SAUK CENTRE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Sauk Centre City Council met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers pursuant to due notice being given thereof. Present were Mayor Dennis Rykken, Council Members Warren Stone, Keith Johnson, Michael Olson and Al Coenen. Also present were City Administrator Vicki Willer, Police Chief Bryon Friedrichs, Ambulance Director Struffert, City Planner Sarah Morton, City Engineer Yapp and Administrative Assistant Nicki Vogt. Mayor Rykken presided thereat.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the addition of 6a – Presentation by Ambulance Director Struffert – Life Saving Awards.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The September 28, 2011 Special Meeting was approved with changes. The October 5, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

4. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM

None.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

6. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

a. Tom Kummrow, Law Enforcement Liason from the State of MN TDZ (Toward Zero Deaths – formerly known as Safe & Sober) Program, along with Deputy Brent Curtis awarded the following Officers with awards:

Joe Jensen. Officer Jensen was presented with three awards in the Small Town Police Department Category. He was awarded the 1st Place Award for DWI Enforcement, and the 2nd Place Award in both the Speed Enforcement and Seatbelt Enforcement Categories.

Darren Danielson. Officer Danielson was presented with a DWI Enforcement Award.

Kummrow and Curtis thanked these Officers and the Sauk Centre Police Department for their hard work and dedication.

ai. Ambulance Director Stuffert stated that at 9:33 a.m. on August 18, 2011 the Stearns County Sheriff's Department Dispatch Center received a call indicating that a male party working on a billboard had been electrocuted and thrown from a truck. From that point, dispatchers paged the Sauk Centre Ambulance Service, Sauk Centre Fire Department and Sauk Centre Police Department.

Chief Bryon Friedrichs arrived on scene and went to the aid of Tony Griffin who had initiated CPR on Victim Richard Reuter who was lying on the ground next to the work truck.

The Fire Department arrived on scene and First Responder (EMT) Jeff Bromenshenkel assisted Chief Friedrichs with resuscitation efforts. Using an automated external defibrillator, Mr. Reuter was given the first shock as the Ambulance Crew arrived on scene. With Sauk Centre Ambulance EMTs Mary Bertrand, Quint Swedenburg and Jami Cole on scene, a second shock was delivered. CPR continued as an airway was attempted and the patient was re-assessed and a third shock was delivered. Along with the assistance of the Sauk Centre Fire Department, the rig was turned around and the patient was secured on the backboard and carried through a confined area to the ambulance.

Upon evaluation, the EMTs determined that Mr. Reuter had a pulse. En route to St. Michael's Hospital, his pulse was monitored, his airway was secured, ventilations were assisted and an IV was started.

EMTs assisted the Doctors and Nursing staff at the hospital with stabilization of the victim and he was transferred a short time later by Air Ambulance to another hospital for a higher level of care. He was later transferred to a burn center to receive treatment for electrocution burns.

Teamwork and the American Heart Association Chain of Survival saved Mr. Reuter's life.

Tony Griffin was awarded a plaque for providing early CPR.
The Sauk Centre Fire Department received recognition for their efforts.
Bryon Friedrichs was awarded a Lifesaving Pin.
Jami Cole was awarded a Lifesaving Pin.
Quint Swedenburg was awarded a Lifesaving Pin.
Mary Bertrand was awarded a Lifesaving Pin.
Jeff Bromenshenkel was awarded a Lifesaving Pin.

b. Police Chief Friedrichs reported that in the month of September, 2011 there were 230 verbal warnings and 309 ICRs for a total of 539.

It was also noted that in September there were a total of 17 hours completed on the Safe & Sober Campaign.

Chief Friedrichs thanked Kummrow and Curtis for the awards and also thanked Officers Jensen and Danielson for their hard work and dedication.

c. The Planning Commission met on Tuesday, October 11th and discussed the following:

- Public Hearing re: Amending §156.103. See 7d.
- Review of July, August & September, 2011 Building Permit reports. The increase in permits was due to the July storm.
- The September Scrap Metal Clean-Up Day was a success.

d. Keith Johnson reported on the CVB as follows:

- Recent CVB invoices have been paid.
- Discussion was held regarding donating a prize to the Heartland Tourism Convention.
- Diversicom is available to do commercials, etc. for the CVB.
- Two applicants were received for the CVB Director position. A sub-committee was formed to discuss.
- Discussion was held regarding an ad in the Explore MN magazine.
- A Time Share/Rental Agreement with the Chamber has been initiated at a cost of $300.month.

The CVB report was approved by general consent.

e. The Personnel Committee met on Thursday, October 13th to respond to a Union proposal regarding the grading of the updated Public Works Foremen positions.

The Committee formulated a response to the grading, proposal for positioning on the grade and establishment of rates of pay for the grade which has been presented to the Union. A response was received from the Union today (October 19, 2011) on the proposal.

Once a tentative Agreement has been reached, the Agreement will come before the Council.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Resolution No. 2011-63, Approving Certificate of Indebtedness was prepared by City Attorney Tom Mayer which grants approval for the issuance of a Certificate of Indebtedness for the purchase of a fire truck.

The Certificate will be the financing mechanism where the City Fire Department borrows $130,000 to be financed over 5 years at 2.84% for the purchase of the truck from MN National Bank. The balance of the funding was donated to the City from the Fire Relief Association.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2011-63, Approving Certificate of Indebtedness. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Johnson, Coenen, Olson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

The truck will be picked up on October 20th from the Fire Chief's Convention where it is currently on display.

b. The Council was presented with a Grant Agreement from State of MN Office of Aeronautics for State Aid for airport maintenance for fiscal years 2012 and 2013. The maximum amount of eligible reimbursable expenses is $13,184/year.

Council Member Johnson introduced Resolution No. 2011-64 Authorizing Execution of Grant Agreement. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coenen. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Johnson, Coenen, Olson, Stone and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

c. At the September 21, 2011 Council meeting, the Council approved advertising vehicles for sale through the MN Department of Administration's website to be sold via online bidding. The vehicles were offered for sale with bids closing on October 10, 2011. The vehicles, high bidder and high bids are as follows:

1996 Dodge Dakota	Ken Major Auto Sales	$3,176.00
1988 Ford F150	Timothy Campbell	$1,235.00
1996 Ford Ranger	Uppie's Sales & Service	$2,401.00
1994 Geo Prizm	Troy Boettcher	$ 577.00

Council Member Johnson introduced Resolution No. 2011-65, Approving Sale of Excess City Vehicles. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stone. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Johnson, Stone, Olson, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

d. In the recent legislative session, a Bill was passed which modifies the language pertaining to the issuance of variances by units of government. The City Code, as a result, is now inconsistent with State Statute.

The language modification primarily removes all reference to "hardships" and replaces the language with the term "practical difficulties". The change was backed heavily by the Builders Associations who maintain that more people will be constructing dwellings, etc. under the new definition. This is because it is anticipated that Cities and Counties will now have more latitude in the granting of variances as the interpretation will be less restrictive.

"Undue hardship", as used in connection with the granting of a variance, means the property in question cannot be put to a reasonable use if used under conditions allowed by the official controls, and the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the property that are not created by the landowner

"Practical difficulties," as used in connection with granting of a variance, means that the property owner proposes to use the property in a reasonable manner not permitted by the zoning ordinance; and the plight of the landowner is due to circumstances unique to the

property not created by the landowner;

Ordinance 711 removes old language in Section 156.103 of the City Code and inserts the new language.

Ordinance 711, as proposed, makes the necessary changes to the Land Use Section of the City Code. Upcoming modifications to the balance of the Code including Shorelands and Floodplain will be forthcoming.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to adopt Ordinance No. 711, An Ordinance Amending City Code by Amending Section 156.103 Variances and Appeals to Reflect Recently Adopted State Legislation. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson, Coenen, Johnson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

e. MN Statute allows for Summary Publication of approved Ordinances rather than publication of the full text of the Ordinance when the title of the Summary Publication gives the reader an idea of the content of Ordinance. The reader can then request a free copy of the full Ordinance. The purpose of this legislation is a cost saving measure.

Ordinance 712 has been prepared for approval to allow for Summary Publication of 711.

Summary Publication Ordinances require a 4/5ths vote.

