

CITY OF THORNTON – NOVEMBER 7, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.

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: City Attorney John Sorensen, Betty Jensen, and Tom Janeka.

Groh made a motion to approve the agenda with the following additions. West Fork School Bus Stop, Community Christmas Light Contest, North Iowa Disc Golf Tour, Gender Balanced Boards, Salary process, and Main Street property. Stadlander seconded, motion carried.

Younge made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

Stadlander made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Groh seconded, motion carried.

Mr. Sorensen reported he has prepared and will file Municipal infraction citations against the current and previous owners of the dangerous building at 104 N 3rd Street.

The Clerk reported 20 applications were returned to City Hall for the Housing Rehabilitation Grant. The first committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 with Dana Heimbuch of NIACOG.

Mayor Baker reported Tom Madden with Yaggy Colby Associates met with her and the Clerk to go over financing options for the lagoon repairs.

Mayor Baker reported that the research committee for a possible Community Center/ Emergency Shelter met for the first time last week. Members are gathering information from area communities that have constructed similar buildings.

The Clerk reported that one written bid for tree removal at 612 Larch Street was received. Stadlander made a motion to accept Nuehring's Lawn & Tree Service bid of \$125.00. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

The Clerk reported the new email address for water readings is available for any customer wishing to read their own meter on a monthly basis and submit it online. The address is water@thornton-iowa.com.

The Clerk reported that she did not receive any response from ClerkNet on the posting of the City's old Christmas Decorations that are available for sale. The decorations will be now available for sale to the general public.

An invoice for a service call at 613 Main Street was discussed. A new water meter was installed inside the home, along with a new meter readout. Groh made a motion to pay the invoice from Schroeder Plumbing & Heating and have Janeka to read the meter once a week for the next four weeks to monitor consumption, with the property owner responsible for the metered gallons. Younge seconded, motion carried.

The Clerk reported an agent with Gateway Insurance Services has a volunteer firefighter accident policy available. The Council expressed no interest at this time.

There was discussion on how the annual salary review process is handled.

Groh reported that there were concerns expressed to him about the large area dug out along the sidewalk on Main Street. Due to the area being on private property, the City is unable to address the issue.

The Clerk reported that a reminder notice was received from NIACOG regarding Gender Balanced Boards that goes into effect on January 1, 2012.

Groh reported that the Thornton area Merchants are having a Christmas decorating contest for Thornton residents. There will be two categories: The most luminous and the most creative. Properties will be judged on either Wednesday, December 7th or Thursday, December 8th. The winners will be announced at the Community Christmas Drawing on Saturday, December 10th. More details will be displayed on the City's website at www.thornton-iowa.com

The Clerk reported that West Fork School Superintendent, Darrin Strike inquired if the City Park would be a permissible site as a bus stop for the district's students due to the demolition of the Thornton School building. The City Council agreed to allow the district to use the west side of City Park and the Shelter house area for the bus stop.

Groh reported that the North Iowa Disc Golf Tour will once again stop in Thornton for 2012. A tournament will be held in Thornton in August.

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

Michelle Duff

Thornton City Clerk