

May 9, 2011
City Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Staner. Council members Boffeli, Henry, Knepper, Moriarity and Soppe answered roll call. Motion Soppe, 2nd Boffeli to approve the agenda – all ayes.

Shirley McDermott, 209 Tyler St NE feels the drainage problems being created on the east side of the city are the responsibility of the City of Cascade and while McDermott is still interested in buying the City owned property next to hers, she does not feel \$.15 per square foot is reasonable.

Motion Boffeli, 2nd Knepper to file minutes of the Park Board – all ayes.

Linda Hoffmann and Shelley Annis, Rockin' on the River Committee members updated the Council on the progress of the Riverview Park Amphitheater Project. Annis reported that the Rockin' Committee has been fundraising by hosting several events since last fall and has raised \$13,426. Private donations total \$13,213, the Chamber donated \$1,000, the CARE Foundation gifted \$5,000 and the City of Cascade has approved funding up to \$50,000. The Committee applied for a Woodward Foundation Grant requesting \$10,000 and will know tomorrow if funded, applied for a DRA Grant using the City's application, requesting \$20,000 and will know on May 17th if funded and applied for an Iowa Community Cultural Grant requesting \$25,000 and will know in July if funded. In-kind labor and materials totals \$17,050. Therefore depending on the funding of Grants, the project could be fully funded. The start date for the project has been pushed back to July due to criteria of grants. Due to the City having budgeted the \$50,000 in FY11, and since the restroom portion of the project is estimated at \$60,230, the Committee is requesting the City fund the \$50,000 as was previously approved. Motion Boffeli, 2nd Knepper to approve payment of \$50,000 to the Rockin' on the River Committee for use in constructing the restrooms portion of the Amphitheater Project – all ayes.

Loras Soppe, 1206 4th Ave SE and owner of the building at the end of Monroe St SE is requesting to use plastic water lines versus the required copper lines to extend water to the building at the end of Monroe St SE. Soppe feels that for the amount of line needed to connect to water service, copper is too expensive now. Lansing reported that the City workers felt comfortable requiring copper line be used from the main to the shut-off and allowing Soppe to use plastic line to his building. Motion Henry to approve Soppe's request to use plastic water line failed for lack of a second. Council discussed the need to change the ordinance rather than make an exception. Motion Moriarity, 2nd Knepper to enforce the ordinance that is in place and look at changing the ordinance. Motion failed with Moriarity and Knepper voting aye, Henry and Boffeli voting nay and Soppe abstaining. Motion Boffeli, 2nd Knepper to table a decision until the next Council meeting and Soppe to have the specifications of the life of the plastic line he is proposing to use – all ayes.

Bill Donovan made a request on behalf of Webber Metals that the City take over maintenance of the open water way south of their building. Donovan explained that when the water way was designed with DNR input it was dry for the first 8 years but with increasing water flow coming from the east and southeast and increased silting the water way cannot be maintained. Donovan reported that the ditch does not dry out due to the increased flows and silting. Administrator Lansing reported that the head of the ditch is not working properly and that Weber Construction was hired last fall to clean the ditch but was unable to get to it then and plans on cleaning it this spring. Once it is cleaned, the head end of the ditch can be checked and repairs made if needed. Motion Henry, 2nd Soppe to have Weber Construction clean the ditch and any repairs that are needed be made to the standpipe – all ayes.

Mayor Staner reported on the discussion with a property owner that would be willing to sell four acres to the City now with the option of purchasing an additional twenty-one acres over the next seven

years. Staner feels that while the idea is great, the City cannot take on this purchase right now but possibly in ten years. Council member Soppe asked if the Park Board has a long-range plan in place because he feels the next agenda item to place a soccer field on Lincoln St is a short-term plan. Mayor Staner reported that in meetings with Cascade High School, the staff indicated that the land owned by WD is not enough to do anything with and would need to purchase ground from the City in order to place any type of field in that area. Council member Henry agrees that a long-range plan should be laid out and possibly a joint meeting with the Park Board is necessary. Motion Knepper, 2nd Moriarity to set a joint meeting with the Park Board to lay out a long-term plan on a sports complex – all ayes.

