



**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**

**SPECIAL MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2015, 7:00p.m.  
STACY CITY HALL**

**Call to Order**

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

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Jim Ness, Mark Utecht, Samantha Denney, Chuck Lucia, and Tony Olivolo

**Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Doug Green, Anne Thom, Kelly Patzner, Joey Bistodeau, and Ben Montzka

**Purpose of the Special Meeting**

The purpose of the meeting:

1. 2016 Budget
2. Radio Fees
3. Employee Performance Review Forms
4. Salary Adjustment for Interim On-Sale Manager
5. Interim Manager – Hiring Positions
6. Merit Based Compensation
7. GreenStep Cities
8. Mobile Home Park Individual Billing
9. City Attorney’s Opinion – City Seeking Donations

**2016 Budget**

Mr. Green presented information on the city’s bond debt and established the amounts to levy for property taxes. He also presented a scenario for liquor operations should they start operating at a loss.

Mr. Green was directed to address two questions: What is considered a temporary bond; how long can a city continue a water levy for a bond payment.

The council reviewed Mr. Jones budget requests and the following motions were made:

Motion by Ness to remove the heated pressure washer and angle broom from the budget. Second by Olivolo. Ness, Olivolo, Denney, Lucia, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Motion by Lucia to eliminate the plow from the budget. Second by



Ness, Lucia, and Ness voted yes. Denney, Olivolo, and Utecht voted no. Mayor Utecht declared the motion fails three to two.

The clerk presented information on Laserfiche; however, did not suggest purchase for 2016 but to conduct further research and request a presentation. Also, the council would like the Infraseek person to attend any presentation to determine if the program we currently have can accommodate what is being presented.

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**Radio Fees**

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Mayor Utecht said that per discussions by the Joint Powers Board they felt that the radio fees should be 100% a county expense. For the county to tell us they're not raising taxes and then passing this fee onto us then we have to raise city property taxes to accommodate the expense. He then stated that the use of radios is dominated by the Chisago County Sheriff's department; the county sheriff has the most units. He said that the Joint Powers Board wouldn't have an issue with paying the expense to keep the radios they currently have in good working order. The radio fees need to be a county expense and he knows that Lent Township will be saying the same thing to their County Commissioner, Laura Walker.

Mr. Montzka said that he would work on the request made by the council. However, it will be difficult. He also said that when the radios were first purchased over 1,000 were requested until they found out the price, there are currently about 450. The county has applied revenue from a tower to assist with the subscriber fee. The county can't pay for everything, they need to prioritize projects.

Mayor Utecht said that our fire department feels they weren't afforded an opportunity to discuss the increase in user fees; this action was taken by a subcommittee.

Mr. Montzka said he may be able to reduce the rate; Mayor Utecht said that any reduction toward zero is good but ultimately zero is desired.

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**Employee Performance Review Forms**

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The proposed review forms were presented; they will be on the September 8, 2015, agenda.

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**Stacy Sports Grill**

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This item handled out of order by motion of Utecht. Second by Ness and carried.

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**Interim Manager Hiring Positions**

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Member Ness had asked that the interim manager hiring positions be placed on the agenda; he was surprised that he was hiring, this isn't something the council had discussed. His concern is the increase in staff's impact on the financial bottom line.

Member Olivolo said that Mr. Bistodeau needs to do what he needs to get by; if a cook quits then he needs to hire another one. Mr. Bistodeau said that he was not aware he wasn't supposed to be

hiring; Member Ness said that he isn't saying that Mr. Bistodeau did anything wrong – this is just something that needs to be discussed.

Member Lucia said maybe if we hired a full-time cook it would stop the great turnover; this is something to discuss when the new manager is hired. Member Olivolo asked about using a temporary service.

The council concurred that Mr. Bistodeau could replace vacant positions but not create new positions.

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**Interim Salary Adjustment**

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The council decided not to change the interim manager's salary at this time.

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**Merit Based Compensation**

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No action tonight.

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**GreenStep Cities**

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The council would like to move forward in becoming a member of GreenStep Cities; the clerk will prepare a resolution for the September 8, 2015, meeting.

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**Mobile Home Park  
Individual Billing**

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This item handled out of order by motion of Utecht. Second by Ness and carried.

The council talked about taking over the water meter billing for the mobile home park; member Ness said that the cost to install the water meter's and hardware at a rough estimate of \$500 each would cost about \$75,000-\$100,000 – there would be no increase in revenue from this. The system is a private water system that we have no access to when it develops a leak. He is not interested in taking over the billing for the mobile home park.

Mayor Utecht asked the members if they had any additional input to what Member Ness had said; he summarized that he was not willing to assume the liability of the system. All members concurred they have no interest in taking over the billing for the mobile home park.

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**City Attorney's Opinion –  
City Seeking Donations**

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The bottom line is the city should not solicit funds for community events from area businesses; Mr. Olivolo will ask the Lions Club if they will sponsor the Easter Festival.

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**Adjourn at 9:20pm**

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Motion by Ness to adjourn. Second by Lucia. Ness, Denney, Lucia, Utecht, and Olivolo voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

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Sharon MT Payne