

City of Skyline

# City Council Meeting Minutes

May 8th, 2023 / 6:45 PM / Skyline City Hall

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Mayor Paige Attarian, Michelle Kotila, Steve Romnes, Shirley Piepho, Eric Manske, Lon Whitehead

Guests: Jennifer Wettergren, Marvis Waterbury, Sue Jordan

Via Google Meet: Charlie Berg

## Agenda:

- ❑ Meeting called to order by Mayor Attarian at 6:45 PM
- ❑ Pledge of Allegiance performed by all in attendance.
- ❑ Public Forum-Resident asked what happens with the \$98 water tower bill if someone was to sell their home. Mayor Attarian explained that the payment is attached to the home, not the resident. If someone sells their home, the new owner would incur the \$98 payment. Another resident asked if the City is to receive bonding money or excess cell tower money would that change the amount of the payment or the length of the payment. Mayor Attarian states that the pump house project came in at a much higher amount than expected and excess funding would most likely be used on that project. She also states that the council will discuss the best option for any additional funds that come in. A resident asked about the monopole and how it would be paid for and where it would be located. Mayor Attarian explained that it would be located approximately 10 feet from the new water tower and that the cell tower companies will cover the cost of building the monopole and the title will be transferred to the city upon completion. Construction is projected to start in June 2023. Micki Schaeffer asked if there has been any discussion about upgrading to 5G cell service. Mayor Attarian stated that there has not been any discussion regarding 5G. Ms. Schaeffer asked if verbiage regarding 5G could be added to contract discussion. Mayor Attarian stated that there has been no contract discussion, but that she will add the request to discuss 5G to her notes. Ms. Schaeffer also asked about an updated water tower schedule and when a new schedule would be made available to residents. Mayor Attarian states that the original schedule can be followed, other than delays related to the new water tower switchover because of no SCADA system. Ms. Schaeffer asked about the schedule of demolishing the old water tower and it was explained that the water tower is still in use and will remain in place at least until after the construction of the monopole even if use is switched to the new tower. Schaeffer also asked about bond funding status. Shirley explained that she texted Nick Frenz on Monday and he stated that the bonding has not been released and he cannot assure about any funding. Jennifer Wettergren stated that she has finished her driveway modifications to allow for excessive vehicle parking. She states that she has concerns about the original letter sent to her that was addressed by the City Council and the council stated that they were not even aware that the letter went out to the resident. She feels that it is not legal to have correspondence going out with the city council indicated in the signature portion without them knowing about the

correspondence. She also states that she was made aware that during the February meeting an attorney was present to discuss her situation and she was not made aware of the fact that he was going to be at the meeting to discuss her situation, therefore she was not present to make clarifications. Shirley explained that the Skyline City Council is a statutory A government model which allows the mayor freedom than other government models. Ms. Wettergren asked that the council take it under advisement that in the future, general letters to residents should be signed by the mayor or the city clerk and not the council if the council was not aware. The council members and mayor agree that should be the procedure in the future. Shirley also clarified that the lawyer that was present at the February meeting was Wally Gates, the former president of the Skyline Cooperative, he was there to represent and explain the function of the Cooperative. He was not at the meeting to specifically discuss Ms. Wettergren's situation. Ms. Wettergren asked if there was anything else that she needed to know to be in compliance with the city. The council did not describe anything further that Ms. Wettergren would need to do, other than assure that the project is complete and clean up is also completed. No other public comments.

☐ Water Tower Project-Mayor Attarian states that the SCADA unit is still not arrived, therefore the new water tower cannot begin to be used. Everything has been completed on time with the exception of the SCADA unit, which is still on backorder.

☐ Pump House Project-Steve made a motion to open up bids on the pumphouse project, Eric seconded. Passed unanimously.

☐ Approve Agenda and Minutes-Michelle motioned to approve the agenda and minutes, Steve seconded. Passed unanimously.

☐ City Clerk Report-Marnie, the city clerk, has nothing to report.

☐ City Treasurer Report-Lon supplied the council with the treasurer's report. Total expenses for April 2023 were \$10,174.19, total receipts for April 2023 were \$32,656.80. The total fund balances are \$1,096,644.22. The water tower project balance is \$524,506.47. Motion to approve treasurer report and pay bills made by Shirley, seconded by Eric Manske. Passed unanimously.

☐ Water and garbage bill list-Water and garbage bills were reviewed by the council. Marnie will send reminder letters to accounts over 90 days.

### **Departmental Reports**

☐ Water Department-Steve states that he used the last meter in the pump house for 6 Skyline Drive. He states that he will figure out how to make the unit conversion on the used meters so that they can be used for future meter needs. He is still waiting to hear back about 5 Skyline Drive and 224 Skyline, they have meters and are waiting for MRI to install the reader. Charlie states that the meter reading is going well. He states that it will be easier to read because the weather is much nicer.

☐ Street Department-Eric states that a decision needs to be made tonight if the city is going to pay the \$5000/truckload to have the streets repaired. He spoke to Aaron at Allied about what he feels about how many truckloads would be needed. Aaron is not able to give an exact amount. Eric is concerned that the city would have to pay \$5000 and not use the entire truckload. He is going to continue to work with Allied to determine solutions. To completely redo all of the streets, Eric explained the cost would be \$350,000 approximately. Mayor Attarian asked Eric if it was more expensive to complete all

street repairs in phases or all at once. He explained that there is a savings if it is all completed at once. The decision to spray patch the low traffic areas and repair the high traffic areas was made. Eric will contact Allied to get on the schedule for the work to be completed.

☐ Parks and Playground Department-Michelle states that the Port-a-Potty is in place and that AmLawn has resumed mowing and lawncare in the city's parks and greenspaces. She states that the weeds in the playground have been picked and no wasps have been reported in the park yet. She states that she reached out to a playground company that sells the same product that is in Vetter Park. They explained that there is nothing that they can do to save the platforms from peeling. She states that the equipment is dated 2000 and its life expectancy is approximately 20-30 years. She also states that having sand under the equipment takes approximately 10 years off of its lifespan. Michelle states in checking into this she found that a lot about the playground is not up to code. The equipment cannot be on sand. They recommend a manufactured wood product. The metal slide and swings are not up to code. The spring rides are in disrepair. She states that she will get a quote on what it would cost to replace the playground equipment and surfaces. Mayor Attarian suggests that the project would have to be a donation or fundraiser based project. Charlie recommended that Michelle check with District 77 on how to get rid of old equipment as their equipment was purchased for Roosevelt Elementary at the same time.

☐ Public Safety-Shirley states that there have been concerns about people speeding. She states that she spoke with individuals that had been identified as speeding. Shirley states that if issues arise with rowdy residents, parties or larger concerns she will advise them to call the police. She will speak with the Mankato Public Safety about patrols, etc. Shirley asked if Mark Webber would continue to complete the City of Skyline water testing. Mayor Attarian states that he is still completing water testing.

**Old Business:** No old business discussed.

**New Business:** No new business discussed.

Motion to adjourn made by Steve Romnes, seconded by Eric Manske. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.