

Minutes

Kennedy City Council Meeting
November 5, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor T. Truedson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council members present included Justin Osowski, Cindy Urbaniak, Paul Larson and Kevin Hanson. City employees present included Mary Cooney and Greg Mitziga. Also present were Dan Juhl, Joel Paulson, Richard Bothum, and Jim Martin.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: C. Urbaniak made a motion to approve the October 2013 minutes as presented. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC FORUM: Kennedy's wind turbine vendor, Next Generation Power Systems' Dan Juhl, was here to speak to the council about turbine maintenance. Next Gen's position is that they never would have put the time and effort into the Kennedy Go-Green project had a maintenance provider not been identified at the project's onset. D. Juhl indicated that Next Gen trained Todd Truedson to be that maintenance provider. As the exact details of a maintenance/maintenance training agreement between Next Gen and T. Truedson were not covered by any written documentation, and are not agreed upon by the two parties at this time, the City seems to be at an impasse with regards to resolving the continual turbine maintenance issues. Additionally, the turbine is not generating enough money for the City to pay for maintenance from an outside party. Therefore, the council and Juhl agreed that the City should contact its Federal and State Go-Green partners to determine if selling the wind turbine back to Next Gen is an option at this time. The City will keep D. Juhl and Next Gen apprised of information on this option as it becomes available to the City. D. Juhl left the council chambers at 7:30 p.m.

KLJ's engineer Joel Paulson was present to describe the next steps and timeline in the City's water project. After a brief discussion, P. Larson made a motion to approve KLJ as the engineering firm to be used on the "Kennedy Coulee Waterline Project". C. Urbaniak seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The project's timeline was then presented as follows: (1) begin work on the MN Public Facilities loan application immediately; (2) complete survey and environmental review in November, 2013; (3) execute the engineering contract between the City of Kennedy and KLJ before year's end; (4) complete project plans and specifications by February, 2014; (5) submit loan application in February, 2014; (6) advertise for construction bids in March, 2014; and, (7) begin construction in May, 2014. J. Paulson left the council chambers at 7:45 p.m.

Richard Bothum requested the council approve his purchase of a piece of City owned property. The desired parcel is not platted, beginning immediately to the north of Bothum's land, and extending 80 feet to the north. The total parcel measures 80 feet by 130 feet. Bothum offered the City the purchase price of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) plus all expenses associated with the sale of the property. P. Larson made a motion to sell the 80 foot by 130 foot parcel located directly north of Lots One (1), Two (2), and Three (3), Kiene's Third Addition to the City of Kennedy (Bothum's property), as per Bothum's proposed terms. C. Urbaniak seconded the motion. The motion carried. Bothum requested the City move on this action in a timely manner to enable him to get his project completed accordingly. R. Bothum left the council chambers at 8:00 p.m.

Jim Martin reported to council that he was in receipt of the City's Notice for Abatement of Hazardous Buildings and Property for his property located at 509 Western Avenue, Kennedy. He informed the City he cannot afford to abate the hazardous conditions on this property. Therefore, J. Martin inquired if the City would take ownership of the property, free-of-charge, and release him of any abatement responsibilities. J. Osowski made a motion for the City to begin the process of taking ownership of Martin's 509 Western Avenue property, and, in turn, to release J. Martin of abatement responsibility on the property once the property's transfer of ownership to the City is complete. K. Hanson seconded the motion. The motion carried. J. Martin left the council chambers at 8:15 p.m.

CLERK'S REPORT: Kelly Bengtson's "Farmers Bowling League" e-mail was read to the council for informational purposes only. League is looking for teams of four, men and/or women, to bowl in Hallock on Friday afternoons. Spread the word. No council action required.

Clerk's October Log was reviewed, noting Abatement Hearing on 10/10, Community Service Day on 10/16, Sheriff's Office regarding delinquent water bills on 10/22, 509 Western Avenue property condemnation correspondence on 10/23, and J. Hane's office regarding condemnations on 10/24.

Clerk inquired about the status on the previously tabled State Farm Insurance settlement offer for the January 6, 2013, Highway 75 Accident Insurance Claim, as submitted by the City for the accident at the old community center

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site. P. Larson made a motion to take State Farm to Small Claims Court. J. Osowski seconded the motion. The motion carried.