Council Member Johnson introduced Ordinance No. 712, An Ordinance of the City of Sauk Centre Authorizing Summary Publication of Ordinance 711, An Ordinance Updating Section 156.103 of the Code Amending Language for Hearing and Granting Variances Which New Language Reflects Recently Adopted State Legislation. The motion was seconded by Council Member Olson. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Johnson, Olson, Stone, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

f. For several years, the City has joined with the Public Utilities Commission for Safety Training. The program is offered through MMUA (MN Municipal Utilities Association).

The Council was presented with the proposed MMUA Contract for October 2011 through September 2012. Sauk Centre Public Utilities Commission is requesting that the City renew its intent to continue with the Safety Program. Historically, the City splits the cost equally (minus the JTS Electric Training).

The annual cost to the City is $4,475.00 (1/2 of $8,950).

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Johnson to approve participating in the MMUA Safety Management Program in conjunction with the PUC for an annual cost of $4,475.00. A vote being recorded as

follows: For: Council Members Stone, Johnson, Olson, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. At the last meeting, the Council referred research on additional funding options for the 4th Street Stormwater Project to the Policy/Planning Committee.

The City Engineer is currently working on updating assessment totals based on an abutting property approach and is also running numbers on a possible Stormwater Utility. His estimates for such a utility range from $119,500 - $358,500 annually.

The City Financial Advisor/Bond Counsel is researching alternative bonding options.

Once all of the information is available, the Policy/Planning Committee will meet to discuss.

A motion was made by Council Member Olson and was seconded by Council Member Coenen to authorize Field Work to be completed on the 4th Street Stormwater Project at a cost not to exceed $12,000. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Olson, Coenen, Johnson and Stone. Against: None. Abstain: Mayor Rykken. The motion passed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. The City has received multiple inquiries regarding the status of the I94 billboard. With insurance and FEMA wrapping up, the City will soon be ready to begin planning the future of the billboard.

There have been multiple interests in the design with one suggestion being that the City hold a design contest or form an ad hoc subcommittee to work on the project.

Council Member Olson suggested that prior to holding a design contest, the Council needs to come up with a list of ideas/requirements and the mission of what the City wants the billboard to accomplish.

Another suggestion was to purchase an electronic billboard and have businesses pay to advertise on it.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered the following consent agenda items:

a. Schedule of Claims – total of unpaid claims: $166,663.10 and paid claims of $777.76 for a total of $167,440.86.

b. List of September checks totaling $451,476.31 (Check No. 031890-032002 and ACH No. 1357E – 1376E and 3 payroll ACH Transfers of 09.09.11, 09.09.11 and 09.23.11)

c. Gambling Application for Exempt Permit Request from the Sauk Centre Lions Club for a raffle which is to be held on February 22, 2012 at River's Edge Dining and Lounge.

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson, Coenen, Johnson and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. The Sauk River Watershed Weed Harvester Public Input Meeting is to be held on October 25, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

b. The Sauk River Watershed Comprehensive Plan Public Input Meeting is to be held on October 27, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

c. State Tax Bill information update: Impact to the City's tax capacity as a result of the new Homestead Exclusion Bill is an 8.49% decrease.

d. The FEMA claim is finalized and the insurance claim is ongoing. FEMA will be reduced by whatever insurance pays.

e. Council Member Olson and City Administrator Willer attended the annual meeting with our FAA and MNDOT Aeronautics representatives on Airport requirements for maintenance and CIPs. MNDOT Aeronautics has offered to give the Council an "Airport 101" update after the first of the year.

f. Reminder of Winter Parking rules. No on-street parking in all but the 2-7 zones whenever a Snow Emergency has been declared.

g. Reminded to the property owners adjacent to sidewalks that they are responsible for keeping the sidewalk clear of ice and snow the full width of the sidewalk.

h. Mayor Rykken noted that the Water Treatment Plant Substantial Completion Date has been delayed by two weeks. The new Substantial Completion Date is set for November 15th.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Stone and was seconded by Council Member Olson to adjourn the meeting. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Stone, Olson, Johnson, Coenen and Mayor Rykken. Against: None. The motion passed.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Rykken adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mayor Dennis Rykken	City Administrator Vicki M. Willer