

# City Council Meeting Minutes

August 8th, 2022/ 6:45 PM / Skyline City Hall

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Mayor Paige Attarian, Lon Whitehead, Steve Romnes, Shirley Piepho, Jason Hamond

Guests: Sabrina Ehmke, Amanda Jackson, Michelle Kotila, Nancy Kluck, Marilyn Schueneman, Mark Piepho

Via Google Meet: Not available

## **Agenda:**

- Meeting called to order by Mayor Attarian at 6:45 pm
- Pledge of Allegiance performed by all in attendance
- Public Forum

Resident Amanda Jackson states that she would like to have better communication, more clear and less threatening. Mayor Attarian gave some background into why the “threatening” email was sent and the severity of the events leading up to the email. Shirley Piepho states that it is important to notify a council member if suspicious or mischievous behavior occurs. Shirley also clarified that the reason such a harsh message was sent was because of the imminent safety risks. Those risks include climbing on construction materials and equipment, trees surrounding the pumphouse so that they could access the roof of the pumphouse and actually gaining access to the code to get into the pumphouse where there is dangerous equipment and chemicals. Ms. Jackson states she would like consideration of tone in the emails in the future. The council feels cordial emails and communication will be the goal in the future. Marilyn Schueneman states that she has observed that the white paint that marks driving lanes and stop spots has faded and feels that they should be repainted prior to school starting this fall in order to promote safe pick up and drop off of students. Mayor Attarian states that she will speak with Eric Manskes (Streets Department) and ask him to pursue completion of this task.

- Agenda and meeting minutes motioned to for approval by Steve Romnes, second by Jason Hamond, passed unanimously.
- City Clerk Report
  - Basketball Hoop progress-The old hoop has been removed, the new hoop should be constructed the week of August 15th. Thank you to Mike Erickson for his assistance in removing the old hoop and Wade Fischer and Scheels for making a superior hoop system a reality.
  - Election/Candidacy Update-Candidate Affidavits are being accepted August 2-16th. Marnie expressed the importance of filling the vacancies to maintain an independent city government in Skyline.
- City Treasurer Report

Lon supplied a treasurer's report. Total receipts for the month of July were \$91,259.38, total payables were \$608,352.52. Total fund balance is \$2,008,227.46. Shirley motioned to pay General Construction Services \$586,553.67, Jason seconded, passed unanimously.

❑ Water and garbage bill list-Certified letters were sent to individuals with water bills over 90 days. Two letters were sent, both certified letters were denied signature and were returned to the City of Skyline. Motion to move \$30,000 from general account to refuse account by Jason Hamond, second by Steve Romnes, passed unanimously. Fall clean up is not going to be scheduled for Fall 2022. LJP is hoping to have additional staff and be able to conduct a clean up Spring 2023. Shirley motioned to approve the treasurer's report and pay the monthly bills, Jason seconded, passed unanimously.

❑ Water tower project update

Paint choices have been submitted to the painting company. Tower project is on schedule and the completion date of December 2022 is still accurate. Painting of the tower pieces is sent to begin in the next two weeks.

### **Departmental Reports**

❑ Water Department-Jason states that MRI replaced to residential meters. Jason addressed the certified letters being returned. He feels that due diligence has occurred and the council feels that Brian Powers will be notified by Shirley and the water will be turned off by the City of Skyline for the two residences that have declined to pay their bills for an excess of 90 days. Proper notification has occurred according to city policy to these residents. Jason states that he and Brian Powers will take care of this shut off process. There will be a charge of \$50 to turn off and \$50 to turn on. The resident will be responsible for these fees.

❑ Street Department-The stop sign at Vetter Park has been installed and a three way stop has been completed. The french drain has been scoped and no obstruction was observed. Nielsen Blacktopping states that there is no easy patch for the streets that have broken down. The council will address the issues in the spring of 2023.

❑ Parks and Playground Department-Steve states that the pergola in Vetter Park has been repaired and that he has completed another round of weeding in the Vetter Park play area.

❑ Public Safety-Nite to Unite will be on September 9th in Skyline. Shirley states that they will have either a food truck or Pizza Ranch will be available for residents to eat, along with games for entertainment. Mary Dowd will assist in activity planning with Shirley.

### **Old Business/Tabled Topics:**

ASA affiliation/project support-Shirley asks that the subject should be tabled until the City of Skyline council meeting in September 2022 so that information is properly presented since Steve Romes, Skyline rep for ASA had to excuse himself from this month's meeting early..

Chicken Coops (Permit, inspections, limitations)-Shirley suggests that the current ordinance does not limit the number of bee hives and chicken coops. Shirley moves to amend the current ordinance to state that no

more than 5 chicken coops be operating in the Skyline city limits at one time. Seconded by Jason Hamond, passed unanimously. Marnie will type a resolution for Mayor Attarian to sign to amend city code on this topic.

Beekeeping (Permit, inspections, limitations)-Shirley motioned to amend the current ordinance to state that no more than three beehives are operating at one time in the Skyline city limits. Jason seconded, passed unanimously. Marnie will type a resolution for Mayor Attarian to sign to amend city code on this topic.

Golf Cart Permit-Jason states that he does not feel that it is prudent for the City of Skyline to pass any kind of ordinance or permit at this time for one family that has a golf cart. Jason states that Blue Earth County has ordinances to support the City of Skyline if there is an issue. Jason states if there is a problem that law enforcement should be notified and they will deal with it. The council determined that an email stating that no golf carts are allowed in the Skyline city limits should be sent out to all residents, Marnie will send the email out to residents..

Cell Tower-Mayor Attarian states that he has spoken with the cell phone companies to determine the best placement for the cell phone antennas, which must be within 10 feet of the water tower, after the new water tower is completed. Jason states that if the council chooses to construct a monopole for the antennas, the cell phone companies will construct the monopole, but it will belong to the City of Skyline. Shirley asked if the water tower is capable of housing three cell phone antennas. Jason Hamond states that the companies will work to determine what can be accommodated as they proceed. Mayor Attarian asked the council to allow for both options to be explored and after reviewing the options, the council could make an informed decision on which option is best for the City of Skyline. Shirley motioned to explore both options, Jason seconded, passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

Volunteer Recognition-Shirley would like to form a list to recognize volunteers from the City of Skyline at the Nite to Unite. The council agrees that this would be a great idea. Shirley and Marnie will work together to complete this task.

City Website-Marnie proposed that the City of Skyline look into a website update using the company Municipal Impact. Municipal impact was suggested by other small cities that belong to the League of MN Cities because of its cost and attributes. The council agrees to move forward with exploring the trial version of the website and if it seems efficient and effective for the City of Skyline, they will discuss moving to the new website format.

Jason Hammond motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 pm, Shirley seconded, passed unanimously.

