

**CITY OF THORNTON – NOVEMBER 2, 2009 – 7:00 P.M. – CITY HALL**

The Thornton City Council met on the above date and time with Mayor Protem Larry Stadlander calling the meeting to order. Council members present: Barbara Hopkey, Michael Younge, Barry Groh, and Joy Baker. Absent: Mayor Phillip McLaughlin. Also present: Tom Janeka, Brian Crowell, Charlie Dickman, Scott Engebretson, Travis Fischer, Pam Wonsmos, Alana Steenhard, Lance Larson, Jim Davies with Creative Solutions, and Mary Kelly, the Cerro Gordo County Engineer.

Groh made a motion to approve the agenda. Baker seconded, motion carried.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as submitted.

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

The drainage issue at the intersection of Maple/7<sup>th</sup> Street was discussed. The Clerk will contact Monte Applegate with Yaggy Colby Associates to have a plan designed.

City Attorney John Sorensen and Mary Arndt with the County Engineer's office present at 7:05 p.m.

The Council reviewed an "Offer to Buy" contract that John Sorensen drafted on behalf of the City for the potential sale of Parcel 2 and Parcel 3 that are located at the end of 7<sup>th</sup> Street, north of Elm Street. After reviewing the contract, Sorensen stated that modifications would need to be made. Groh made a motion to accept a submitted offer from Bruce & Melanie Smit in the amount of \$4000.00 for Parcel 2 and from Shelby & Alana Steenhard in the amount of \$4000.00 for Parcel 3, with modifications to the contract and with the contingency of a Public Hearing. Younge seconded, motion carried.

Mike Jensen present at 7:07 p.m.

A Public Hearing date of Monday, November 23, 2009 was set for 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall regarding the sale of the City property, known as Parcel 2 and Parcel 3, north of Elm Street and on the end of 7<sup>th</sup> Street.

Scott Engebretson and others present expressed interest in trying to keep the gym open at the Thornton School building. Research will be gathered and presented to the Council as soon as possible.

Janeka reported that Brian Nettleton will repair the City Park restrooms in the spring.

Pam Wonsmos and Alana Steenhard left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Janeka reported that the control panel on the pump on 8<sup>th</sup> Street is still not working properly.

Scott Engebretson, Charlie Dickman, and Lance Larson left the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Janeka reported that Iowa Rural Water's camera light was not working so unable to look at sewer line on North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Janeka reported that water samples were taken as requested by the IDNR due to the complaint of the chlorine odor in the water. No results available as of today.

Jim Davies with iStop, a division of Creative Solutions Unlimited, Inc. reported that the City's website is now live and went through the different pages of the site with the Council. A module for the business page was discussed and agreed upon.

Mary Kelly, the Cerro Gordo County Engineer reported that the County will be replacing the bridge located on 120<sup>th</sup> Street, near the City's lagoon and is requesting to purchase an additional 27 feet of right-of-way for the project to allow enough space for the

contractor's equipment and this would also allow the County to construct slightly flatter foreslopes for safety purposes.

After discussion, Baker made a motion to accept the price of \$270.00 for the 27 feet of right-of-way. Younge seconded, motion carried.

Mary Kelly and Mary Arndt left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Mike Jensen presented a price quote of \$4263 to the Council for a 9,000 watt electric start generator to be used primarily for the designated storm shelter located at the Community Center. The quote included updating the meter to state code. After much discussion, Baker made a motion to approve the purchase of the generator. Hopkey seconded, motion carried.

Jensen reported that an appointment has been made to have the Scott Air-Pak's hydro flow tested. The cost will be around \$45 each. The department has 9 units and they are required to be tested every three years.

The Clerk reported that there is a party interested in possibly purchasing a lot or two to build a home at the old football/baseball field parcel. The Council would like some type of plan from the interested party.

The Clerk reported that the Mayor had received concerns of leaf burning. A notice was submitted to the paper last week and posted in town. Citizens need to be considerate when burning yard waste.

The Clerk presented the Annual Report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

The Clerk reported that the Quasquicentennial committee has requested for a ban on animals at the park during the celebration. John Sorensen will draft an ordinance for the City Council to review.

The Clerk reported that the City is getting charged a monthly fee for electricity at the old football/baseball complex. It was agreed to have service discontinued.

Janeka reported that the SCMT school district requested to have the water shutoff at the Thornton building. The shutoff had to be dug up by Nettleton Excavating and a new shutoff valve was installed per the request of the school. There will be discussion on the bill when it is received.

The Clerk reported on the Homestead Tax Credit Reimbursement. Due to Governor Culver's cuts across the state, cities will receive less reimbursement. The anticipated cut to Thornton is \$306.89.

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

Michelle Duff  
City Clerk