REGULAR MEETING

6:30 p.m. Monday , August 8th, 2011 City Auditorium Conference Room.

Council Mayor Lynette Fitterer.

Council members present: Delton Kautzman, Eugene Schaaf, Gary Hoffmann and Phil Bader

Council members absent: Jason Young and Aglae Young

Others present: City Auditor Shian Wessels, Dane Fuchs, Milton Grube, Tom Wolff and Robin Theil

# Minutes

Schaaf moved and Bader seconded to approve the July 2011 minutes with the following corrections (the pump house is located on the North East side of the house and the bid for the grader for 4801 was from Les Brandt), all voting yes the motion passed.

Waterman Home Condemnation Hearing

The hearing was called to order and there was no one in attendance to discuss the Waterman home condemnation. Bader moved and Hoffmann seconded to condemn the home and have the property demolished and the land restored to a safe condition, all voting yes the motion passed. Wessels will advertise for bids to be opened at the September council meeting. Wessels will also work with Waterman and her representatives to arrange a time for her to recover any possessions that she would like to have.

Water and Sewer Committee

Wessels presented a letter from John Brookhouser asking for an explanation of his water billing. Fitterer will go to speak with him and try to explain how the water billing works.

Wessels and Fuchs explained in detail their concerns with the current water billing system. The current system bills quarterly and requires the city to read each meter individually. This allows for human error when reading and entering the meter readings. For several years the city’s audits have shown that it would be much more efficient to bill monthly. On a monthly billing system it would be easier to track water leaks and consumers bills would not be so large. It would require more work in the auditor’s office but Wessels feels that it could save the city thousands of dollars every quarter. Fuchs presented the board with an estimate to replace the old meters in town (many of which are proving to be faulty) with radio read meters. The system is quite expensive but will cut down the labor for reading meters and ensure accuracy. Wessels and Fuchs feel the council needs to investigate this further. The board appointed Bader to look into the city books and current billing system as well and meet with the representatives of the new meter systems. Bader will report his findings to the council.

Jackie Buckly and Mark Fleck came to the board to discuss the water line repair bill the Morton County Fairboard received. The water line is owned by the Fairboard but there are a total of 6 different entities that utilize that line. The board discussed taking over the waterline for future repairs and maintence. Wessels will contact the city attorney about what needs to be done for the city to take over the water line. Hoffmann moved and Schaaf seconded to split the bill for the water line repairs between the six different entities, all voting yes the motion passed.

Fuchs updated the board on the lagoon pumping system. It is only operating at about 25 percent and Fuchs does not have any more time and/or solutions for the system. Lynette is going to contact Brian Eisman about the system problems.

Street Committee

Fitterer informed the board that several people in the community have contacted her with concerns about the Golden West parking lot. Fitterer will contact the owners to discuss their plans for the area.

The street repairs on South 6th street were discussed again. Feland proposed to pay for the trucking of the repair materials and twenty percent of the material costs because he felt the street was in poor condition prior to the damage done to the street. Hoffmann moved to bill Feland for the entire bill for the street repairs, the motion died for the lack of a second. Fuchs explained to the board that the repairs would not be done until the building of the storage units is complete. This would avoid any further damage done to the street. Hoffmann asked if the residents could repair the streets themselves. Because of the large equipment required to repair the streets and the knowledge needed to repair the streets to the condition prior to the damage, the city employees do all repairs. Schaaf explained that he was billed for the entire cost of the street repairs to his street when the sewer line needed to be repaired. Schaaf moved and Hoffmann seconded to bill Clint Feland for the entire costs of the street repairs on South 6th Street once the repairs are finished, all voting yes the motion passed.

Fitterer is going to speak with the local deputies about ticketing illegal parking and those who put their grass clippings on city streets.

The alley behind Gordan Davis was revisited. Fitterer presented picture of water that runs in to the Davis yard and has nowhere to go. Fuchs explained that he has graded the alley and hauled dirt to the alley to encourage the water to move South. However, the water on the North Side of the alley is trapped. Fuchs is going to work on the area more but is unsure of what he can do to solve the problem for the Davis’s without causing more problems for other residents.

