

Ormsby City Council Meeting February 11th, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by Mayor, Sara Schutlze.

Roll Call

- Members Present: Dave Pettis, Dusty Fedder, Charlie Waterbury, Dawn Hanson
- Others Present:

Approval of last month's minutes:

Last month's financial reports and minutes were read and approved on Motion by Fedder and Second by Pettis. Motion carries on a 4-0 vote.

Presentation of Claims:

Claims were reviewed and signed by City Council Members. Approval to pay claims was made on Motion by Hanson and Second by Waterbury. Motion carries on a 4-0 vote.

FD Items:

- Snow Removal – No bids were received. Will check to see if an insurance certificate is needed for Francis Wagner to continue to do the job. Dusty will also bring up the matter with the Fire Dept. at the next meeting – asking for volunteers to do the snow removal.
- The Council would like to look into amount needed for bids and requirement regarding insurance. Nicole or Sara will report findings at the next Council meeting.
- TABLED: Resolution # 2013-2-1: Setting up a savings account for a Fire Dept. Truck Fund for the section rate amount of \$25/section. Savings would be for the purchase of a new truck. FD will discuss at their next meeting and Council will approve at their next meeting.
- TABLED: Ordinance #31-FD – Ordinance regarding establishing fees – discuss correspondence and review possible ordinance. FD will discuss at their next meeting and Council will approve at their next meeting.
- Resolution # 2013-2-2: Fire Escrow Resolution which protects the City in the event of a fire that destroys a property – the insurance company would immediately set aside money to be given to the City so that the homeowner does not abandon the property. Council reviewed and discussed. Motion by Fedder and Second by Hanson to approve the Fire Escrow Resolution as listed above. Motion carries a 4-0 vote.
- Gate valve needing repaired at the fire hall – approx. cost of part is \$75-\$100 – Lonny will provide the labor for free.
- Women's toilet at Fire Hall needs repair – estimate of \$100.
- The council discussed the two repairs listed above and approved repair to be done for both by Lonny Watson. Lonny can wait to fix the valve when he moves the other water lines for the fire dept.

Water/Wastewater:

- The Council approved 4-0 the signing of the pump inspection agreement by Dakota Pump & Control for \$175.
- Sump Pumps- after meeting with Karen Cavett and Steve Carson – all are in agreement and concern regarding the I&I in Ormsby. Sump Pumps can be a major source of I&I to a system – please refer to handout on sump pump gallons – and we will start the process by inspecting the ten homes on the sump pump list and making sure they are not connected.
- Ordinance #32 – Sump Pump Ordinance: The council read and reviewed the Sump Pump Ordinance received from Steve Sunde. On Motion by Fedder and Second by Waterbury to approve establishing Ordinance #32 regarding Sump Pumps. The motion carries on a 4-0 vote. The ordinance will be published in the Plaindealer. Reminder letters regarding Sump Pumps will be placed in the March water bills.
- It was also discussed that if we go over our permit limit – which is a number of gallons per city per discharge – the MPCA will/can go after the city not in compliance. They will require an action plan along with a fine. A neighboring community had the same issue and the initial fine was \$20,000. After the plan was in place to reduce I&I by enforcing sump pumps the fine was reduced to \$10,000. The City of St. James will help with the sump pump inspections. They will be having an intern this summer that will do this work for free. If the I & I issue is still present after the sump pump enforcement they will begin a dye testing in the manholes to try to trace back the issue – this can also be done by the intern for free.
- Steve Carson also expressed concern regarding the budget/rates – Megan from RD also expressed this concern – would like to see the fund separated completely so that we can see exactly what is in the fund at any time. Will help to know if our rates are right. This is a RD and MPCA requirement. It would also be helpful to start setting money aside each month for the annual payments to RD and JP. Please see Steve Carson’s Operator Report attached. He suggested a goal this year to purchase an E1 grinder pump to have on hand and \$2500 to put aside towards a lift station pump. There may be more expense at the pond this year for some maintenance items and a new line item on the budget for repair and maintenance savings.
- The Council would like to check into a few requirement questions with RD regarding auditor and savings. The Council would like to start exploring options regarding the City auditor – looking for new options in the way the City books are being reviewed and reported on yearly. Nicole will check into this and report back at the next meeting.
- The sewer bond interest refund for 2012 is in - \$4,576.36.
- **Water Disconnection List:**
- The Council discussed the water disconnection list and decided unanimously that all customers on the list would be disconnected – no exceptions, no payments. Water will not be turned back on until the full amount is paid including the disconnection fee.
 - John Ranniger - \$466.02
 - Anytime Comfort - \$273.49 – Sent to Bankruptcy Court – See letter from Steve Sunde.
 - Bryan Winkelman - \$473.12 – arranged payments – no payments made yet.
 - Joyce Palmquist - \$137.75
 - John Gerdes - \$244.81 – Made partial payment
- City of St. James can do the water shut-offs. They will let us know the amount and we can bill it back -to the customer. The St.James rate is \$12.74 for mileage and \$29.91 for one hour – Totaling \$42.65. If it is an emergency call the rate would be mileage plus overtime rate of \$32.54/hr. The current rate for water disconnection/reconnection charge is \$50. The council discussed having City of St. James perform the water shut-offs for the City. They are currently the water supt. /operator for the City. Motion made by Waterbury and Second by Pettis

to hire City of St. James to perform water disconnections for the City of Ormsby. Motion carries on a 4-0 vote.

Mayor's Agenda Items:

- Note from Ormsby State Bank regarding personal data.
- Discussed taking down the Christmas lights from the street lights. Will wait for a nice day and need to line up a forklift.
- Street Light Outages – Nicole will call in outages at Wenner, Rabbe Elevator, S. Swanson; - if there are any others feel free to contact the office.
- Park Equipment – Sara is looking into some updates to the play equipment at the park. Will look into it more in the Spring and will go in search of donations. The Boy Scouts may be willing to do some clean up projects at the Parks – will contact Dawn Hanson.
- Sentence to Serve – Watonwan County no longer has this service but Martin County does. It is a good way to get projects done around the City at no cost. Will discuss items in the Spring to contact them.

Council's Agenda Items:

- City Hall Walking- The hall is available for walking. Phyllis Wagner, Ormsby State Bank, or Sara Schultze has keys to open the building. The walkers using it are very pleased. Sara will check into getting the floors finished in the City Hall this Spring after the Chicken Fry and Antique Show.
- Dusty Fedder announced that with his recent health issues he is going to take a three month leave of absence from the Fire Dept. Chief position. He will continue to be part of the Fire Dept. and the City Council. We are so glad he is here with us!

Citizens Petitions, Requests, Complaints:

- None

Announcements-Next regular meeting: **March 4th, 2013 @ 7pm**

Motion to adjourn: Made by Fedder and Second by Pettis

Respectfully Submitted by Nicole Van Wyk, City of Ormsby-Clerk:
