portion charge of his bills from January and February. Mr. Fjerstad used 720,000 gallons of water in February. Finance Director Zaworski stated that the sewer charges amount to about \$4200. Mayor Johnson asked what past practice has been for this type of emergency situation. Zaworski stated that we have typically reduced the sewer charges by 50%. **Motion by Buck second by Egglar to remove the sewer charges less the base charges due to an emergency situation for January and February 2015 bills. All Ayes.**

Earl Kopp – 702 20th St NE – Mr. Kopp is concerned that streets in Kasson Meadows have never had the wear coat put on. The curbs are damaged because of the snow plowing. Mr. Kopp stated that he has been at these meetings and Planning Commission meetings before letting them know of his concerns. Mr. Kopp stated that all of the lots except one have been sold. Mr. Kopp would like the new council members to be aware that they have low water pressure in that subdivision and when they flush hydrants there is a negative water pressure situation. The water needs to be looped and when he talked to the former City Administrator, he was told that it would be looped when the school expanded. Mr. Kopp also was concerned with his son-in-law's boulevard on 16th St. NE. Since they have improved 16th St NE his son has no grass on his boulevard. Mr. Kopp said there is not enough black dirt. Mr. Kopp stated that the City Engineer stated that the park and rec department approved it for dirt. Mr. Kopp is not happy with the City Engineer and not getting any answers. Community Development Director Martin stated that there were no development agreements on Phases 1 and 2 but Phase 3 will have a development agreement that will have the wear coats put on. Mr. Kopp stated that he has read the development agreement and it has no timetable as to when the wear coat will be put on. Councilperson Buck stated that there were a lot of projects that weren't finished last year because of the weather. Mr. Kopp stated that he was a water and wastewater supervisor and has worked in construction and knows how this should work. Councilperson Buck asked if there was anything in the next phase to loop the water. Martin stated there is not because there is nowhere to loop it from. Mr. Kopp stated that there is a 8 inch main at the Catholic Church and could be run across the school property to Kasson Meadows. Mr. Kopp stated that he knew all of the main sizes and where they run from the watertower to Kasson Meadows.

Judy Ruport– 403 3rd Ave SW – Ms. Ruport stated that the sewer line collapsed at her house and her neighbor’s house and they got sewer backing up in their basement. Ms. Ruport wanted to compliment Charlie Bradford for his response and work. Ms. Ruport wanted to know why the emergency phone number is not in the phone book. She does know that is in the newsletter. City Clerk Rappe stated that the emergency water/sewer phone number was established after the phone books came out but will be in the new book that comes out in April.

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

Summit Envirosolutions Proposal for Petrofund Application Preparation – Martin stated that the City has been paying to monitor the Larsen Conoco station site required by the MPCA. We got the letter this week that this is now closed and we are eligible to retrieve some of the money that we have spent. This proposal is to have Summit Envirosolutions fill out the application to get some of the money back. We have spent approximately \$14,000 on this and Martin feels that we should be able to recoup more than the \$3,000 listed in the proposal.

Motion to accept the proposal from Summit Envirosolution for Petrofund Application Preparation made by Coleman, second by Borgstrom with all voting Aye.

Martin stated that with this letter the City of Kasson is free from any investigations from the MPCA, and we are not monitoring any hazardous waste sites within the City.

Ad for City Administrator – Councilperson Borgstrom stated that he would like to push back the date for applications to be submitted from April 17 to April 24 since the City Attorney was on vacation. Councilperson Egglar would like to see any changes with the ad before it is sent out.

Motion to change the date of applications to April 24 from April 17 made by Borgstrom, second by Buck with all voting Aye.

South Fork Discussion at Planning Commission – Councilperson Borgstrom gave an update from Planning Commission’s discussion with citizens from South Fork. Their main concerns are the dust and speed on South Mantorville Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution Supporting Dedicated State Funding for City Streets – Martin stated that this is a legislative agenda item and this resolution supports a designated street fund for cities under population of 5000. Cities over 5000 already have a fund of this type.

Motion to accept the resolution supporting dedicated state funding for City Streets made by Egglar, second by Coleman with all voting Aye.

