

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting –May 11, 2021;

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met via in-person/phone/video conference in said city on May 11, 2021. Council members physically present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Jeff Leslie, Trinidad Garcia and Kim Lape, Dee Arp; Employees present: Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel; Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; Pipestone Star's Kyle Kuphal Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Maggie Erickson-Absent; Community Members: David Smith;

Mayor Baustian called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

Community Concerns:

Keith Eitreim, owner of the Quarry Apartments, had approached the city staff about cost sharing for the replacement of the driveway at the apartments/campground. The cities area measures 16' by 115' for a total of 1840 square feet. Thode would like to go 4' further to the east which would make the cost replacement about even;

David Smith was present to address the council regarding his efforts at the Servicemen's Memorial. The crosses have been redone with commercial paint. Mark Prince from the cities has been contacted regarding the Astroturf. Smith will pick up the Astroturf during the month of May or June. Gary Hauptert may help with the installation of the Astroturf. Stan and Wayne Williamson have offered to pay for the replacement of the stones. Smith would like for the city to place a notice on the city's Facebook page detailing all of the donations received and letting people know how they can direct future donations. Jandl and Kounkel will work with Smith on this notice. Smith also informed the council that Jasper Sunrise Village has sold to a Medical Doctor out of the cities. Smith was hesitant on explaining the doctors plans for the building; however, Smith did say that the venture would be good for the community. Smith stated that the Jasper Sunrise Village Board would like to turn some of the sale proceeds over the Jasper Development Corporation for future development within the community;

The city office has received some complaints on the manner in which clean-up days was conducted. Some residents prefer to place items on the curb instead of bringing them to a designated located;

The ballfields garbage will need to be dumped as well as the port-a-pot. Kounkel will contact VanDyke for the dumpster and Jandl will contact Big Top Tent Rentals for the port-a-pot;

FYI: The city office is continuing to receive complaints on the chicken coop in West Jasper;

Minutes presented from the Meeting in April, 2021;

Review and approve the May claims to date: MN West, EMT Refresher, \$4,469.96; M&H Communication, 6 Pagers, \$2,700.00; Erik Skogquist, Local Assessing Contract, \$1,000.00; Double D Gravel, Water leak 421 Wall Street East, \$720.00; Motion by Lape, second by Arp to approve the April claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted: M. Kindt, Memorial Gift, \$500.00; Ludolph Bus Service, April, May, June Rent, \$900.00; Jasper Rural Fire Dept., 2020 Expenses, \$6,614.81

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

Discussion regarding the delinquent report occurred. The delinquent list provided was the shortest list presented to council in years. Kounkel mentioned that it may be because of the increase in late fee or because Erickson is not afraid to directly approach residents when they are delinquent;

Wellness Center/QCC: The QCC will be open to the public given the updated Minnesota Stay Safe Plan. The dining hall will not be rented out until the daycare has been notified prior to the rental;

NEW BUSINESS:

Kounkel provided the council with a printout detailing the Updated Minnesota Stay Safe Plan. No further discussion occurred;

AMP has requested to use the park shelter from Mid-June to Mid-July for the practice of their summer production. AMP is donating \$1,000.00 to the city for the use of the park. During inclement weather, Memorial Hall will be used;

It was mentioned that a Pickle ball court would make a great asset to the community. The current tennis courts are rarely used so the court could be placed in this area. Floor coverings, nets and tape for lines are all the supplies needed for the Pickle ball court. Kounkel will work on ordering the materials. It was also discussed that both volleyball courts will need the nets replaced. The question was raised on who maintains the volleyball courts. It was also mentioned that benches should be placed near the basketball court so parents have an area to sit. Different colored basketballs with "CITY OF JASPER" marked on them will be purchased for the basketball court at the city park;

OLD BUSINESS:

No auction has been scheduled for the sale of the property located at 121 1st Street East. Once the auction is scheduled, the city will have first dibs on the property;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Land use permit were issued to Brendyn Buehner, 108 6th Street West to Install Fence and to Freddy Dalle, 215 Wall Street East to Move-In Shed. There was a little confusion on the placement Dalle shed; however, it was corrected;

The FEMA street project will be wrapped up tomorrow. Fuller Paving will be in town next Tuesday to put the asphalt down on the FEMA projects. Thode predicts an additional \$25,000.00 in patch work. The alley behind the QCC will also be asphalted. Thode will speak with Martinez Concrete about the sidewalk at the city park for the gazebo and the behind the QCC rear door to the alley. The gazebo will be placed on the NW corner of the park shelter about 15' west of the building. The gazebo will be handicap assessable. Motion by Garcia, second by Lape to asphalt the alley located behind the QCC and add a concrete pad, all ayes, carried;

The Free Pantry has not been installed yet due to the public works department waiting on paint from Kounkel;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

Thode informed the council that the Jasper City Cemetery has been damaged due to the infestation of moles. The cemetery located in Rock Rapids, Iowa looks like a plowed field. The Woodstock Cemetery located on Diamond Corner is also dealing with the issues of moles. The recent drought is the cause of the mole infestation. In order to control the moles, the grubs need to be taken care of first. Thode will be applying a poison chemical to rid of the grubs. The trees at the cemetery and city park are looking great. Thode mentioned planting new pine trees in the coming years as the cucumber vines is killing all of the evergreens;

The recent collapse of the front of the Stonewall Bar & Grill was then discussed. The city has received complaints from area residents on where the building is safe to continue business. The Council would like an engineer to conduct an inspection within 30 days. Stonewall will also be required to provide a copy of insurance to the city within the same time limit. Kounkel will contact Kyley to inform her of the council's decision. The council would also like to discuss the other buildings on Wall Street in the near future as to what the long range plan is;

Quartziter Days is scheduled for July 9-10. Due to the recent guidelines from the state, festivals can continue as usual;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting, Tuesday, June 8, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.;

Arp motioned to adjourn, Lape second. All ayes, regular meeting adjourned.

Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer

Mike Baustian, Mayor

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.