

**CITY OF MANAWA  
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 17, 2020 6:00 PM**

Proceedings of the Manawa Common Council meeting held Monday, August 17, 2020. Called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Smith pursuant to open meeting regulations, Pledge of Allegiance and roll call. Aldermen present on roll call: Mike Frazier, Brandon Buelow, Mary Eck, Jim Roenz, Seth Miller and Mayor John Smith. Absent: Alice Brown. City Employees: Mark Hass, Jim Gorman, Rob Rosenau, Ellen Connor, Lyn Hokenstad and Logan Hass. Others: Nathan Overdahl and Judy Trull.

Moved Frazier/Roenz to approve agenda of August 17, 2020. Carried.

Moved Eck/Buelow to approve of the common council meeting minutes of July 20, 2020. Carried.

Moved Eck/Buelow to approve of the Bills of Allowance \$52,314.17. Discussion: Frazier asked about the Lorge bill saying that he thought that was pretty high. Clerk Hass said that it is from the work done in the women's bathroom at city hall and Mayor Smith said that they fixed the automatic flushing in the women's bathroom. Eck asked about laptop from OWLS. Judy Trull said that the library purchased for access for people to use. Carried.

**Audience:** Nathan Overdahl – west property line city owned pit. Mayor Smith explained how the city has been watching pictures from the county on how he was clearing out trees and making his yard on city property. We had a survey on file and the city crew went to make sure the markings were accurate. They were and they found out that his drain field is on city property. Nathan provided a map detailing the property that he was interested in buying from the city. Nathan said that he would have it paid to be surveyed and would offer \$20,000 in cash in exchange of some land. He said that he has lived there for 10 years. He said that he thought that the property line was further back from his house he bought the house from a sheriff sale so the previous owner had the drain put on city property. Mayor Smith said that it will have to go to committee of the whole.

**Finance:** Eck asked about the CARES Act. Clerk Hass said that the city has received \$1,800 for COVID expense for elections and the city has around \$22,000 that they can use for extra expenses due to COVID.

**Improvements:** Buelow said that at their last meeting they talked about the geese issue. Roenz said that he called and talked to the DPW of Marion and he said that the geese roundup is very effective and they had to do it back to back years at first. It has been 3 years and they will plan on doing it again soon. It usually takes place in June or July. Buelow said that he called the DNR and they said that it is good for about 3 years when it is done. He said that we thought that the best thing to solve the weeds problem is for the residents to form a lake association because all of the taxpayers shouldn't have to pay to have someone's back yard look better. Frazier said that you should look into contacting Silver Mist because they have a weed cutter and they might take the weeds for free. Buelow said that they talked about the Thiel property land erosion. Mayor Smith said that building inspector Paul Hanlon and city engineer Dennis are working on it right now. Something has changed in the last year which started the land erosion. It is still an ongoing issue. Ipads Update: Buelow said that at the meeting they talked about instead of paying for the monthly charge we could just purchase the chrome books because everyone has wifi we don't need to pay for the data. Everyone would be issued an email. We would like to see how other council members feel about it. Street project update: High street

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and Ridgeway Heights will begin construction on August 20<sup>th</sup> and will be finished up on the beginning of October.

**Protection:** Frazier said that the committee has been busy and we like to thank newcomers Jim and Seth for doing a good job. He said that we had a great meeting with the library and we will work together for a solution. We are waiting on Attorney Forsythe to finalize the burning and outdoor ordinances and we will be working on some more ordinances in the future.

**Mayor:** Mayor Smith said that the splash pad is close to being done. It has been 5 years in the making. The total for the project ended up being \$750k. It is a great contribution for the city and Spiegelberg Inc has done a great job. We finally got the pine street resident issue solved the city will be able to start cleaning up his property the 61<sup>st</sup> day from July 29<sup>th</sup>. The new owner of the old linjer building is confused he wants raze order removed without showing state approved plans. We also have 9 acres of land that the city owns and we should consider rezoning it and have a housing study done. Eck said that we should contact Dave Thiel. Mayor Smith said that he has talked to Dave and he will get info from Paul Hanlon.

**DPW:** Mark said that they have been exercising water valves and cleaned up brush. Eck asked is there a time of year to spray weeds. Mark said yes we spray weeds in the curb and gutter area in June. Eck also asked what is exercising water valves. Mark said that we take a wrench and work the valve back and forth.

**Police:** Chief Gorman said that he has nothing other than my report. We will have to setup meeting to decide about what are we going to decide to clean up the property and who on the 61<sup>st</sup> day.

**Library:** Ellen said that they have moved to a new computer system and we applied under cares act for laptops.

**Fire:** Chief Rosenau said that schooling is starting up, haven't received any money yet from FEMA, will be looking to update trucks and we have had 78 calls for the season. Mayor Smith asked is it possible to make signs warning about fire call for vehicles because there were a lot of close calls for accidents when you were dealing with the barn fire. Rosenau said that New London has signs flashing when there is a fire call and we can look into it. Mayor Smith said that it is a congested area which is why a new fire station would be a good idea. Eck commented that we have had discussions about how we can fix that situation.

**Clerk:** Financial Report: General Fund balance: \$108,891.57; Government Pool: \$26,243.66. Moved Roenz/Frazier to approve operator's licenses for Michelle Drath, Amber Mikkelson, Adriana Snyder and Kari Tankersley. Carried.

New election machine: It was noted by Clerk Hass that the current machine will be out of service 2022. So the city will have to budget for a new one for 2021.

**New Business:** Finance and Personnel will be meeting on August 24 at 6 pm to discuss and look over job descriptions for everyone to make sure they are up to date. Committee of the whole meeting set up for August 31 at 6 pm to discuss west property line of city owned pit, ipads, cleanup Dutton property and Thiel property erosion.

Moved Frazier to adjourn at 7:15 pm. Carried.

Logan Hass, City Clerk