

Minutes

Kennedy City Council Meeting
April 9, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Truedson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members present were Duane Peterson and Paul Larson. Council Member Kevin Hanson arrived at 7:45 and council member Mary Ryden was absent. Also present were Mary Cooney, Greg Mitziga, Jeff Keller, Margie Newman and Ms. Forfang.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: Margie Newman regarding the condemnation of her property.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: P. Larson made a motion to approve the March minutes as presented. D. Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: Jeff Keller was present to speak about the Kennedy Summer rec program. He has polled students at school and has 14 children indicating they would like to participate in the Kennedy Summer Rec Program. One-half of the 14 children are in fourth grade. There will be enough to make two teams, Small Fry and Big Fry. Peewees, Midgets, and girls teams will play through the Hallock program. Keller would like the parents to run concessions again. There will be a couple of practices per week and the Big Fry will be involved in the end of summer tournament. Communications will be done through e-mail. We will ask for a couple of volunteers to help out with practice and games. Keller will work with M. Cooney to get this information distributed to the parents. Keller left the meeting when he completed his comments. NOTE: First high school game was on April 6. Clerk directed to confirm that Potta-Potty is on its way.

Margie Newman requested a building permit. Council informed her that her home was one of 12 that has been condemned and will be targeted for demolition unless significant repairs are completed within the next two-three months. Council also indicated that a building permit would not be issued unless the garbage and debris from the exterior, interior, garage and basement be cleared out. Additionally, the Council informed Newman all feces must be removed from the basement and throughout the home. Both of these punch list items must be completed prior to a limited building permit being issued.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Northwest Minnesota Art Exhibit will be held in Kennedy from April 28 through May 6, with the artist's reception at the VFW middle room on May 6. The exhibits will be housed at the VFW middle room and the Kennedy City Office. We anticipate this art show will bring between 150 and 200 people to Kennedy and not cost the city a single dollar. There seem to be issues with the off-peak meter in the skating rink warming house. Currently, when the heat goes off, the fan keeps running. T. Truedson will put fan on general panel and heater on off-peak. We have had a number of complaints about the Mortenson dog being aggressive with citizens on the street. T. Truedson spoke to Richard Mortenson and he adjusted the dog's electronic fence collar. The City Auditor was here on March 19 and 20. The audit went very well. We should get specifics back in June to latest. D. Peterson made a motion to accept the Clerks Report as presented. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Cooney presented to the Council an e-mail from the Office of the State Auditor questioning the large variance between the 2011 City Summary Budget Form for the City of Kennedy and the 2012 Form. The 2011 items were presented to the State as the City had budgeted them in September 2010. Some of the variance was due simply to different accounting practices, some were due to the large losses the City experienced in 2010 and 2011, and some were due to past budgeting, bookkeeping and accounting errors. The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust sent the City a \$2,805 insurance refund, since we vacated the school and reduced the coverage to liability only. It looks like the City will make it to the July 2012 LGA and real estate tax payments without having to draw on the City's reserve again, thanks to excellent planning done in May, 2011. P. Larson made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report as presented. D. Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS: P. Larson made a motion to pay the bills as presented. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: G. Mitziga presented the Maintenance Report as attached. Additionally, G. Mitziga told Council that the City could lose Blake Hultgren as our summer worker unless we raised his salary to be competitive with the county. Mitziga requested a motion to raise Hultgren's pay to \$9.00/hour. K. Hanson made motion to pay B. Hultgren \$9.00/hour for the 2012 summer season. P. Larson seconded. Motion carried. Street cleaning will take place the last week in April. Kennedy clean-up days will take place May 3rd and 4th. Council directed Clerk to include clean-up dates in the next *Klips*. The City is moving part of its waterline to accommodate a

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state bridge project. The estimated \$43,900 cost will be paid by the State of Minnesota. K. Hanson made motion to accept Maintenance Report as presented. D. Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: G. Mitziga presented the Fire Department Report as attached. There was one false alarm at the Hallock nursing home in March. Clerk was directed to update the list of Fire Dept. vehicles on our insurance rider. P. Larson made a motion to request Fire Department Secretary Mark Lundberg present checkbooks to Clerk on a quarterly basis. D. Peterson seconded. Motion carried. P. Larson made a motion to accept the Fire Dept. Report as presented. D. Peterson seconded. Motion carried.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT: The sale of the school contents and fixtures was on the agenda but both topics were tabled until the May meeting. It was suggested that we have a sale in June or over Celebrate Kennedy. A decision will be made in May. The turbine stopped again on March 5. It was repaired on March 20. It stopped again on April 8, and it currently is not running. OtterTail contacted T. Truedson about taking the meter out, but decided not to, after all. Turf restoration will be started prior to the next council meeting, May 7, 2012. D. Peterson made a motion to accept the School Committee Report as presented. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Condemnation of eight properties within the Kennedy city limits is in process. We have heard from five of the property owners, however, nothing has been presented to the City in writing. Additionally, we have received bids from Twamley Construction (attached). These bids include the removal of the foundation, which isn't required to satisfy the removal of hazardous conditions. Clerk will ask Twamley for a second set of bids without the removal of the foundation included in the price. Clerk will also contact the County to see if they are willing to remove the 503 Manila Avenue house ("Coke" house) at the same time. Regarding the long-term outstanding water bills, we are waiting to hear from the County Auditor about the two outstanding water bills that have been attached to the 2012 property taxes and the subsequent payments, if any.

NEW BUSINESS: There is interest among Kennedy residents to update the playground equipment, and the tennis and basketball courts. Additionally, there is interest in putting in four campsites in the empty lots north by northwest of the F. Marteniz property. This site has some existing infrastructure, including road, water and sewer. The estimate is approximately \$3000 per campsite. No action was taken on these matters at this time.

MAY MEETING DATE: The May council meeting will be held on May 7, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. at the City Office.

There being no further business brought forward for the council's attention, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM by motion of P. Larson, seconded by D. Peterson. All in favor, motion carried.

Signed June 11, 2012
Mary Cooney, Clerk (Attest)

Signed June 11, 2012
Todd Truedson, Mayor