

MINUTES
CITY OF THORP REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2009 AT 7:00PM

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. In attendance were Mayor Wnek; Alderpersons Blume, Skibbie, Abramczak, Stroinski, and Teclaw; DPW McCredden and City Administrator Reeg. Police Chief Verges arrived later during the meeting.
2. Comments and suggestions from pre-registered citizens
None.
3. Consent Agenda—The City Council, with a single vote and without debate, may act upon the following items. Any council member wishing to debate an individual item may request that it be considered separately
 - a. Approval of minutes from October 12, 2009 Regular City Council meeting
 - b. Approval of minutes from October 26, 2009 Special City Council meeting
 - c. Approval of Operator’s License — Yolanda S. Davison (AmericInn)
 - d. Approval of Operator’s License — Tracie L. Schmidt (AmericInn)M/M/S (Teclaw, Blume) to approve. Carried unanimously.
4. Discussion and possible action relating to monthly reports:
 - a. (Police Department) Monthly activity summary
Item 4(a) was tabled pending Chief Verges’ arrival, and was actually taken up following agenda item #8. Its record shall be kept here in the minutes for organizational purposes.
M/M/S (Teclaw, Blume) to approve. Carried unanimously.
 - b. (Public Works/Utilities) Monthly activity summary
M/M/S (Blume, Stroinski) to approve. Carried unanimously.
 - c. (Administration) Administrator’s Report, Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register & Journal Entries
M/M/S (Blume, Stroinski) to approve the Administrator’s Report. Carried unanimously.
M/M/S (Skibbie, Blume) to approve the Financial Report, Vouchers, Payroll Register and Journal Entries.
Carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Discussion and possible action with Ehlers & Associates for refunding of note for 2008 TIF Projects and bonding for future capital projects
Brian Reilly from Ehlers and Associates was on hand and laid out a proposed plan and timeline for accomplishing this objective. This included some needed resolutions to be prepared and completed during the Special City Council meeting on November 16, 2009 and awarding the bond sale at the Regular City Council meeting on December 14, 2009. No action.
6. Approval of Resolution 2009-11-1 “Resolution Approving Pay Application #1 from Haas Sons Inc. for Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Improvements”
M/M/S (Stroinski, Abramczak) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.
7. Discussion and possible action relating to Old School Subdivision including:
 - a. Approval of final plat
M/M/S (Stroinski, Blume) to approve the final plat. Carried unanimously.
 - b. Resolution 2009-11-2 “Resolution to Approve the Renaming of B Street to Old School Court”
M/M/S (Teclaw, Abramczak) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.
 - c. Resolution 2009-11-3 “Resolution Approving the Provision of Sewerage Services to All Lots in the Old School Subdivision”
M/M/S (Stroinski, Teclaw) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.
 - d. Resolution 2009-11-4 “Resolution to Temporarily Wave Placement of Interior Monuments”
M/M/S (Stroinski, Abramczak) to adopt the resolution. Carried unanimously.

8. Discussion and possible action relating to dust control

Reeg reported that the Planning Commission had made a recommendation to ask Alderperson Teclaw, as the Ward 5 representative where the dust complaints are currently centered and due to the extremely challenging nature of equitably controlling dust, to inquire as to if the complainants would be willing to share the cost of the dust control measures with the businesses where the dust was originating. Alderperson Teclaw, along with several of the adjacent property owners in the audience, vehemently opposed this concept. Again the pros and cons of the three legally feasible (according to City Attorney Salm and as reported by Reeg) methods of control (zoning rules requiring vegetative buffers, ticketing individual vehicle operators and/or legal recourse for property owners with gravel areas producing dust) were exhaustively discussed. No single method could be agreed upon as ideal. However, all felt something needed to be done, but in a way that was both conscious of individual rights and business-friendly. Reeg was instructed to attempt to draft proposed ordinance language, with the assistance of Salm as necessary, and bring it back to the Planning Commission for review. No action taken.

OLD BUSINESS

9. Discussion and possible action relating to street lights on W. Prospect Street

Again the options for the streetlights on W. Prospect Street were discussed. Alderperson Teclaw was concerned about city beautification, and felt that wooden poles and overhead wires should be out of the question. Others felt that turning over the lights to Xcel Energy and ridding the city of future maintenance obligations was significant, and that perhaps other than in Main Street areas in other municipalities, that street light poles are seldom even noticed. M/M/S (Stroinski, Blume) to approve 5 new wooden poles installed and maintained by Xcel with underground wiring. Carried unanimously.

10. Approval of the 2010-2014 City of Thorp 5 Year Capital Plan

M/M/S (Stroinski, Abramczak) to approve the plan. Carried unanimously.

11. Discussion of 2010 Operating Budget

Brief discussion was held following a previous budget workshop. The only point of significant discussion was the police budget and where cuts could or could not be made. Reeg noted that the full-time personnel costs were firm, and that cuts had been made in most of the other line items. He felt the only place that could really be altered was in part-time officer wages. He was instructed to bring a few options for that line item to the meeting on November 16 where the budget was scheduled to be adopted. No action taken.

12. Reports from Department Heads, Mayor, Council, Committees, and discussion of future agenda items

None.

13. Adjournment

M/M/S (Stroinski, Teclaw) to adjourn at 10:02pm. Carried unanimously.

Date of Publication

Richard J. Wnek
Mayor

Randall D. Reeg
Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer