

## CITY OF BELVIEW

September 14, 2010

The City Council of the City of Belview met for their regular monthly meeting on September 14, 2010 at the Community Center, Belview, MN at 6:30 p.m..

**PRESENT:** Mayor Marlo Sander, Council Members: Dianne Donner, Janet Anderson, and Linda Sullivan and Myrle Peterson

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF:** Lori Ryer, David Diekmann

**OTHERS:** Joel Solie, City Attorney, Jim Broich, Parkview Nursing Home Administrator, Rob Donner, Brad Zimmer, Jim Dumdei, Fire Department, and Connie Busiahn

Mayor Sander called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.. The consent agenda was approved by a motion from Janet Anderson and was seconded by Linda Sullivan. Carried.

City Attorney Joel Solie, was present to discuss a matter of a violation to the city's environmental ordinance. He described the process that has been taken to this point. The owners of the property at 301 Third Street were not present. He then described the abatement process. As of the time of the meeting, the work had not been completed. Photos were provided to show the extent of the violation. Linda Sullivan made a motion which was seconded by Dianne Donner to check with Prescott Sanitation about getting the clean-up done. The attorney will then be notified.

The property at 506 West Hibbard Avenue was also discussed. The issue is going to trial. There will be a pre-trial hearing on November 15. A resident was present with other concerns about the property. Mayor Sander suggested a meeting with the county attorney who will be representing the city in the case.

A discussion regarding the history of Parkview's payment to the city in lieu of taxes was held. Parkview Home Administrator Jim Broich was present to discuss a new program coming from the state. It would cost the city approx.\$72000 per year which the city would have no way of recouping. The details of the program were just shared with the city in the past week and an answer is being required from the city by the end of September whether or not they will opt in to the program or not. It was the understanding that once the city would agree to go with the program they would not be able to withdraw. It was decided to not take part in the program as there was not a direct benefit to the city. While there would be benefit to the nursing home the city council could not justify that much of a tax burden on the taxpayers as it would almost double the amount the city currently levies to the county for taxes payable by the city's taxpayers. .

The City Council adopted a resolution setting the proposed levy for taxes collectable in 2011 at \$80,909 which is an 8% increase over the 2010 levy. This is due in part to the cuts in Local Government Aid payments from the State of Minnsota. Carried

Belview Firemen Rob Donner, Brad Zimmer and Jim Dumdei informed the City Council that David Diekmann had resigned as fire chief at the last meeting. The fire department had asked for a volunteer to fill the position and Rob Donner said that he would be willing to be interim chief until the firemen's annual meeting in January 2011 if the City Council would approve his appointment. Linda Sullivan made a motion which was seconded by Myrle Peterson to approve the appointment. Carried. The fire department's own training policy which was presented to the City Council by the Fire Department for approval a number of years ago was discussed. It was noted that while only one particular fireman had ever been mentioned to the City Council as not having completed the training in the required timeline set by the fire department there were in fact a number of other firemen that needed to complete their initial training. Chief Donner asked for the City Council to allow himself and the other Assistant Chiefs a little time to sort through the training records and get everyone up to date. They will set a responsible timeline to get this done. All council members were in favor. Fireman Jim Dumdei also stated that the department's equipment is aging and they would be working on a 5 year plan for equipment replacement and would be presenting it to the City Council when they have it completed so the City Council could consider the improvements during the annual budgeting process. The City Council thanked the firemen for all they do but in particular to the way they handled recent situation.

Questions on David Diekmann's monthly log were reviewed. A number of tree problems in town were discussed. The restrooms by the Odeon are being fixed. They have not been opened for a number of years. It was noted that the water income in the water department fund seems to be down considerably. The council asked David to check on why that may be. Old SOD Day preparations were discussed. It was suggested to get recycling containers for around town for Old SOD Day. A couple of quotes were received for replacing the windows in the city shop. Janet Anderson made a motion which was seconded by Myrle Peterson to approve the quote by Ben Guza.

The checking and investment report was not completed by the time of the council meeting but will be sent to the council within a couple of days.

Myrle Peterson made a motion which was seconded by Dianne Donner to approve the purchase of a 2 year old used commercial vaccum cleaner from Ben Guza for \$150 contingent upon Lori's approval after using it. The vaccum cleaner had been delivered just prior to the council meeting so Lori had not had a chance to try it yet.

The need to keep current on the use of vacation time was discussed again. The current policy states that employees are to try and only carry over ½ of the years earned vacation into the next year.

The City Council will be performing employee evaluations again in the near future and they asked Lori to get sample forms.

The layout of the City's website was discussed. It was decided to ask Barb Lewis help spruce up the site to make it more attractive.

Curt Ovre made a request to the City Council to be allowed to move a couple of pieces of equipment from his shop to the garage at their residence. He had already spoken with his neighbors and was given verbal approval. Myrle Peterson made a motion to approve the request which was seconded by Linda Sullivan.

The Parkview payment in lieu of taxes for 2010 in the amount of \$22778 was approved by a motion from Myrle Peterson and was seconded by Dianne Donner.

A survey letter was given to each of the council member to be completed and returned to Rural Development.

Meeting adjourned.

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City Clerk/Treas.

Mayor