



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF STACY IN THE COUNTY OF CHISAGO
AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA PURSUANT TO DUE
CALL AND NOTICE THEREOF**

**REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 12, 2022, 7:00p.m.
30955 FOREST BOULEVARD, STACY MN 55079**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Utecht at 7:00p.m.

Attendance

Present: Mark Utecht, Mark Ness, Tim Sawatzky, Marie Lawrence, and Jennie Carlson

Absent: None

Others Present: Dan Boyum, James Mongé, Jim Ness, Scott Qualle, and Matt Silver

Additions to the Agenda

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1. Vacation Request - Tanner Jones
2. Pay Increase Request – Aeric Benson

Motion by Ness to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Lawrence. Members Sawatzky, Ness, Carlson, Lawrence, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Public Comment

Jim Ness, 31010 Forest Boulevard:

Mr. Ness addressed the council regarding the annexation resolution.

Just to preface in a typical annexation the township has much lower population than the city and tax base. We have just the opposite of that. He has some real concerns:

- Why do they want a seven-member council; having a seven-member city council for a population of approximately 6,000 people or less, is really unneeded, in his opinion. Changing this would require an ordinance amending the city code.
- Rural Tax District, is needed for the city not the township for the reasons mentioned above. He did quick calculations, using the roads as an example:

The city has 1,000 tax properties, five miles of roads, and spends \$20,000/year on maintenance. The average cost is \$20 per property.

The township has 3,000 taxed properties, 50 miles of roads, and spends \$200,000/year on maintenance. The average cost is \$67 per property.

The combined would be 4,000 taxed properties, 55 miles of roads, and spends \$220,000/year on maintenance. The average cost is \$55 per property.

Per the agreement the township would pay \$22.50/property, totaling \$67,500. The city would have to pay \$152.50/property, to cover the remaining \$157,500.

So, this needs to be looked at for the city. He just reviewed the streets but the entire budget needs to be reviewed.

- Improvements and special assessments; from his reading of this it appears they want in perpetuity a maximum assessment of \$15,000 and a 3% interest rate; this is a bad idea. If the interest rate at the time is higher than the Stacy properties will be paying more, this is not fair.
- Recreational facility access; does this need to be stated? Doesn't it go both ways?
- Interim road maintenance; should Chisago County turn the roads back in the orderly annexation area prior to January 1, 2023, the city shall assume responsibilities for the road maintenance. He does not want to pay for the township roads until they are actually part of the city.
- Land use moratorium; he is not sure if this provision is legal; the city attorney will need to review. Becoming part of the city they're going to have to give up some things that if they truly have elections over land use changes, that's something they're going to have to give up. And if it would be legal, it's not fair to anybody who wants to develop in the township area.
- Plan A City provision; we are already a plan A city. if there is a movement for a charter city this is a lengthy and costly endeavor.
- Each voter within the Orderly Annexation Area is beneficiary of this Agreement; Stacy residents should have the same rights.

Mr. Ness said that his entire point is he is not against the annexation, he just wanted to bring up items of concern. The annexation needs to be looked at backwards because of the uniqueness of the situation.

He then closed saying the City Council was elected to represent the citizens of Stacy; make sure they don't get the short-end of the stick. Make sure the annexation is fair. He then thanked the council for their time.

Mayor Utecht said he appreciated the input.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Ness to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Utecht. Members Sawatzky, Ness, Carlson, Lawrence, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Staff Reports

City Attorney
James Mongé

MNSPECT – Scott Qualle

Fees:

Mr. Qualle reviewed the proposed fee schedule with the council, changes were made to his draft: roofing, siding, exterior/garage door, windows all at \$150. The city will maintain 25% of the permit fee to cover administrative costs.

An ordinance revision will be prepared for the next meeting.

Fees set by ordinance, next meeting item.

City Code Enforcement:

Mr. Qualle said he sees these in three categories: the City Planner is going to do it, enforcement, and they're going to do it. Would like to meet to discuss items line by line to determine who is responsible.

A committee was established comprising of: Scott Qualle, Mark Utecht, Tim Sawatzky, James Mongé, Dan Boyum/Phil Carlson. The clerk will coordinate a meeting.

Orderly Annexation Agreement

The agreement was briefly discussed; there are many items to discuss in detail. The council would like to schedule a meeting with Lent Township, and Chisago City to work out the details. Also, to review the items the Resident Advisory Committee

came up with from the Township. It is likely that two agreements will occur: one between Stacy and Lent; and the other between Chisago City and Lent.

City Engineer

Dan Boyum

Monthly Report

Engineer Boyum reviewed his report with the council and addressed questions.

Street Projects**307th Street:**

Is there a way for the contractor to come back and at least grade 307th Street? Instead of placing this on our Maintenance Department; is some responsibility on the contractor?

311th Street:

Are they going to be milling the whole area from 311th Street to Foxhill?

Engineer Boyum will review both items.

Maintenance Department

Vacation Request

Motion by Ness to approve the vacation request as presented for Tanner Jones. Second by Lawrence. Ness, Lawrence, Carlson, Sawatzky, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

New Trailer

Have we received the new trailer? Yes. What is the plan for the old trailer? Mayor Utecht will contact Mr. Jones to have the trailer listed on MNBid.

Liquor Operations

Flooring Bids

Motion by Utecht to have Aerica Benson contract with Reflection Flooring per the estimate to replace the Stacy Sports Grill flooring. Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Carlson, Sawatzky, and Lawrence voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

If there is mold found the mitigation to be abated prior to the flooring install.

Vacation Request - Olson

Motion by Ness to approve the vacation request for Rod Olson as presented. Second by Lawrence. Ness, Lawrence, Carlson, Sawatzky, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Pay Increase Benson

The clerk was directed to provide further data to consider this request:

What are the ramifications from the pay equity standpoint? Consider in comparison to Off Sale Manager, City Clerk, Finance Director, and Public Works Supervisor. Experience level to be considered.

Provide the points for each of the above positions. As well as the salary of each.

The Liquor Financials through March will need to be available for the May meeting also.

Motion by Utecht to table this item until the regular May 10th meeting. Second by Sawatzky. Members Utecht, Sawatzky, Ness, Lawrence, and Carlson voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Committee/Commissions

Park and Recreation Committee

The committee discussed the Richland Meadows Park; Mr. Jones will prepare a rough draft of trails and benches. Also, how much further to go with native plantings. The project will be bid out to see if it something our department will do or to farm it out.

New Business

Resolution – CLJSTC GO Bonds

Motion by Ness to approve Resolution Number 2022-4-1, “Resolution Authorizing the Chisago Lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Commission to Issue, Sell, and Deliver a \$613,000 General Obligation Sewer Revenue Note, Series 2022A, and Award the Sale Thereof.” Second by Sawatzky. Members Ness, Sawatzky, Lawrence, Carlson, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

League of MN Cities Insurance – Liability Waiver

Motion by Utecht that the city does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established in Minn. Sate. §466.04. Second by Ness. Members Utecht, Ness, Lawrence, Sawatzky, and Carlson voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

League of MN Cities – Annual Conference

If a council member would like to attend; the city will cover mileage, registration, and lodging costs.

Adjourned at 8:23p.m.

Mayor Utecht declared the meeting adjourned at 8:23p.m.

Sharon MT Payne, City Clerk