

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

A regular meeting of the LeRoy City Council was held Monday, March 4, 2013, at 6:30 PM at the LeRoy Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Jennifer Gumbel, Council Members Linda Sanders, Justin Brandau, Kathleen Gottschalk, Vickie Lidtke, Maintenance Supervisor Dave Streit, and City Clerk Patty White. Others in attendance included Ginger Holm, Harold Shipman, Jan Whisler, and Axel Gumbel. Mayor Gumbel called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motion by Brandau, second by Lidtke to approve the February 4, 2013, regular meeting minutes. Motion carried 5-0. Motion by Gottschalk, second by Brandau to approve current bills for payment. Motion carried 5-0. Council reviewed the written reports from the maintenance department, city clerk, and EDA. A couple questions about the proposed new entrance signs were asked. Council was also updated on the FEMA meeting attended by Streit and White. Motion by Brandau, second by Gottschalk to approve the written reports. Motion carried 5-0. Council reviewed the past due bills list. Motion by Sanders, second by Brandau to approve the bills list. Motion carried 5-0.

During public input time, Jan Whisler questioned about committee assignments and reports from those committees. Gumbel explained the appointments to the standing committees. Gumbel also explained the formation of a personnel committee; the committee will be comprised of the city clerk/treasurer, two members of the council, and two members of the city at large. She noted this committee has not been formed yet. She also noted that council is planning a work session for the next month or so to further discuss zoning enforcement. Mr. Whisler also questioned if the council was going to publish the city budget. Gumbel noted the newspaper has been printing charts of the budget the past couple weeks. Mr. Whisler commented this would be promoting a LeRoy business and would show the citizens where funds are being spent.

During standing committee reports, Gottschalk reported she has attended a Pool Board work session. At this session the Thrive for Five campaign was discussed along with maintenance issues of the pool. Gottschalk also attended the Prairie Visions meeting. She noted that Polly Glynn, county commissioner, was also in attendance at this meeting along with representatives from the DNR to discuss the roadside burning of the byway with the local fire departments. Sanders reported the EDA is considering holding another business roundtable sometime this spring. Brandau questioned about getting some rock in the city parking lots by the recycling dumpster and north of the State Bank. Streit will gather information and report back to council.

Gumbel noted the council met for a work session on February 23 to discuss the water and wastewater facilities. This was a good session and much information was discussed. Council discussed water/sewer rates and if automatic rate increases could be instituted. Also discussed were the needs at the filter treatment plant and the water tower. It was noted the ponds and the lift stations are in good working order at this time. White presented a possible resolution for council to consider an increase in water and sewer rates. Gumbel proposed increasing the base water rate to \$13.00 per month and the sewer base rate to \$12.50 per month effective March 1, 2013, and increasing the base water rate to \$15.00 per month and the sewer base rate to \$14.00 per month effective September 1, 2013. Brandau suggested increasing the rates to \$20 or so as was put in the water facility report compiled by SEH. Gottschalk and Sanders felt incremental increases were a better way to go. Motion by Gumbel to pass Resolution 2013-04, a resolution increasing water base rates to \$13.00 and sewer base rates to \$12.50 effective March 1, 2013, and increasing water base rates to \$15.00 and sewer base rates to \$14.00 effective September 1, 2013, and leaving the use rate at \$2.00 per each 100 cubic feet; the base rates include 200 cubic feet of usage. Second by Sanders. Motion carried 5-0.

Council discussed the formation of a personnel committee. White noted that a notice has been posted in the city bulletin board requesting letters of interest from persons wishing to serve on the personnel committee. One letter of interest has been received from Harold Shipman. It was council consensus to place an ad in the newspaper requesting letters of interest from persons wishing to serve on the personnel committee.

Council reviewed their calendars and set Saturday, April 13, 2013, at 1:00 PM at City Hall to hold a council work session to address zoning enforcement. Council was requested to review this section of the city ordinances prior to the work session.

Council reviewed three letters of interest for the open seat on the LeRoy EDA board. The letters reviewed were from Craig Jacobson, Jan Whisler, and Kay McCloud. Mr. Whisler requested that his letter be withdrawn. Council discussion followed. Gumbel recommended that Kay McCloud be appointed to the unexpired term of Dan Newton. Motion by Sanders, second by Gottschalk to approve the appointment of Kay McCloud to the unexpired term of Dan Newton. Motion carried 5-0.

Gumbel felt the council should have the full set of organizing documents for any joint powers group the city is a part of and copies of their meeting minutes. These documents would be needed from the LeRoy Area Ambulance Service and Prairie Visions. The council representatives to each of these boards will request this information.

Council reviewed the information from prior city-wide cleanups. It was council consensus to hold another city-wide cleanup on Saturday, May 4, 2013.

Council reviewed one building/zoning permit.

1. N 70' Lots 10 & 11, Block 10, Caswell & Lewis Addition-demolish existing garage and build new garage

Motion by Sanders, second by Gottschalk to approve said permit. Motion carried 5-0.

The communications file was reviewed. Items included an invitation to the LMC Legislative Conference, an invitation to the LMC Loss Control Workshop, information for the LMC Awards Program, and the charitable gambling reports from the LeRoy Community Foundation. Gumbel read a letter of congratulations for the receipt of an MPCA Operational Award. Streit and Jones were commended for their work. Council also reviewed a letter received from Dylan Lunning; Gumbel will send a personal reply to Mr. Lunning. Gumbel had also received letters from some of the second grade students. Council reviewed these letters and discussed some of their concerns. Gumbel read a letter from the Mower County Fair Board requesting funding; council denied any funding.

Streit reported he has talked to Mel Johnson, the gentleman that has been doing the city contract mowing the past couple of years. Mr. Johnson would honor the same prices from last year unless the price of gas goes extremely high. Sanders felt to show due diligence that the mowing should be put out for bid. Motion by Sanders, second by Brandau to advertise for bids for the mowing of both city parks and the LeRoy Cemetery. Motion carried 5-0. Bids will be reviewed at the April council meeting.

Council had nothing new to report on the on-going items.

Being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Sanders, second by Lidtke at 7:42 PM.

Jennifer Gumbel, Mayor

Attest:

Patty A. White, City Clerk-Treasurer