

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton city council held a special meeting Thursday, July 14th. Members present included Mayor Joe Staller, Brad Kehn, Terry Schuldt, Jason Schurz, Skyler Kehn, Jim Nielsen and Carl Bode. City employees present were Darin Cranny and Kylee Urban. Visitors were Gayle VanGenderen, Daren Johnson, John Schmidt, Kellie Gillen, Kyanna Huff, Jack Marette, Dan Larson, Colleen Ryan-Johnson, Lindsey Weich and Clint Bultsma.

Mayor Staller called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the agenda. B. Kehn made a motion to approve the agenda. Bode seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

BILLS TO PAY

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to allow the finance officer to pay the bills minus Plankinton Lumber, until the bathhouse floor is finished. Schurz abstained from the motion. B. Kehn made a motion to allow the finance officer to pay the bills minus Plankinton Lumber. Nielsen seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

B. Kehn made a motion to approve the minutes, as they were already printed in the paper and sent out. Schurz seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

INSURANCE BIDS

Lindsey Weich came to represent Krohmer Insurance. She explained the details on their proposal. Clint Bultsma then shared his proposal for Bultsma Insurance Agency and explained the detail. Mayor Staller entertained a motion to accept the Krohmer Insurance Agency proposal for the Fire Hall of \$3,479.00 and The Bultsma Agency proposal of \$24,768.00 for the city's insurance. B. Kehn made a motion to approve Bultsma Agency's proposal minus the pump house for City property and liability and Krohmer Agency for the Fire Hall insurance for 2023. Nielsen seconded. All voted aye. Motion approved.

WATER TOWER

Many community members came to voice their opinions and share their input on this matter. Supt. Darin Cranny informed everybody of the quotes he received to have a structural engineer look at the water tower. MaGuire Iron quoted around \$35,000-\$45,000 and Banner told Darin it would cost more to engineer it than to tear it down.

A couple community members asked if the city could call around and see how other communities are dealing with their old water towers and what they are doing with them. Bode voiced his concern that we can do that but then we will be jumping down the next rabbit hole in the next meeting and it will be held off even longer. Darin explained, even if this is done, that does not tell us how structurally sound ours is. Everybody's water tower had been through something different. There is no way to compare another town's water tower to ours. Darin also explained the bottom concrete base is cracking and chipped. Jack Murette asked if the city could provide a list of reasons it needs to come down in the paper so everybody else knows the reasoning. Darin said he could do that. B. Kehn made a motion to sign the contract and get the water tower torn down. John Schmidt suggested to leave it and just let it fall down since it is insured. Schurz voiced that letting it fall would not be a good option and options are very slim with the situation. Gayle VanGonderen's suggestion was that we try to surplus the water tower. Darin, S. Kehn and Clint Bultsma agreed there is no viable market for an old lead filled water tower. Darin also added that surplus would take at least a year for anything to happen with it. Dan Larsen added that the city needs to make the best decision eventually and this can't keep being put off. Bode let the community know that he doesn't want to discard any opinions, but how many options are actually worth perusing? Schurz seconded the motion to have the water tower torn down. Mayor Staller asked for a roll call vote. B. Kehn, yes. Schuldt, yes. Schurz, yes. S. Kehn, yes. Nielsen, yes. Bode, yes. Motion carried.

MURAL GRANT

Mayor Staller reported that he talked with the artist Zach DeBoer on Wednesday. He said he would only do minimal on the front side of the building, due to the sun and the majority of the mural would be on the north side of the building. Zach plans to have the design ready to review at the August meeting. He also believes he can start in August and have it done before the snow flies. Darin Johnson volunteered his equipment to help with the mural.

GRAIN DUST CONTROL AGREEMENT

Mayor Staller passed a letter around to the council from Jim Page's attorney about negotiating the dust control contract with AGKOTA grain elevator. Mayor Staller asked the council's permission to negotiate this contract with them. The Council agreed to allow Mayor Staller to negotiate the contract.

WATER SHUT OFF/TURN ON

Mayor Staller reported the charge some other towns use for water shut off/ turn on. The council agreed that there should be something but nothing too much. B. Kehn and Bode suggested around \$20 would be reasonable. The Finance Officer will look into this a little more before making a decision.

GWORKS

The Finance Officer asked for a decision on switching over software programs after the council was able to do some research on it. B. Kehn reported that he looked into it and really liked it. The Finance Officer added how beneficial this would be for the city, and workers. She also explained how many other towns

have switched over and loved the program. Staller entertained a motion to approve the purchase of GWORKS for \$7,210.00 annually with a \$16,140.00 one-time setup fee and switching the programs over. Bode made a motion to approve. S. Kehn seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

ANNIVERSARY RAISES

Mayor Staller reported that he feels they deserve a raise, but with healthcare always going up and there being a COLA raise every year he doesn't think it would be a good idea. The council agreed to stay with a Cost of Living Raise instead of extending and raising the current anniversary pay raises.

BUILDING PERMIT

APPROVED: Rodney Kinyon, ADA Ramp- Kurt's Home Repair- W'87 of lot 13, Block 3 of Miracle and Clark 1st Addition

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Staller reported the city has received more LEIAP for assistance with cooling for the hot summer. He also reported that he got back the reports from the Dump Site Inspections, and they were both excellent.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08p.m.

Signed: _____

John J. Staller, Mayor

Attest: _____

Kylee Urban, Finance Officer