

**MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE & CITY COUNCIL**

AUGUST 9, 2010

Jeff Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other members present were Dennis Zimmerman, Renee Eckerly, Belinda Ludwig, Jean Soine, and Gene Beavers. Absent were Jeff Bertram and Kirk Johnson. Also present were Jennifer Welling, Administrative Assistant; Kent Kortlever, Chief of Police; Ron Mergen, Public Works Director; Chris Stanley, Bill Ludwig, Liquor Store Manager; and Mike Jacobson, Press.

Motion was made by Zimmerman to approve the July 26, 2010 Budget & Finance Committee Meeting minutes. Seconded by Beavers and unanimously carried.

BASEBALL GRANDSTAND PROPOSAL

Chris Stanley presented the Council with a grandstand proposal for the Paynesville Baseball field. The planning has been going on for about 3 years. There are three phases to the improvements at the fields:

1. Build a new dugout and move the backstop at the varsity softball field
2. Construct the grandstand
3. Add lights to the softball field; 2 to 3 years from now

The objects of the grandstand are:

- Family oriented
- Watch kids and game
- See behind the plaza
- Playground equipment to be added to the site
- Remove parking from Burr St.
- Handicapped accessible
- Concession stand – where workers can see the game
- Bathrooms – replace the porta toilets
 - To be used for baseball, track and football games
- Fan friendly
- 400 people – bleacher seating
- Multi-use stadium – outdoor concerts
- Tournaments
 - Economic impact
- Committee:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Bert Stanley | Chris Stanley |
| Bruce Stang | Brad Skoglund |
| Terry Skoglund | Duane Olmscheid |
| Mr. Hess | |

Stanley stated that he would be presenting this to the school board tomorrow. The estimated cost is \$350,000.00. Fundraising includes entities and individuals. They have received some large donations. They are looking for a donation from the City (5 to 10 year commitment). The donators would be announced before every game.

There was some general discussion on how the City could participate and if the City could participate. It was stated that it is very difficult at this time for the City to come up with funds for this type of project.

LIQUOR STORE

Eckerly reported that it would cost approximately \$1,500.00 per month to rent 2,800 square feet. She has been in touch with representatives for the Armory. The Federal government has to start the process. The process includes:

- Give to homeless organization, if none,
- Give to City
 - City and school need to have one voice and one contact or neither will obtain the property.
 - If all goes well it is about a 9 month turn around

VETERANS PARK

Eckerly has visited with Don Pietsch and the Township does not want to be a 50% partner, but rather have 10% ownership and for the 10% they would provide some of the mowing at the park. There was some concern with the Park & Tree Board regarding having others take care of the property due to the high quality of care that is needed.

It was suggested to try it for one year, but the Township have no ownership. The City would still have to oversee the completion of the work. It was also stated that the park could not be annexed if it was partly owned by the Township.

OUTDOOR RINK FACILITY

The Township is waiting for Duininck to pour the concrete.

PAYNESVILLE AREA SCHOOLS

Eckerly has been playing phone tag with Todd Burlingame.

2011 BUDGET

Members discussed the grandstand and if and how the City could participate.

Members discussed the general fund revenues. The income numbers are conservative with expense figures through June 30, 2010. Recreational programs were discussed and it was suggested to cut them an additional 10%. The current tax levy is at 6.5%, but will go to the County at 8%.

Jacobson representing the Historical Society appreciates the \$9,000.00, but doesn't expect it and understands the City's position.

It was stated that existing programs should get precedence over any new programs. The outdoor rink facility was discussed and \$2,250.00 is included in the budget. It was suggested to go back to Don Pietsch to see if the Township would mow without the 10% ownership.

The Hockey Association agreement was discussed and the usage at the compost site.

Eckerly suggested selling DNR fish and game licenses. The City would receive \$1.00 a license. This would provide an additional service to the community.

Eckerly reported that she has not heard anything back from the unions.

Annexation was discussed and that the Joint Planning Board is drafting a new resolution with new wording. Items of discussion included:

- Can only annex property that is on the map and only if they request water and sewer
- Put in a document expiration date; now the document is forever and can't be opened up
- Six properties within the City limits to be annexed

Members discussed adding in language for a term of the agreement. Not being able to open the agreement is no benefit to the City. This agreement only protects the Township, not the City. There needs to be an out clause; it binds future Council's to huge financial commitments.

It was commented to annex the land the City owns in the neighboring townships. This can't be done unless the City puts in water and sewer. It was suggested to discuss this further on August 25, 2010 and ask Don Pietsch to attend the meeting.

There is no need for a Joint September meeting; the next meeting will be held October 18, 2010.

There was some discussion to move the person that will be laid off to a Liquor Store position.

FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

Eckerly reported that Springsted is well aware they are selling the software, but no one is using it. They are researching why no one is using the program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Renee Eckerly, City Administrator