Motion Henry, 2nd Boffeli to approve Resolution 22-11 awarding a contract to Gravel Grading & Excavating LLC, Cascade for the grading of the Lincoln Soccer Field. Henry, Moriarity, Boffeli – aye, Soppe, Knepper – nay.

Motion Henry, 2nd Moriarity to approve Resolution 20-11 awarding a contract to Gehl Lawn Service, Cascade for seeding the Lincoln Soccer Field. Moriarity, Boffeli, Henry – aye, Knepper, Soppe – nay.

Motion Boffeli, 2nd Henry to approve Resolution 23-11 awarding a contract for 140 feet of sidewalk replacement on Harrison St NE and Tyler St NE to McCabe Construction, Cascade. Moriarity, Soppe, Boffeli, Henry, Moriarity – all ayes.

Motion Soppe, 2nd Henry to approve Resolution 24-11 transferring \$2,222 from the Assessment/Debt Service Fund to the TIF Fund and General Fund. Soppe, Boffeli, Henry, Knepper, Moriarity – all ayes.

Motion Henry, 2nd Moriarity directing Administrator Lansing to seek grants for replacing the 2nd Avenue NW drainage ditch culverts and flap gates – all ayes.

Council member Soppe asked for an explanation on the increases being proposed for employees for FY12. Personnel Committee member Moriarity explained that the Committee was given information on what employees already received and did informal evaluations and based their decision on that information. Soppe then asked if employee evaluations were conducted. Council member Boffeli asked if all of the public works employees have their water and wastewater certificates. Administrator Lansing answered that Phil and Ben do not, but Marty does. Boffeli questioned the increase of the full-time employees and why they are such differences. Council member Henry explained that there are other benefits that get paid for these employees and the employee portion of those benefits is not increasing. Lansing explained that the seven full-time employees participate in the health insurance at the same level. Motion Henry, 2nd Moriarity to approve Resolution 25-11 setting employee wages for FY12. Henry, Moriarity – aye, Boffeli, Knepper, Soppe – nay. Motion fails. Boffeli feels that all full-time employees should be given a straight percentage increase. Motion Boffeli, 2nd Soppe to table a decision on wage increases until the next meeting and have employee evaluations completed – all ayes.

No action was taken on item #17-Library Appointment since no applications were submitted.

Motion Soppe, 2nd Boffeli to approve the City's May bills, the April 25th Council minutes and April Treasurer's Report and Fund Balance Reports – all ayes.

Motion Boffeli, 2nd Moriarity to file correspondence – all ayes.

Council member Soppe asked Chief Heim what an "Issued in Error" on the Police Report was. Heim explained that it is a "glitch in the computer system".

Administrator Lansing reported that the city workers are working on getting the pool ready to open by the May 28th date set. Jay McCabe has been working on the Community Park restroom remodel and should be finished by May 20th. The Park Board would like to see sod put down in the areas that have been torn up during construction.

Council member Henry asked if the cemetery hill has been addressed. Lansing asked if the Council would be in favor of contacting 3M Construction, the contractor that did the last work, and if 3M is agreeable to the same or close to the same price as last time, Lansing will let all Council members know and a decision can be made to have the work completed before the Memorial Day Services. Clerk Annis asked the Council if they would be interested in having a consent agenda item placed on future agendas to combine several low-priority actions on each agenda. Annis explained that items such as minutes, bills, reports, liquor licenses, and correspondence could all be approved with one action versus several actions on each agenda. Council directed staff to prepare the next Council agenda with a consent agenda item.

With no other business, motion Soppe, 2nd Boffeli to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. – all ayes.

Shelley Annis, City Clerk/Treasurer