

## **CITY OF THORNTON – MARCH 1, 2010 – 7:00 P.M. – CITY HALL**

The Thornton City Council met on the above date and time with Mayor Joy Baker calling the meeting to order. Council members present: Barbara Hopkey, Michael Younge, Larry Stadlander, Barry Groh, and Brian Crowell. Also present: Tom Janeka, Alana Steenhard, and Tom Madden with Yaggy Colby Associates.

Stadlander made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Council Committee terms. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

Mayor Baker opened the Public Hearing for the proposed budget for fiscal year 2010-11. There were no written or oral objections. Groh made a motion to close the Public Hearing. Younge seconded, motion carried. Stadlander made a motion to adopt by resolution the final budget for F/Y 2010-11. Crowell seconded, therefore Resolution #10-01 adopted.

Travis Fischer present at 7:10 p.m.

Groh made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Stadlander seconded, motion carried.

Younge made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

City Attorney John Sorensen present at 7:15 p.m.

Tom Madden with Yaggy Colby Associates presented the Council with maps of the water system improvements from the original plan in 2002. The 7<sup>th</sup> Street Extension Concept Plan, option 3 would qualify for I-Jobs funding which is close to a 50% match of the water project. Groh made a motion to approve completion of the I-jobs funding application. Younge seconded, motion carried. Younge made a motion for the Intended Use Plan. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

Madden left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

John Sorensen updated the Council on the real estate transaction of Parcel 2 & Parcel 3. Specific legal descriptions of the two Parcels were omitted on the previous documents; therefore new detailed descriptions will identify each parcel. Stadlander made a motion to set March 18, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in City Hall for a Public Hearing for the sale of Parcel 2 & Parcel 3. Hopkey seconded, therefore Resolution #10-02 adopted.

Alana Steenhard left the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

A spreadsheet on garbage revenues and expenses were reviewed. Several communities in the North Iowa area have gone to selling bags to their customers for garbage disposal along with a monthly minimal fee, making it a fair way to charge for services according to how much a consumer is putting out each week. After much discussion, it was agreed to lower the monthly fee to \$7 and to sell bags in rolls of 10 for \$15 in a 33 gallon size and \$12 in a 15 gallon size. Rates for dumpsters: \$30.00/month and dumpster rentals - \$35.00 per dump. The first reading to amend the ordinance will be at the April City Council meeting.

Rates to cover expenses for the water/sewer project were reviewed. After much discussion, Younge proposed the following rates – Water: Basic monthly fee of \$11.00 & \$3.25/1,000 gallons consumed. Sewer: Basic monthly fee of \$7.00 & \$1.50/1,000 based on water consumption. Crowell seconded, motion carried. The first reading to amend the ordinance will be at the April City Council meeting.

The Thornton Quasiquicentennial celebration in July was discussed. Younge mentioned that the fire department would need a liquor license & dram insurance and special events weather insurance for the band on Saturday evening. Since the fire department is on the

City's insurance policy, Mr. Sorensen will do some research on this and report to the Council at the April meeting.

Various City Boards were discussed.

Janeka left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

The Clerk reported that she was hoping not to need to purchase another computer system until July and submitted the grant application to the Cerro Gordo County Community Foundation for the purchase of a new system. Since submitting the application the computer has shown signs of needing to be replaced before getting worse and quitting completely. Younge made a motion to purchase a new complete computer system through Creative Solutions Unlimited, Inc in the amount of \$1986.50. Stadlander seconded, motion carried.

The Clerk reported Janeka built shelves in the closet in City Hall for storage and requested to have the shower in the restroom removed and made into a closet for additional storage. Approval was given with possibly moving the shower to the basement of the Community Center for the storm shelter.

Mayor Baker mentioned that there is an upcoming Planning & Zoning workshop in Clear Lake on March 31st from 5:30-8:45 p.m. The Clerk will invite the Zoning Chairperson to attend the meeting, with Baker as the alternate.

Stadlander made a motion to accept the liquor license application renewal for Westy's Sports Bar & Grill. Groh seconded, Hopkey –aye, Younge – aye, Crowell – abstained, motion carried.

The Clerk reported that Greg Meier has requested a new chorine tester. The Council would like Meier to be present at the April meeting with the request.

The Council approved the request from Heath Johnson to be paid semi-monthly rather than monthly.

Groh reported that there is an Emergency Management Meeting at the Police Station in Mason City on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the Mayor, Clerk and himself. A date will then be set for a disaster planning meeting with Steve O'Neil.

Younge made a motion to adjourn. Crowell seconded, motion carried.

Michelle Duff  
City Clerk