

Strawberry Point City Council  
Regular Meeting September 19, 2007

The Strawberry Point City Council met for a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Schmidt presided and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members answering roll call were Dean Courtnage, David Gould, Dale Fox, and Norm Rizer. Bill Green was absent.

David Gould moved to accept the consent agenda with the change to the minutes for September 5<sup>th</sup>. Norm Rizer seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

An agreement between the City and property owners at 310 Commercial was reviewed again since the dates were changed. Dale Fox moved to accept the agreement between the City and the property owners at 310 Commercial. Gould seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

The bus barn property was again discussed. Council would like to review the rental contracts before they are presented to the renters. The annual rent being received by the City was also reviewed.

Resolution No. 07-20 Petty Cash Policy was presented to the council for approval. Gould moved to adopt Resolution No. 07-20 Petty Cash Policy. Courtnage seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote was taken. Ayes: Courtnage, Gould, Fox, and Rizer. Nays: None. Resolution passes.

An invoice from Tekippe Engineering was presented to council again. It had been forwarded previously to the DOT for payment and they declined to pay. Gould moved to pay invoice 102 for \$ 891.50. **For (Correction: Fox)** seconded the motion. Ayes: Gould, Fox, and Rizer. Nays: Courtnage. Motion passes.

Council reviewed seasonal water usage. Property owners that have a meter but no usage are billed the minimum charge. The City Clerk will contact the City Attorney to begin working on an ordinance regarding the seasonal meters. This will be discussed at the next council meeting.

The City Clerk is requesting permission to use Speer Financial to help prepare a financial report for our capital plan. A representative from Speer financial will be here to discuss the process with the council on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

Policies regarding handling wild cats and trapping them were discussed. A property owner that has had wild cats trapped was present. The Police department should notify property owners when traps are being set. Also, the police department should make it clear that they are the only ones who can take the cats out of the traps. The City Attorney will review the animal control code and an amendment will need to be done adding these specifications.

**INFORMATION**

Council received August month-end financial reports. City Clerk will compile a spreadsheet of the total expenses and revenues for each department. They also received a review of the Alliant bills for the south lagoon. Council also received a copy of the information welcome sheet that is given to new customers.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The dates for fall open burning were discussed. Gould moved to set the dates for open burning for October 13<sup>th</sup> through November 18<sup>th</sup>. Fox seconded the motion. Open burning means only yard waste and is only in effect as long as there is no county burn ban in place. All voted in favor and motion passes.

Trick or treating was discussed. Rizer moved to have trick or treating on October 31st from 5:00 to 7:30p.m. Courtnage seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion was passed.

City Clerk is requesting permission to purchase laptop computers for City Hall. Fox moved to purchase one desktop and one laptop and the current computers will be donated to the library. No second. Motion fails. Council would like to see estimates of the cost for one laptop and one desktop at the next meeting.

A Subordination Agreement between the City and property owners at 504 Commercial was reviewed. Gould moved to approve the subordination agreement between the City and property owners at 504 Commercial. Rizer seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion was passed.

Past due utility accounts were discussed. The City Clerk and the Deputy City Clerk, after doing some research, found that any accounts older than five years cannot legally be collected. Due to the legal statute of limitations on past due utility accounts, they are requesting permission to write off the accounts that are older than five years. Fox moved to have those accounts older than five years written off our books. Gould seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion was passed. The policy needs to be readdressed regarding utility accounts and past due ones. The City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk will continue to actively pursue collecting on the past due utility accounts.

Sidewalks that are to be replaced by October 2007 were discussed. There are property owners that can't afford to replace their sidewalks, so the City will have to replace the sidewalks and the cost will be assessed to the property owner's taxes. Once the deadline is past, a list of those properties that did not replace the sidewalk will be compiled and given to the council in November. The City will then advertise for bids to replace these sidewalks

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Franklin and Buffalo construction was discussed. Construction is slated to begin on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Information from attending the ambulance board meeting was discussed. Streetlights and plaques for the streetlights were discussed. The sewer lagoon open house is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am. Another audit is required due to the federal funds being expended for the sewer lagoon project. The Electric Study Group met and letters will go out searching for new contractors for the electric **generation plant** (Correction: supply). An electric conversion upgrade from Lincoln Street to Elm Street is being planned for yet this fall.

Gould moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Courtnage seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passes.

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Deanna Dement, City Clerk

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Douglas Schmidt, Mayor