

# City Council Meeting Minutes

July 11th, 2022/ 6:45 PM / Skyline City Hall

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Mayor Paige Attarian, Steve Romnes, Shirley Piepho, Jason Hamond, Eric Manske

Guests: Scott Hanson(MN Rural Water Association), Sabrina Ehmke, Micki Schaffer, Brian Petzel (ISG), Mark Piepho

Via Google Meet: Charlie Berg, Nancy Kluck, Kyle Hinrichs, Kelly Evans (ISG)

## Agenda:

- ❑ Meeting called to order by Mayor Attarian at 6:45 pm
- ❑ Pledge of Allegiance performed by all in attendance
- ❑ Public Forum-Sabrina Ehmke 168 S. Skyline Drive voiced a concern about the record of rental funds from the treasurer's report. Miss Ehmke also asked if the stop sign near Vetter Park was being followed up upon. Ms. Ehmke is asking that the meeting agenda be posted prior to the meeting. Ms. Ehmke is wondering if the progress of the water tower could be reported more clearly to residents. Micki Schaeffer at 39 Skyline asked if old business appears on the agenda each month, if the item is not addressed and resolved it should appear on the next meeting minutes. Ms. Ehmke asked that a draft agenda and draft minutes be made available to all residents prior to the meeting each month.
- ❑ Meeting Agenda and Minutes motioned to approve by Jason Hamond, second by Eric Manske. Passed unanimously.
  - MN Rural Water Association representative, Scott Hanson is present to discuss the water wellhead water quality report. Mr. Hanson distributed a report to the council members. Mr. Hanson states that well #1 is 440 feet and well #2 is 540 feet. No elevated nitrates observed. Arsenic is 10 parts/billion, Skyline is at 2 parts/billion. Charlie Berg explained that there was an old farm site well located 19 Skyline Drive, the old well was sealed within the last 4 years. Mr. Hanson explained that Mount Kato draws from the same source as the City of Skyline. Mr. Hanson explained that if future wells are proposed the approval would need to go through the county so that the aquifer will not be affected. Mr. Hanson states that the wellhead plan moving forward is to work with MDH to complete water testing, inventory wells that are over the depth recommended requirements, seal unused wells (up to \$10,000 grant money is available for these project), if a well is leaking it must be repaired, potentially tie into the City of Mankato for issues that may occur (Mr. Hanson explained that this is not proposed, but is a just in case scenario for the future). Jason Hamond asked who should be contacted if well concerns arise, Mr. Hanson states that the City of Skyline can start with him for any issues. Brian Petzel states that remediation is occurring with the construction of the new water tower. Mr. Hanson suggests that the council review the report

thoroughly and contact him with any questions or concerns. A full report is available to the public in the Skyline City Hall and as a .pdf to email.

- Brian Petzel from ISG discussed the water tower project and wellhouse bid. He states that the concrete has been curing for 25-28 days and the worksite will get busy as early as the end of this week. Eric Manske asked when the staging equipment would be placed in Vetter Park. Brian states that he can deliver a message to the construction company on where the equipment will be placed in the Park. He states that the equipment will be there approximately 2 weeks, but that there will be equipment located at this site recurrently through the project. Brian states that he will email schedules to Mayor Attarian and to Marnie Kortuem so that the schedule can be sent out to residents to keep them informed on progress. Brian explained that the erection of the water tower will be approximately 2 months, starting in mid-July. Painting of the tower will occur within that timeline. Shirley asked about tree removal at the site, Brian states that they will determine the tree removal when erection begins. Bryan followed up on questions from the June meeting, stating that the white fence near the site does not appear to need to be moved. He also addressed the request of residents to donate the dirt from the site. He states that there will be little or no dirt remaining upon the completion of the project. There was also a request during the June meeting for the residents to be able to use the wood from the trees that are removed. Brian states that if individuals would like the wood, they would be responsible for removing brush and cutting the wood themselves. Shirley asked if cell phone equipment will be updated during the water tower process, Mayor Attarian states that the anticipated is that the tower equipment will be updated throughout the project. Kelly Evans (ISG) states that he is expecting to hear from the cell phone companies within the next two weeks.

