

CITY OF MONTEVIDEO
CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
February 1, 2010

The city council met in regular session Monday, February 1, 2010 in the council chambers at city hall. President Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present: Marvin Garbe, Sandra Hodge, Al Johnsrud, Bryce Curtiss , Karen Nieuwbeerta (7:08 P.M.) Mayor Jim Curtiss present.

Also present were: City Manager Steven C. Jones, City Attorney Janice Nelson and City Clerk Glennis Lauritsen.

It was moved by Johnsrud, seconded by Garbe and unanimously passed to approve the agenda, as presented.

It was moved by Garbe, seconded by Curtiss and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19, 2010, as presented.

4. Notices/Communications/Announcements or Appearance of Interested Citizens.

4(A) EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARDS.

Mayor Curtiss and Public Works Director Greg Schwaegerl presented Certificates of Appreciation to the following individuals to recognize them on milestones reached in their tenure with the City of Montevideo:

Brad Rasmussen - Public Works employee for 30 years (1/2/1980)

Richard Hendrickson - Public Works employee for 30 years (8/20/1979)

Council president Hodge also publically acknowledged Steve Strand - Public Works employee for 20 years (9/5/1989) - who was unable to be in attendance.

5. Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Johnsrud, seconded by Curtiss and unanimously passed to approve the following consent agenda items:

5(A) VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 29, 2010 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$941,033.86.

5(B) APPLICATION FROM CHIPPEWA COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM LAWFUL GAMBLING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR RAFFLE ACTIVITY AT THE CHIPPEWA COUNTY FAIR, AUGUST 4-6, 2010.

6. Public Hearings.

- None.

7. General Business.

7(A) SUNDAY 3.2 & WINE LICENSES - TOPPER'S BAR & GRILL.

Steve Frommel, Frommel, Inc., dba/Topper's Bar & Grill, submitted applications for two city licenses for 2010: 1) 3.2 percent malt liquor on-sale - Sunday only; and, 2) Wine - Sunday only.

The council was reminded that inasmuch as Montevideo does not allow Sunday liquor, this provision does NOT authorize the sale of intoxicating malt liquors (strong beer) at on-sale on Sundays.

It was moved by Curtiss, seconded by Garbe and unanimously passed to authorize the issuance of these licenses, as submitted.

7(B) STATE AID ADVANCE.

The city council has placed the William Avenue reconstruction project, 12th Street to 17th Street, at the top of its priority list for 2010 street improvements. Since this is a municipal state aid street, the city needs to request an advance of state aid funds to complete the project. A resolution has been prepared to reflect a requested amount of \$517,030.

MARVIN GARBE OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 2961, A STATE AID STREET FUNDS ADVANCE RESOLUTION, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2961 WAS SECONDED BY AL JOHNSRUD. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: MARVIN GARBE, AL JOHNSRUD, BRYCE CURTISS AND SANDRA HODGE. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 4-0.

Council member Karen Nieuwbeerta arrived at 7:08 P.M.

7(C) JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH STATE PATROL.

Police Chief Christopher was on hand to discuss a Joint Powers Agreement with the State Patrol which would allow the city to continue to use the State Patrol's I/Mobile System. This allows the police department to operate squad computers off of the state system. This is an annual agreement which is currently funded 100% by a federal grant.

It was moved by Curtiss, seconded by Johnsrud and unanimously passed to approve the agreement, as presented.

7(D) AMENDMENT TO POUNDMASTER AGREEMENT.

Chief Christopher stated that the city recently entered into a poundmaster agreement with Mary Haff, dba/Perfect Paws, at a rate of \$400.00/month. Inasmuch as additional insurance for Haff to operate the pound has increased her premium by approximately \$1,000 per year, staff has recommended the city share this expense and increase her monthly rate from \$400.00 to \$450.00/month.

It was moved by Garbe, seconded by Nieuwbeerta and unanimously passed to approve the rate increase, as presented.

7(E) LEASE AGREEMENT WITH MILWAUKEE ROAD HERITAGE CENTER.

