

**MINUTES  
CITY OF HECTOR  
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 P.M.  
MARCH 13, 2017**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Steven Squibb, Ralph Bergsma, Doug Best, Jeff Heerdt, and Penny Kandt.

STAFF PRESENT: Kathy Blackwell, Brad Falteysek, and Jerome Schueller.

ALSO PRESENT: Marty Lawson, Duane Herbert, Penny Macik, Marlys Hagstrom, Todd Kramer, Curt and Amy Hollan, Ryan Kramer, Sam Heiderscheidt, Nic Heiderscheidt, Gary Bipes, and Harold Carstens.

Mayor Squibb called the meeting to order following the pledge of allegiance.

MOTION by Doug Best, seconded by Ralph Bergsma and carried unanimously to approve the agenda with the following additions: fire relief association by-laws, PCA letter, librarian vacancy, vacancy on planning commission, and electronic sign placement. MOTION by Penny Kandt, seconded by Jeff Heerdt and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda.

4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER - Brad Falteysek from AEM presented the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report. The council had no questions on the report. Falteysek stated that AEM will be doing 2016 audit prep work soon.

MOTION by Jeff Heerdt, seconded by Doug Best and carried unanimously to approve the Planning Commission's recommendations to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Darryl Ilgen to construct a detached accessory building on a lot with no primary residence and the Conditional Use Permit for Kramer Farms to construct a solar garden in the Agriculture District.

ELECTRONIC SIGN – Amy Hollan stated that the electronic sign should be placed by or near the “Mr. Tire” sign, not in the city park. The Council stated that the city has no preference where the sign is located, and that the city only agreed to take over ownership and management of the sign. The Council agreed that the Lions will need to decide on the location.

MOTION by Doug Best, seconded by Ralph Bergsma and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 2017-8 supporting the Renville County Fire Department Mutual Aid program.

AIRPORT – Councilor Bergsma gave an update of the last airport committee meeting as well as a phone conversation he had with Andy Peek from the FAA. Items discussed at the committee meeting included: the numbering system for the hangars will not be changed, Dave Kienitz will be attending the airport conference in April, request for proposals will be obtained for mowing, the storm water permit is being renewed, a weather station is being looked into, letters from Jon

Saunders and Andy Peek were reviewed, and information requested from the FAA is being compiled. Bergsma's conversation with Peek included the following: a residential use on the airport is a violation of the grant assurances, the FAA is auditing past Hector projects, the FAA did not approve the house to be connected to the mound system, possible violation with the fuel sales, and no revenue was generated from a land lease for the residence. It was agreed that a meeting with all the parties and the attorneys be scheduled.

GRANT – Tom Koeberl was the winner of a Monsanto “Americas Farmer’s Grow Communities” grant in the amount of \$2,500. Koeberl selected the Hector Fire Department to receive the funds.

FIRE - MOTION by Jeff Heerdt, seconded by Penny Kandt and carried to approve the revised Fire Relief Association By-Laws increasing the annual amount from \$1,300 to \$1,400. Steve Squibb and Doug Best abstained from the motion. The fire department has been holding training sessions with Ridgewater College to take advantage of available state funds that pay for training.

EDA - Penny Macik reported that the open house/bake sale was a success and that the new manager has improved the atmosphere at Prairie View.

POLICE – Chief Best stated that the department will begin dealing with blight issues.

PUBLIC WORKS – The Council did not have questions on the reports from Mike Kenney or Jerome Schueller. The Council agreed to accept sealed bids to sell two pick-ups. A minimum bid of \$11,500 will be placed on the 2006 3500 Chevrolet and a minimum bid of \$6,500 will be placed on the 2006 1500 Chevrolet. Councilors Best and Bergsma agreed to be on a committee with Mike Kenney to review the sealed bids. If no acceptable bids are received, the vehicles will be traded in at Schwieters Chevrolet in Willmar for the amounts of the minimum bids towards the purchase of a 2017 Silverado 1500 1WT.

PCA – A recent inspection was completed by MN Pollution Control Agency at the waste water facility. Corrective actions are needed. Moore Engineering will assist the city on the items that city staff are not able to complete.

LIBRARY – The Renville County Librarian has resigned. The position has been posted internally.

UTILITY – A discussion continued on the inconsistencies in charging commercial properties with more than one use. The Mayor and Clerk Blackwell will work on options to correct the inconsistencies.

COMMUNITY GARDEN – The city will install a curb stand for water service at the community garden.

ARBITRATOR DECISION – The council received the decision and award in the city’s favor from the arbitrator that presided over the Schueller Veteran’s Preference Hearing. The city gave

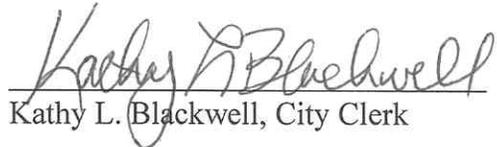
Schueller notice of its intention to demote him; with that demotion there would be fewer job responsibilities and a cut in pay and benefits. The Arbitrator concluded that the council's decision to demote Schueller was for just cause. Schueller stated his wage should be comparable to Olivia and Renville. Councilors Heerdt and Best asked that Clerk Blackwell obtain information from those communities about duties and supervisor responsibilities. A decision by the council was tabled.

2017 WAGES – Mayor Squibb stated reviews have been completed for some employees and recommended the following increases effective January 1, 2017: increase Kathy Blackwell's and Kurt Kozel's wage by 1%, increase Mike Kenney's wage by 1.5%, increase Jessie Major's wage by 4%, and increase the ambulance and police on-call rates by \$.50 per hour. MOTION by Penny Kandt, seconded by Jeff Heerdt and carried to approve the raises as listed above. Doug Best and Steve Squibb abstained from the motion.

WORK SESSION – The council agreed to try and schedule quarterly work sessions for the council and employees; and no longer hold monthly employee meetings.

PLANNING COMMISSION – The vacancy on the Planning Commission will be posted again.

MOTION by Ralph Bergsma and seconded by Penny Kandt to adjourn at 8:22 p.m.

  
Kathy L. Blackwell, City Clerk