

City Council Minutes November 14, 2011

The Fertile City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, November 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Brian Nephew and Council Members Trish Thorson and Dennis Hasler. Council Members Todd Wise and Dan Gisvold were absent.

Barry Robertson, Administrator of Fair Meadow Nursing Home, made his monthly report to the City Council. Fair Meadow began and ended the month of October with 48 residents and operated at 96% of capacity. There were 337 home delivered meals and 14 days of adult day care. The Audit for this past fiscal year has been completed and Fair Meadow ended with a net increase of \$46,000. Robertson then reported that the Fair Meadow Foundation for Assisted Living has been formed and Dr. Ring has been asked to chair the Foundation Board.

Robertson continued with an Assisted Living update by reporting on the two meetings on the project with the community as well as the meeting with the current residents of Summerfield. There was also discussion of the study on the condition of Summerfield Place and what role it may play.

Kevin Nephew, Public Works Superintendent, then made his presentation to the Council. Discussion centered on the Peterson Housing Development and the ability to open up the N.E. area of the community, most especially the Industrial Park, to more concentrated development. Council member Hasler expressed concern for potential opposition if there is no guarantee of growth. Administrator John Frohrip stated that there would always be a measure of risk, and that more data would be needed to insure as high a rate of success as is possible. Mayor Nephew stated that we need to look at alternatives and their costs if we want the City to have growth.

There was also discussion on the new tractor and the need for the new tires and rims.

Libby Eid then reported that for the month of October there had been 18 volunteers that had served a total of 41.5 hours at the Nature Center.

Upon review of the last meetings minutes, the Treasurer's Report and the Bills, Council member Thorson, seconded by Council member Hasler, moved that all three be approved. The motion carried.

Administrator Frohrip then reviewed the process for looking at alternatives for City Attorney. The process is continuing.

There was then discussion on the need for a new bridge into the Nature Center. Frohrip explained that there had been a change in the law, and that the City no longer needed Garfield Township to take an active role. Council member Hasler, seconded by Council member Thorson, moved to approve Resolution #11-1-11, which allows the City to enter into a contract with the Polk County Highway Department so they can do the design and management of the project. The motion carried.



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Fromip then brought out a list of long-term delinquent water bills that were not collectable because those owning them were no longer here and a shut off is not an option. Council member Thorson, seconded by Council member Hasler, moved to put these bills on the property taxes for the properties involved for collection in 2012. The motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian Nephew, Mayor

John J. Frohrip, City Administrator