Kelly Evans (ISG) states that Beemer (the only bidder on the City of Skyline Wellhouse project) and the base bid was \$723,450. Well #1 remediation shows that it produces 21 gallons/minute and is sufficient as a back-up well, Skyline uses 12 gallons/minute approximately. He states that he suggests that the City council table the bid discussion for another meeting time due to examining the bid for ways to reduce the bottom line and to monitor for volatility. The bid is good for 60 days from June 29th, 2022. Paige states that a big concern is that the City of Skyline did not bond for this higher dollar amount of the Wellhouse project. Jason explains that the wellhouse equipment is antiquated, but still usable once the new water tower is completed. Kelly states that the anticipation is to have the new water tower functional by December 2022. Steve clarified that Brian would be responsible for choosing a site for equipment drop off. He will determine a site and report that site to Mayor Attarian.

- City Clerk Report: City Hall landscaping spruce up. Skyline items to cover cost. (Eric Manske brought two items for the council to review, a drinking glass and a coffee tumbler). Basketball Court Update.
- City Treasurer Report-Lon Whitehead is ill, he supplied notes as well as the treasurer's report to the council members and the City Clerk. Total receipts for June 2022 is \$40,119.74, total payables for June 2022 is \$47,646.95. Total balance as of June 30, 2022 is \$1,983,908.89. Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Jason Hamond, second by Eric Manske, passed unanimously.

❑ Water and garbage bill list-Lon Whitehead supplied the council with a overdue bill list. Marnie will send out letters to individuals that are over 90 days old. Shirley states that a certified letter must be mailed to residents that are overdue 90 days that their water will be turned off. Shirley motioned that after 90 days the resident is responsible for paying \$50 to turn off and \$50 to back on, Jason seconded the motion, passed unanimously.

### **Departmental Reports**

❑ Water Department-Jason Hamond states that two residents need water meters replaced. He is working with the residents to schedule the malfunctioning meters. Charlie asks when MRI was going to be doing the work, Jason states that he will be contacting MRI to find out when the work will be done and let Charlie know.

❑ Street Department-Eric states that he is picking up a new stop sign and posts from the City of Mankato this Thursday. Shirley asked if there needs to be additional signage stating 3-way stops. Shirley states that she will follow up with Public Safety to see if it is necessary to post the additional sign. Eric states that Dustin Samuelson will be digging up the french drain at the end of this week and evaluate why the water is backing up at the site. Paige suggests that two layers for landscaping paper be used at the site of the french drain to assist in gathering sediment and reducing future issues. Eric states that he will follow up with Neilsen about street repair, he is going to wait until the french drain work is complete due to backhoe use for this project. Eric states that he spoke to a resident to remove the backstop in Moran Park and the residents state that they have equipment to remove the backstop and will have it removed within the next 3 weeks, or prior to next month's meeting.

❑ Parks and Playground Department-Steve states that he will use the piles of dirt in Moran Park to fill the holes where the backstop is removed. He states that the sprinkler system is on. He states that weeding in the park will be completed this week. Steve states that the wasps have been sprayed in Vetter Park.

❑ Public Safety-Shirley states that Night to Unite is August 2nd in Mankato, she states that typically City of Skyline is 1-2 weeks after. Because of potential equipment in Vetter Park, the council proposes that the date for Skyline be Friday, September 9th. Shirley will begin research on that date to see if it is a feasible date and will follow up at next month's meeting if the date will work for all those involved in planning.

### **Old Business:**

Discuss approved removal of basketball hoop and backstop. Mayor Attarian motioned to reverse the decision to pay \$1400 for basketball hoop removal, Steve seconded. Passed unanimously.

Adopt a resolution for 2021 property taxes to Blue Earth County. Mayor Attarian states that she signed a resolution in November 2021 and submitted it to Blue Earth County. She will be giving a copy of the resolution to Lon Whitehead to submit to Burkhardt and Burkhardt tax auditors.