Fuchs informed the board that they will complete this years chip sealing this week. Street repairs went well this year and should be complete soon.

Auditorium Committee

The auditorium sign update will be in September due to some delays in pricing.

Concerns about candle use in the auditorium was discussed because there have been a couple of small fires this summer at weddings. Kautzman moved and Bader seconded to change the auditorium’s policy to NOT ALLOW ANY candle use in the auditorium, all voting yes the motion passed.

Hoffmann moved and Kautzman seconded to table the auditorium kitchen update to the September meeting, all voting yes the motion passed.

Wessels read a letter from Maguire Iron concerning the peeling paint on the water tower. Thermo-Shock (weather related peeling) is the explanation for the peeling. The letter also stated that the repairs would be done in the near future. The board asked that Wessels contact Maguire Iron and inform them that they have until August 31st to complete the repairs.

The use of the city’s street barricades for events at the auditorium to close off Main Street must be pre approved by the council.

Police Committee

Wessel presented the board with a contract draft to move New Salem court proceedings to District Court. Kautzman moved and Schaaf seconded to have Wessels move forward with the pursuit of the contract with Morton County, all voting yes the motion passed. .

Board of Health

A Building Inspector report was presented to the board concerning 108 Main Ave. There are several structural concerns and rodent concerns for the property and the building inspector recommends that according to city ordinances and the need to meet a fifty percent deterioration from the original structure that the house be vacated and condemned. Hoffmann moved and Bader seconded to have the building inspector send the official inspection report and findings to the owner and a notice giving them until the September 12th meeting to contest the findings and/or to repair the home per the report, all voting yes the motion passed.

Building Committee

Hoffmann moved and Kautzman seconded to clarify and amend the building permit fee schedule as follows ( fences six feet AND under are $1 per lineal ft and fences OVER six feet are $100 + $1 per lineal foot) all voting yes the motion passed.

The CHS city limit petition is tabled until the September meeting.

Personnel Committee

Wessels read the following letter from Jason Young: “As of today, Sunday August 7th, 2011, I have accepted a new pastoral position in Minnesota. I therefore tender my resignation from the New Salem City Council effective immediately. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this great city along side of each of you and for the chances to grow in my leadership experience.”

New Business

Schaaf moved and Bader seconded to approve the Liquor license transfer request from Sunset Inn to the City Auditorium on August 13th and September 10th, all voting yes the motion passed.

Kautzman moved and Schaaf seconded to approve the 2nd and final reading of the West River franchise renewal ordinance granting to West River Telecommunications cooperative, successors and assigns, the right to use and occupy the streets, alleys and other public places of the City of New Salem, North Dakota, for the purpose of construction, maintaining and operating a telecommunications system within said city, all voting yes the motion passed.

Schaaf moved and Hoffmann seconded the approve of the Morton County 4H gaming permit request, all voting yes the motion passed.

Hoffmann moved and Schaaf seconded to change the city’s two three month CD’s to 12month CD’s, all voting yes the motion passed.

Kautzman moved and Bader seconded to approve the bills as presented, all voting yes the motion passed.

