

# CITY OF SKYLINE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**May 14, 2018**

**Present:** Mayor Travis Javens; Treasurer Lon Whitehead; Clerk, Cathy Dahl; Council Members, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, Wayne Bishop, Mary Dowd; Residents, Joanne Boettcher

Meeting called to order at 6:46 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of agenda and minutes. Motion to approve, Wayne Bishop, Samantha Erickson, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

**15-Minute Public Open Forum** – Joanne Boettcher asked permission for installing a native plant rain garden near culvert in right of way at 141 S. Skyline Drive. She shared information on benefits of rain gardens including pictures. It's a habitat for butterflies and looks better than standing water. She's an environmental engineer and this is recommended for cities. She also handed out sheets about rain gardens in Northfield and Maplewood and explained how she would like to design her rain garden. Plants would not grow higher than about 2 feet higher than the road. Samantha Erickson pointed out that if work had to be done in right of way, the garden may be damaged. Once established, rain gardens take care of themselves.

Motion to approve allowing rain garden in right-of-way at culvert opening at 141 S. Skyline Drive, Dean Rengstorf, Wayne Bishop, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

**City Clerk's Report** – Cathy Dahl reported no letters were sent out for late payments. They will be sent out tomorrow if still overdue.

Clerk emailed Gopher 1 State to add Dean Rengstorf to contacts.

Someone called to ask if they buy a house in Skyline and live there, can they rent it out to family members who stay with them. 507.461.2113. Rule is one family home per lot that is owner occupied.

Someone called from Sunup Construction to say they lost Wayne Bishop's phone number and were calling him back about a fence at tennis courts. Wayne already talked with them. FedEx churned up a bunch of dirt in front of Jim Steffl's yard and also harmed the edge of the road. Both Grace Rawson and clerk saw it happen.

Skyline received Operation Bad Water invitation from Blue Earth County. Council is not interested in attending.

Information came in mail asking if the City of Skyline wants to donate to the Southern MN Initiative Fund.

**City Treasurer's Report** – Lon Whitehead reported for April, 2018. League of MN Cities offered no-fault sewer backup coverage. Not needed for Skyline.

101 S. Skyline Drive has been sold. Refer to **RESOLUTION NO. 2017-1**. \$514.92 was to be collected through Blue Earth County Property Taxes for this residence.

Lon got a call from Wells Fargo to see if there was anything they could do for us to get the City back. He explained that the interest was much better elsewhere. No current council members know what is in the City safe deposit box or where the key may be. \$125 fee to drill the box open. A resolution must be passed to drill the safety box open. Lon needs to purchase stamps. All info was collected and is at Burkhardt and Burkhardt for audit. Lon asked if council wanted a representative to come talk about audit. Council thinks a presentation is only needed if there is a problem with the audit. A pdf of audit goes on city website.

Approval of clerk and treasurer's report and to pay bills as presented, motion, Samantha Erickson, Dean Rengstorf, 2nd. Passed unanimously.

### **DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

**Water Department** – Samantha Erickson reported both city wells are in excellent condition. Wayne Bishop talked to Brian Powers about how to keep Samantha updated on when readings are done. He created a google calendar for that. Wayne has had 2 months of training and it's going well. Wayne checked the 203 Skyline meter and found nothing apparently wrong with it but there's an error every time it's read. City plumber may need to be called for malfunctioning meter.

**Street Department** - Dean Rengstorf asked about issues on the streets and the budget. He may want more boulders to keep people from going over edges of streets. Mayor Javens wants one at stop sign corner where delineator keeps getting knocked over. If something needs to be done, money can be transferred from savings to cover it. Mayor Javens said there's a spot where tile line is coming out of ground in boulevard which needs to be repaired. Lon Whitehead was asked to bring a copy of the year-to-date budget to next meeting.

**Parks & Playgrounds Department** - Wayne Bishop reported, with previous council permission, he contracted with C&H Sport Surfaces for redoing tennis courts. It should last 10-12 years.

He has two quotes to fix fence around tennis courts. Century Fence bid is less. Fence will be lowered.

First Aid Kit was purchased and it's on top of refrigerator

The mail box has been put back up.

AmLawn contract was signed.

Shineway was at city hall to reseal floor.

Mayor Javens is going to look into new sign for park.

Beautification committee member has asked if city clerk could design a letterhead for the coop association.

Some park trees need trimming.

He's called twice about when mowing will start.

People have not been cleaning up after their dogs.

If budget will allow, a bench may be added inside tennis court.

Good turn-out for beautification communication meeting. Some members will start going around neighborhood to remind people of coop rules.

**Public Safety Department** – Mary Dowd reported on service calls for Skyline. Someone had a raccoon in their yard. Night to Unite flyers were passed out. Organizational meeting is coming up. Need to pick date – same as Mankato or same as national night out.

Speeding issue was brought up at Beautification meeting. Suggestions were bringing back mileage sign again. It is no longer available. Dean Rengstorf mentioned there are solar signs that blink your speed, but they are costly. Samantha Erickson said there are speeding strips that can go on the road. Another suggestion was to ask police to be here during commuting times or hire a part-time officer.

Samantha wondered if the City can drop the speed limit. Mayor Javens said State of MN may have some say in that issue. Mary will contact Mankato and see what options there are for checking speeds. Need to find out if people are actually speeding or if it is perception only. There are temporary speed bumps to look into.

Many people at beautification committee meeting had questions about the coop and why they only meet once a year. Coop money should be available for city wide events. Or should the coop be disbanded and their regulations be taken over by the city? Residents need to go to Skyline Coop meeting and handle these things. Lon Whitehead has a copy of Coop paperwork to scan and send to council members. City Council has no jurisdiction over Coop. Zoning ordinance is on city website. Skyline is all Zone 1.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Water tower repair – nothing new.

Private Tile Lines – have been cleaned.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution needs to be written by Clerk for next meeting to drill open Wells Fargo safe deposit and pay expenses to find whatever may be kept within.

Budget tab doesn't go to the budget on city website. This needs to be repaired.

Mayor needs to address a couple of residents who have Quonset huts in their back yard. They must be taken down and another resident is parking in the park.

Motion to adjourn, Dean Rengstorf, Mary Dowd, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Cathy Dahl  
Skyline City Clerk