

City Council Minutes August 8, 2011

The Fertile City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, August 8, 2011 at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Brian Nephew and Council members Dan Gisvold, Trish Thorson and Todd Wise. Council member Dennis Hasler was absent.

Barry Robertson, Fair Meadow Nursing Home Administrator, began the meeting with his report. Robertson stated that Fair Meadow began July with 49 residents and ended the month with 48. The Nursing Home also provided 295 home delivered meals and 17 days of adult day care.

Robertson also updated the Council on the development of potential plans for Assisted Living. The architectural firm YHR Partners has been selected to make a preliminary report as to potential sites and related costs. There was also discussion on the Fertile-Beltrami Fund also setting up a 501C.3 corporation to take in donations to help underwrite the planning, design and, hopefully, the construction costs. The Fertile-Beltrami Community Fund is paying for this work being done.

Kevin Nephew, Public Works, then reported to the City Council. He stated he had looked at all four variance requests and did not have a problem with them, as Stanton Wang's storage facility could and would be moved if necessary.

At 7:00 p.m. Mayor Nephew called for a temporary meeting adjournment and commenced a Public Hearing on setback variances for Todd and Dorene Dufault, 603 Blaine St. SE; Ken and Tami Kaste, 110 Third St. NW; Ben and Lynae Sather, 101 Stephen Dr. SE and Stanton and Jessica Wang, 211 Main Ave. NE. There were no negative comments received.

Mayor Nephew then closed the Public Hearing and reopened the Council meeting. Council member Gisvold, seconded by Council member Thorson, moved to approve all of the variance requests. The motion carried.

Libby Eid then reported that, for the month of June, 22 volunteers had put in a total of 65 hours at the Nature Center. Eid also reported a raccoon had been raiding the bird feeders.

Upon review of the minutes of the previous meeting, Council member Thorson moved, seconded by Council member Gisvold, to approve them. The motion carried.

Upon review of the Treasurer's Report and Bills, Council member Gisvold moved, seconded by Council member Thorson, that they be approved. The motion carried.

The Council then took up the issue of getting a new tractor for summer/winter use on such activities as ground/grass maintenance and snow removal. After extensive discussion on the makes and models, Council member Gisvold, seconded by Council member Wise, moved to enter into a 5 year lease/purchase arrangement with Titan Machinery on a tractor with 60 hours as it is somewhat larger than the others listed. The motion carried. There was further discussion that Administrator Frohrip work on the details of any final lease agreement.



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Mayor Nephew commented that at the previous meeting there was the position that there was no money for law enforcement and that some people might have some difficulty with this.

There was then discussion of the proposal to assist with the 125th Anniversary of the City's formation. Council member Gisvold, seconded by Council member Thorson, moved to contribute \$5,000 towards the activities. The motion carried.

Frohrip then brought the proposed preliminary budget and compensation up for the Council. He pointed out that there would be no increase in levy. The Council will take this up at the next meeting.

Council member Gisvold then asked if it was possible to block off that portion of Lincoln Ave. NE that goes in front of his house for a party on August 20th for his daughter who was going away to school. There was no objection.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian Nephew, Mayor

John J. Frohrip, City Administrator