Paid Chk# 009544 Bauer, Audrey 7/18/2011 $119.71

Paid Chk# 009545 Bauer, Calvin 7/18/2011 $372.68

Paid Chk# 009546 Blaich, John 7/18/2011 $95.11

Paid Chk# 009547 ERHARDT, RALPH 7/18/2011 $169.28

Paid Chk# 009548 Fuchs, Dane 7/18/2011 $1,362.30

Paid Chk# 009549 Kruger, Ty 7/18/2011 $479.38

Paid Chk# 009550 Vogel, Ed 7/18/2011 $624.94

Paid Chk# 009551 Wessels, Shian 7/18/2011 $862.05

Paid Chk# 009552 Wetzel, Kyle 7/18/2011 $469.60

Paid Chk# 009553 Bauer, Audrey 8/2/2011 $59.86

Paid Chk# 009554 Bauer, Calvin 8/2/2011 $341.44

Paid Chk# 009555 Blaich, John 8/2/2011 $142.66

Paid Chk# 009556 ERHARDT, RALPH 8/2/2011 $156.80

Paid Chk# 009557 Fuchs, Dane 8/2/2011 $1,207.19

Paid Chk# 009558 Kruger, Ty 8/2/2011 $477.75

Paid Chk# 009559 Vogel, Ed 8/2/2011 $815.21

Paid Chk# 009560 Wessels, Shian 8/2/2011 $862.05

Paid Chk# 009561 Wetzel, Kyle 8/2/2011 $485.89

Paid Chk# 009562 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009563 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009564 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009565 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009566 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009567 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009568 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009569 VOIDED CHECK 8/5/2011 $0.00

Paid Chk# 009570 POST MASTER 8/8/2011 $500.00 utility billing postage

Paid Chk# 009571 FERGUSON WATERWORKS 8/8/2011 $603.00

Paid Chk# 009572 GCR TIRE CENTER 8/8/2011 $1,509.75 loader tire

Paid Chk# 009573 GERDAU AMERISTEEL CORP 8/8/2011 $26.40 appliance disposal

Paid Chk# 009574 J P COOKE CO 8/8/2011 $84.22

Paid Chk# 009575 MARINER CONSTRUCTION 8/8/2011 $1,076.40 ashpalt

Paid Chk# 009576 MARSHALL LUMBER 8/8/2011 $149.29

Paid Chk# 009577 MDU 8/8/2011 $3,911.28 shop

Paid Chk# 009578 MISSOURI WEST WATER 8/8/2011 $13,433.94 water purchase

Paid Chk# 009579 MORTON COUNTY AUDITOR 8/8/2011 $3,200.00 police contract

Paid Chk# 009580 NAPA 8/8/2011 $219.12 equipment parts

Paid Chk# 009581 ND HEALTH DEPT - 8/8/2011 $16.00 labs

Paid Chk# 009582 ND RURAL WATER SYSTEMS 8/8/2011 $100.00

Paid Chk# 009583 NDPERS 8/8/2011 $450.45

Paid Chk# 009584 NEW SALEM JOURNAL 8/8/2011 $484.20

Paid Chk# 009585 NORTHERN IMPROVEMENT 8/8/2011 $9,548.78

Paid Chk# 009586 OFFICE DEPOT 8/8/2011 $287.38

Paid Chk# 009587 ONE CALL CONCEPTS 8/8/2011 $11.70

Paid Chk# 009588 OPP WELL DRILLING AND 8/8/2011 $395.00 lagoon pump repair

Paid Chk# 009589 RDO 8/8/2011 $39.23

Paid Chk# 009590 ROAD WARRIOR EXPRESS 8/8/2011 $105.00

Paid Chk# 009591 RUDS TESORO 8/8/2011 $96.39

Paid Chk# 009592 Security First Bank BC/BS 8/8/2011 $285.00 Dane insurance

Paid Chk# 009593 SHIAN WESSELS 8/8/2011 $169.50

Paid Chk# 009594 SOUTHWEST GRAIN 8/8/2011 $9.17

Paid Chk# 009595 TRANSTRASH 8/8/2011 $771.18

Paid Chk# 009596 WEST RIVER 8/8/2011 $202.24 phones

Paid Chk# 009608 AG VANTAGE 8/8/2011 $1,665.20 gas and oil

Paid Chk# 009609 AMERIPRIDE 8/8/2011 $95.30 aud floor mats

Paid Chk# 009610 AT&T 8/8/2011 $272.62

Paid Chk# 009611 CLINT FELAND, INC 8/8/2011 $315.00

Paid Chk# 009612 FAMILY FOOD PRIDE 8/8/2011 $64.49 aud supplies

Paid Chk# 009613 FARMERS LUMBER & GAMBLES 8/8/2011 $377.29 aud/shop supplies

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Lynette Fitterer-Mayor

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Shian Wessels-Auditor