

The Sheldon City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. Mayor Katricia Rider called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Present: Brad Hindt, Duane Seehusen, Ron Rensink, Mark Postma, and Dave Popkes. Also present: Todd Uhl, Lyle Bolkema, Micah Schreurs, Scott Wynja, and Arlene Budden.

There were no public comments.

A motion was made by Seehusen and seconded by Hindt to approve the consent agenda with the following items:

- a. City Council Minutes of January 6, 2010, and the Minutes of the Boards & Commissions.
- b. Summary List of Claims—City, Boards & Commissions.
- c. Financial Reports for December, 2009.
- d. Uncollectible Accounts for Ambulance and Utility Billing.

Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Mayor Rider opened the public hearing at 4:45 p.m. to consider the 2009 Zoning Ordinance and the 2009 Subdivision Regulations Ordinance. City Manager Wynja stated the changes were made to comply with new requirements, and to clean up the language for clarity. One consideration is whether public entities should be charged a zoning permit fee. Currently, they are exempt. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to exempt public entities from a zoning permit fee, but require them to pay the inspection costs that would be part of the new building codes. The ordinances will need to be compared to the building codes and follow the same criteria. When the Building Code is completed, it will be brought back to the Council for consideration, along with the zoning and subdivision ordinances. A motion was made by Hindt and seconded by Postma to close the hearing at 4:51 p.m. Ayes, all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Rensink and seconded by Postma to pass the 2009 Zoning Ordinance on to a second reading. Ayes, all. Motion carried. A motion was made by Postma and seconded by Hindt to pass the 2009 Subdivision Regulations Ordinance on to a second reading. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

Consideration of the 2008/2009 Audit was rescheduled for the February 3, 2010 Council meeting.

A motion was made by Seehusen and seconded by Postma to set 11:00 a.m., on February 3, 2010 for opening the quotes on the 2009/2010 Runger Addition Paving Project. Ayes, all. Motion carried. The Council will consider the quotes at the February 3, 2010 meeting. The water and sewer have already been installed, and the engineer's estimate for the paving is \$37,000.

City Manager Wynja reviewed the process regarding snow removal from sidewalks. He stated it is done on a complaint basis. When a complaint is received, the area is looked at within one to two days. The property owner is contacted by phone if possible, or a letter is sent out requesting that the snow be removed within a specified time. If this is not done, the City contracts the work done, and assesses the costs to the property owner. Councilman Popkes would like to see the process carried out in a more timely way by issuing tickets to the property owners. It was the consensus of Mayor Rider and the

Council that the current process is working, and not to make any changes to the ordinance pertaining to snow removable from sidewalks.

City Manager Wynja informed the Council that \$5.8 Million of Stimulus Funds would be available again this year for shovel ready projects. Last year the City did not have a project that met all the criteria. He recommended applying for funding this year for the Highway 18 and Country Club Road Intersection Project. If approved, the \$620,000 costs could be fully funded. A motion was made by Seehusen and seconded by Hindt to approve submitting an application for the 2nd round of Stimulus Funds, for the Highway 18 and Country Club Road Intersection Project. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Seehusen and seconded by Hindt to enter into executive session at 4:55 p.m., pursuant to Iowa Code Section, 21.5 (1) (c) to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent and where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation; and pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5 (1) (j) to discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property. Roll call was taken. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

The Council came out of executive session at 5:38 p.m.

There was no action taken on the pending litigation, and there was no action taken on the purchase of property.

Press comments-none.

Council comments-none.

Staff comments-Public Works Director Todd Uhl informed the Council that, if O'Brien County is declared a Snow Disaster, the City of Sheldon could possibly be eligible for FEMA funds regarding the costs for snow removable.

City Manager Wynja notified the Council and the public that, due to the accumulated snow on the properties this month, it has been impossible for all the water meters to be read. The February utility bill will be billed at a minimum amount for most of the community. The difference in the usage will be on the March bill. Any customer may pay more if they would like to keep their bills closer to their monthly average. The credit will be applied to their account for the following month. If there are any questions, please contact the City Offices. He also stated that the first Budget Workshop is tentatively planned for the first week in February. We will notify the Council of the exact date when it is determined.

A motion was made by Hindt and seconded by Postma to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 p.m. Ayes, all. Motion carried.