(on file)

Resolution #3.2-15

Resolution Supporting Dedicated State Funding for City Streets

Folkestad Building Discussion – Councilperson Buck wanted to know when the tenants of the Folkestad building started to have problems. Marlo Bungum stated that when the first bill came in June, they thought it was high but since it was a new building and there was no history to go by. The City staff

recommended waiting to see what the following readings would be. They were aware that the gas meter was a temporary one and that MN Energy informed the City that the meter was not capable of handling the furnace BTUs. The City needed to have the meter replaced with a regular meter. Community Development Director Martin stated that MN Energy Resources won't let anyone but the owner request the meter be changed out. This has been done now and the furnaces are working and heating properly. Ms. Bungum stated that there is another issue. They had an energy audit done which discovered that there are things that were never finished with the building. Mayor Johnson was frustrated that inspectors and the engineer did not catch these issues and that nothing has yet been done to correct it. City Engineer Britton stated that a meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17 at 9:30 AM with the energy audit inspector, the engineer, the City's building inspector and the contractor to discuss this audit. Britton also stated that not everything in the energy audit is true and factual. Councilperson Buck is frustrated that it took so long to figure out the furnace situation and that the street department has mishandled this. Ms. Bungum stated that Street Supervisor Ricke was very responsive and found the problem and proceeded to get it fixed. Councilperson Borgstrom stated that if the tenants have any maintenance issue they need to contact Street Supervisor Ricke and anything else needs to come to the City Office and Council. Councilperson Borgstrom wanted to know how the electrical panel issues happened and that is an architectural and engineering problem. Ms. Bungum wanted to know what she was supposed to do with MOHS Construction when they call. The Council told her to schedule a time that is convenient for Just Like Home to have MOHS Construction to come and fix the problems. Ms. Bungum asked if she should come to the meeting on Tuesday and Councilperson Borgstrom stated that if she wanted to stay informed, it couldn't hurt.

MAYOR'S REPORT

City Administrator Search Committee – The Mayor stated that he and Finance Director Zaworski would be working on this.

Engineering Bids - Mayor Johnson informed the Council the advertisement for Engineering bids would be going out tomorrow to the DCI, Post Bulletin, Finance & Commerce, and the League of MN Cities.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

ENGINEER'S REPORT - Neil Britton encouraged Maggie Fitch and Marlo Bungum to be at the meeting Tuesday morning regarding the Folkestad building.

PERSONNEL

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Emerald Ash Borer

PUBLIC FORUM: Library Director Tiff informed the Council about a program of on-line classes he would like to offer. The citizen would have to have a current library card and the classes would be free to take. This program is through Gale Publishing, there are 350 courses offered. This would cost \$3,000 a year. Director Tiff stated that there is money in the book and audio book budget. Director Tiff presented this to the Library Board at their meeting last night and they wanted him to come tonight and inform the Council about this program. Austin Public Library just started using this program last week. Director

Tiff would like to get a breakdown of age and gender of people taking these classes and what classes are being taken to monitor what is popular. Councilperson Coleman stated it would be nice to know who is using these classes. Councilperson Egger asked if they update the classes each year and change them out. Director Tiff stated that he doesn't have the answer to that, but will make sure he checks. Councilperson Borgstrom suggested having a donation tab put on these classes so people, who are pleased with these classes and would like to donate, would have the option to do so. Councilperson Buck commended Director Tiff on doing a great job; and the Library Building Committee and the Friends of the Library have all been doing a lot behind the scenes contributing to the new Library.

Earl Kopp – Mr. Kopp has an idea he would like to bring to the City Council. He has looked at the graphs and the studies and looked at other studies done regarding the City's discussion last fall on a solar farm for peak energy and does not believe that solar power is a peak energy salvation. There is another product on the market called Lean Burn Generators and he thinks that as a private utility this is what Kasson should look at. Mr. Kopp stated that these Lean Burn Generators create energy for 6 cents a kilowatt. These run on natural gas when gas is cheap in the summer. Mr. Kopp thinks this is something the City should look into and he would be glad to collect the information and be the contact for this.

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Linda Rappe, City Clerk

Steve Johnson, Mayor