### **New Business:**

Discuss Golf Cart Ordinance implementation. Shirley motioned to table the golf cart ordinance discussion, Jason second, passed unanimously.

*Items added to agenda at meeting time:*

ASA contract follow up: Steve states that discussion took place at the June meeting and Mark Piepho was invited to this month's meeting. Mr. Piepho gave the council some history on the City of Skyline participation of the All Seasons Arena. He has a statement from Jared with All Seasons Arena on the importance of continued support of this arena and its improvements. Steve states that Eagle Lake recently started support of this arena (within 2 years) and they are going to continue their support at the increased participation dollar amount. Mr. Piepho stated his opinion that we continue to stay involved and to maintain the city's responsible commitment and that Skyline has been involved since the arena opened. Steve makes a motion to stay involved in annual support of the All Season Arena, which will increase \$26000 over 6 years for improvements, this will be approximately \$16.70/household over four years. The previous amount paid by the City of Skyline was approximately \$450 annually. This proposal will be revisited if the amount is increased over the proposed \$16.70/household annually. Jason states that he has a hard time wanting to support this increased amount of participation. Eric agrees with Jason that it is hard to want to support a project with this price tag. Mayor Attarian asks those who support the continued report how they propose that the money would be collected for the project. The individuals explain that it will have to come through tax money. Jason states that if there is a different way to raise the funds to pay for continued involvement. States that he can contact Susan, the project manager and explains the concerns from the Skyline council and what options we have. Steve motioned to tabled the discussion until the August meeting, Jason seconded, passed unanimously.

Water tower design and color: The council discussed options. Shirley moved to pursue proposed design #8 on the submission report, one yay and two nays, motion failed. Steve motioned to pursue proposed design #3, 3 yay's, 2 nay's, motion passes. Proposed designed #3 accepted, motion passed.

Bee Hive-Steve Romnes states that he does have a beehive on his property. He states that he spoke with the county and there are no permits required within the county. He is going to move his hive to his Blue Earth County property that he owns.

Shirley Piepho motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 pm, Jason seconded, passed unanimously.

# City of Skyline Treasurer's Report

For the Month of July 2022

Presented August 8, 2022

## Receipts

AT&T (antennas)	2,750.00
TMobile (antennas)	3,566.78
Verizon (antennas)	1,791.08
Water/Garbage Receipts	1,279.72
Blue Earth Co. (RE tax receipts)	46,519.69
Charter (franchise fee)	501.27
MN Finance (American Rescue Plan)	16,392.33
MN Finance (LGA + supplemental LGA)	9,258.50
Black & Veatch Holding	9,000.00
Hall rental	200.00
Interest income	0.01

## Total Receipts

**91,259.38**

## Payables

AmLawn (mowing)	740.00
Blue Earth Co Finance (County attorney fees)	162.28
Burkhardt & Burkhardt (2021 City Audit)	7,752.00
Centerpoint Energy	162.28
City of Mankato (wastewater treatment fees)	3,365.01
CNA Surety (treasurer's bond)	100.00
Consolidated Communications (phone & wifi)	121.01
DPC Industries (Water Dept chems)	30.00
General Construction Services (Water tower project)	586,553.67
Gopher State One Call	8.10
Hawkins, Inc (Water Dept supplies)	20.00
I&S Group (Water tower project engineering fees)	2,812.45
J R Bruender Construction (Port-O-John for park)	141.00
LJP Waste & Recycle	1,348.07
Manske, Eric (supplies)	115.86
Mechanical Resources (replace 2 water meters)	623.75
MN Waste Processing	717.74
Ploog Electric (install LED lights in City Hall)	2,925.00
Rowan Pepper (Cleaning city hall)	100.00
Wells Fargo CC (Google docs 7.99; postage 21.20; sign 68.53; city clerk conference 456.58)	554.30
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>608,352.52</b>

Xcel Energy

1,375.38

## Total Payables

**609,727.90**

## Account Balances 7-31-22

Community Bank checking	125,311.13
Community Bank savings	1,865,770.71
Pioneer Bank	16,683.24
Wells Fargo checking	462.38

## Total Fund Balances

**2,008,227.46**