C. Urbaniak made a motion to accept the Clerk's Report as presented. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The City's financial report was presented, including Checks Issued in October, 2013; Unpaid Bills Detail as of November 4, 2013; 11/4/2013 Cash Balance Sheet; 10/29/2013 Bank Statements, and Open Invoices as of November 4, 2013. Large receivables this month include \$8,587.55 from MN Management & Budget on 10/01/13 for state fire aid to be passed directly to Kennedy Relief Association for their Pension Fund. Large payables this month include \$9,796 balance on ball park bleachers, \$6,500 to KFD for City fire protection, \$8,587.55 to Kennedy Relief Asc for Pension Fund, and \$2,707.50 to Lancaster School for ball park batting cage.

Clerk presented the Minnesota Revenue Property Tax Division's "Summary of Local Government Aid (LGA) Certified for 2014."

P. Larson made a motion to transfer \$3,099.27 from the Baseball Fund to General Checking to pay for the batting cage, labor to R. Jansen for assisting in bleacher assembly, and Mar-Kit Landfill for dumping of ball field debris. K. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

K. Hanson made a motion to accept the Treasurer Report as presented. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS: K. Hanson made a motion to pay all bills as presented, totaling \$31,136.41. J. Osowski seconded. Motion carried.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Attached.

K. Hanson made a motion to accept Maintenance Report as presented. C. Urbaniak seconded. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Attached.

J. Osowski made a motion to accept Fire Department Report as presented. C. Urbaniak seconded. Motion carried.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT: The turbine is still not running and the fault code remains #8-low hydraulic fluid. NextGen never did make a service call last month.

The ball field bleachers have been assembled and the fence has been moved to the front of the score board, therefore eliminating the score board as an obstacle in in- field play.

We still have one cold storage lease agreement outstanding, with the tenant having taken occupancy in June, prior to our agreement. The paperwork must be completed.

125TH COMMITTEE REPORT: Committee Co-Chair C. Urbaniak reported. The 125th Anniversary Committee's "A Taste of Italy & Silent Auction" fund raiser, scheduled for Saturday, November 23, 2013, is moving along nicely and should be a great evening. The raffle tickets have been printed and are available for sale. The next meeting will take place in January, 2014, with the date and time to be announced.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The long-term delinquent water bill debtors have been notified of pending wage garnishment. One debtor subsequently arranged to make \$30 payments to the Kittson County Sheriff, twice a month. Should any of these payments be missed, wage garnishment will take effect. The other debtor's employer will be sent the legal documents to proceed with wage garnishment.

The City received notification of the court's ruling in the condemnation of the Newman property. The Court granted an Order that allows the City of Kennedy to proceed to raze all buildings at this property, and to levy a lien against the real estate for the costs of razing. The City will proceed with this action prior to year's end.

Public notification to property 104 Atlantic Avenue South, Kennedy, MN, owner Halbert has been and is being made via the City's official newspaper of record, the Kittson County Enterprise. Once notification is complete, the City will levy a lien against the real estate for the costs of razing the property.

The owner-occupied housing project application has been signed by Mayor Truedson and will be submitted on November 6, 2013, to NWCA's J. Wynne for review and final submission to Minnesota's Department of Employment and Economic Development. Twelve (12) Kennedy homeowners have applied for program

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participation, with houses clustered in eight Kennedy neighborhoods. J. Wynne indicated the Kennedy project does have a good chance for being funded.

Luke Nordine will get bids from Minn-Koda and Andersen windows, in addition to the Marvin Windows bid he has already given.

NEW BUSINESS: G. Mitziga reported that he and K. Hanson will be responsible for removing snow from the City's outdoor skating rink this winter and that Wayne Hultgren has agreed to do all rink flooding. Payment to W. Hultgren is still being negotiated.

P. Larson requested the City continue to research replacement options for the City's welcome signs.

DECEMBER MEETING DATE: The December Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013, 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 9:00 PM by motion made by J. Osowski and seconded by K. Hanson. All in favor and the motion carried.

Signed December 9, 2013
Mary Cooney, Clerk (Attest)

Signed December 9, 2013
Todd Truedson, Mayor

City of Kennedy Maintenance Report

November 5, 2013

1. Mowed ponds and city lots for last time.
2. Completed ball field projects including moving the fence and assembling the bleachers.
3. Put up snow fence around town.
4. Worked on plow.
5. Getting equipment ready for winter.

City of Kennedy Fire Dept. Report

November 5, 2013

1. No monthly meeting held in October.
2. One fire call last month on October 23, 2013, 5:40-6:30 a.m., at K. Anderson's, five miles east of Kennedy, on Hwy 7. A beaver dropped a tree, which fell on a power line and started a fire.