

**City of Hill City
Regular Council Meeting
February 10, 2015**

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

- A. Mayor Baker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. The following persons were present: Mayor Larry Baker, Council Members Nate Rollins, Dave Lange and Tina Haugen. Audrey Baratto was absent.

Staff present: Diana McManigle and Mike Boleman.

Public present: Neal Roettger.

2. Consent Agenda

Motion made by Lange to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Rollins. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

3. Public Forum

There were no issues for the Public Forum.

4. Addition or Corrections to the Agenda

There were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

5. Reports

Maintenance/Water/Sewer/Parks/Airport/Streets

- Head Maint./Public Works, George Casper was not present

Fire Department

- Assistant Fire Chief Boleman reported that there had been one call last month.

Police Department

- Police Chief Madsen was not present but had Clerk McManigle hand out the January Police Incident Report to the Council

(Head Maint./Public Works, George Casper arrived at approximately 6:10 p.m.)

Mayor

- Mayor Baker said that everyone has been doing an excellent job.

Clerk

- Clerk McManigle reported that the feasibility study was mostly completed on the “Shorewood campground property”. There were some numbers that still needed to be changed before the study can be finalized. Councilmember Haugen stated that she had gone over the study and was pretty impressed with the study.
- Clerk McManigle also let the Council know that the city had just been through a Workers Compensation audit from the League of Minnesota Cities and everything was good. The CPA from Glorvigans spent Feb. 2nd through Feb. 4th beginning the city’s 2014 audit. The CPA will be back Feb. 18th and 19th. The Local 49er’s union was here Feb.5th and did an audit for the years of 2012, 2013 and 2014. They said they would be sending the city a “clean letter” and that the records were perfect.

Council

- Council member Lange reported that he had went to the Experienced Officials training and that Council member Haugen had attended the Newly Elected Officials training. Both Lange and Haugen felt that the training was good and Haugen felt like she had learned a lot.
- Council member Lange stated that he was going to be in St. Paul on March 4th for the “Day on the Hill” at the Capitol for Landscaping and that he was thinking of staying overnight and attend the “Day on the Hill for Cities and Townships on March 5th.”

Motion made by Rollins to approve the city paying for a hotel room the night of March 4, 2015, and one-half of Council member Lange’s mileage to attend the “Day on the Hill” for Cities and Townships, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

1st Responders

- Responder Mike Boleman reported that they are still looking for more 1st Responders and that it has been rather quiet.

Maintenance/Water/Sewer/Parks/Airport/Streets

- Casper reported that in the Maintenance Dept. they had just been working on some small projects.
- The Community Room was going to be shut down for a week starting Feb. 11, 2015 to redo the floors.
- Casper also reported that when the one well was being rehabilitated, it had been discovered that the C-5 (phosphate) valve was not turned on as it should have been. It is now on and the phosphate should be getting into the system better.
- There were two complaints about the water. One was from a tenant at the Hill City Apartments. The other was a complaint was someone “venting” to George’s mother.
- The Lions Club Fishing Contest is Saturday, Feb. 14th and Casper stated that he would open the Hill Lake Park road and plow so that people could get to the lake.
- Casper reported that since there is so little snow that now would be a good time to do some brushing at the airport. They would use the city tractor with the brush cutter but also would like to rent an ASV with a brush cutter for a week to get the job done faster. The Council felt that this was okay as long as there were other things that the ASV could be used for while it was rented.
- With the latest snow fall, Casper said that he was finally able to plow the streets. Council member Haugen stated that when she came home from Grand Rapids tonight, that Hill City’s street plowing was way ahead of Grand Rapids’.
- Casper said that they had been doing some preventative maintenance on the sewer pumps. They had a pump that was plugged so they pulled it, unplugged it and set it back. When they set it back, it started leaking oil. They had the “pump guy” come check it out and discovered that it would be \$5,000.00 to repair the pump or around \$7,500.00 for a new pump. This particular pump is only 5 years old and should have lasted a lot longer. Casper showed the Council the actual parts of the pump and explained that sand and rocks were causing this pump to wear down so that the parts do not fit tightly together as they should. Also, the main reason for the sewer pumps to become plugged is because of Depends and mop heads being flushed.

6. Old Business

A. Rescind Resolution #2015-02 & approve Resolution #2015-04

Motion made by Baker to rescind Resolution #2015-02, Resolution Setting 2015 Appointments, second by Rollins. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Motion by Rollins to approve Resolution #2015-04, Resolution Setting 2015 Appointments, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all member present voting in favor.

B. Insulation quotes for Maintenance Shop

Casper stated he was still waiting for some quotes.

C. MBC (Minnesota Basic Code) workshops

Before the city can adopt the new MBC of Ordinances, the MBC needs to be gone through to see if there are any changes that the Council wants to make. The workshops will be set up for Feb. 20th and 27th at 3:00 p.m. Clerk McManigle to find out if these times are okay with Council member Baratto and then let the rest of the Council know. Clerk McManigle will also get the Council paper copies of the MBC.

7. New Business

A. Housing Rehab Grant

Through Nancy Houg from the Atkin HRA, Mayor Baker and Clerk McManigle met with Nancy Grabko in regard of Hill City applying for a Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Small Cities Development Program Grant (SCDP). Nancy Grabko will write the grant at no charge to the city and Nancy Houg from HRA will assist in administering the grant. These grant funds are for rehabilitation projects that benefit people of low and moderate incomes. Some of the eligible improvements are: roofing, siding, windows, doors, electrical, plumbing, heating, any energy efficiency improvements, and accessibility improvements. Some of the ineligible improvements are: cabinets, flooring, landscaping, additions/new construction, and anything cosmetic or that does not improve the housing system. Letters would be sent out to all residents of Hill City along with a fact sheet and preliminary application to determine interest and need. If there is enough interest and need, then the grant would be applied for.

Motion made by Rollins to go forward with the DEED SCDP grant, second by Haugen. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

B. Tax Forfeit Lot - \$1,500.00

Council member Lange thought it would be a good idea for the city to purchase a tax forfeit lot in the city. This lot is located on Main St. and Ione Ave. (Lot 12, Block 14, Buck's Addition). This lot has been tax forfeit for many years. This lot could be used for a Community Garden, to pile snow on, etc.

Motion made by Rollins to purchase Lot 12, Block 14, Buck's Addition for \$1,500.00, second by Lange. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Motion made by Rollins to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Respectfully Submitted:

Diana McManigle, Clerk/Treasurer

Larry Baker, Mayor