The five year lease between the city and the Milwaukee Road Heritage Center expired January 1, 2010. The agreement has worked well, and staff does not recommend any changes in its renewal.

It was moved by Johnsrud, seconded by Curtiss and unanimously passed to approve a new five-year lease, as presented.

7(F) FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT.

The city has received a \$2.5 Million Flood Hazard Mitigation Grant from the State of Minnesota for their share of the levee project. Acceptance of the grant must be approved by resolution of the council.

KAREN NIEUWBEERTA OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 2962, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GRANT, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2962 WAS SECONDED BY MARVIN GARBE. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: KAREN NIEUWBEERTA, MARVIN GARBE, AL JOHNSRUD, BRYCE CURTISS AND SANDRA HODGE. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 5-0.

7(G) DISCUSSION - PROPOSED NEW FIRE HALL.

City Manager Jones stated that he had recently met with staff from the USDA, who indicated they would consider funding the cost of a new fire hall for 40 years at 4%. Because they would have to issue G.O. bonds, a referendum on the issue would be required. If council is interested, staff would need to move fairly quickly to schedule a referendum inasmuch as the USDA monies would need to be committed by September 1st.

Staff outlined several options for the council to consider, including: 1) tabling action in 2010; 2) asking staff to further research possible grant options; 3) scheduling a referendum (costs

involved); 4) public hearings to gather public sentiment before scheduling a referendum; and, 5) expansion of the existing fire hall. Additional materials supplied included SEH concept/cost estimates and a principal/interest spreadsheet showing interest on a 4%/40-year loan for \$2,750,000.

After discussion, it was council consensus to not proceed with a referendum this spring; to obtain additional information; to further discuss/schedule public information sessions, with the possibility of placing the issue on the ballot for the General Election in November.

7(H) DISCUSSION - GOAL SETTING SESSION.

City Manager Jones suggested that due to the present economical situation, perhaps a goal setting session focusing on what the city would do if the financial situation got worse (or even catastrophic) may be more beneficial than the typical goal setting session.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the council that department heads meet separately to discuss/develop departmental goals and ideas for potential cutbacks, with the council then meeting to review that information and discuss/develop their own. After that, a joint session could then be held with council and department heads for further review. Council requested a copy of the 2009 Goals for their review.

7(I) DISCUSSION - LIQUOR LICENSING WORKSESSION.

City Manager Jones stated that a number of liquor law issues seem to keep reoccurring as topics of discussion or concern, there are recent developments with the state, and recent inquiries about local requirements for obtaining a liquor license. Staff would like an opportunity to discuss these and other issues with the council related to this topic.

Following discussion, council expressed its interest in this type of worksession, but the consensus was to hold off until after the goal setting session is completed. Staff will bring this item back to council at a future meeting.

8. Ordinances.

- None.

9. Discussion and Miscellaneous.

- ▶ Council member Garbe stated that he had invited national Guard Armory personnel to attend the city's "table top flood exercise" on February 11th. He added that this exercise is probably now a planning session due to the recent flood forecasts.

Minutes/City Council
February 1, 2010
Page No. 5

- ▶ Council member Garbe stated there was a beneficial veterans home meeting held this past week. Council member Johnsrud reiterated and added that the community needs to know that people are hard at work to make this happen for Montevideo.
- ▶ Council member Johnsrud also commented on the flood forecasts, noting that the community needs to be aware that officials are meeting and beginning to plan for an event.
- ▶ City Manager Jones stated that an ad was placed in the local newspaper and letters were mailed to individuals in the Smith Addition, Gravel Road and area south of the railroad tracks updating them on the flood forecast and encouraging them to purchase flood insurance. City staff has received numerous calls in response to those notification efforts.
- ▶ City Manager Jones informed the council that USDA monies are being made available to fund libraries. Staff will further research the requirements for the funds and report back to the council.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Glennis A. Lauritsen, Secretary

Approved by council February 16, 2010:

Sandra Hodge - President