

Warba City Council Meeting August 11, 2008

The Warba city council meeting was called to order by Mayor Don Hawk at 6:30 pm. The pledge of allegiance was said. Council members Pat Gilsvik, Jordan Richardson and Cheri Dombrovski were present as well as Clerk, Niki Mistelske, and Treasurer, Tami Elich. Minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Jordan, seconded by Pat to accept minutes. Approved 5-0. Treasurer's report was read. A motion by Pat, seconded by Niki to accept. Approved 5-0. Bills were read. After discussion regarding Pre-buy propane costs and a decision to compare prices prior to pre-buy next year, a motion was made by Cheri, seconded by Jordan to pay the bills. Approved 5-0.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Several members of the Warba-Feeley-Sago Volunteer Fire Department appeared before the Council seeking financial assistance for the purchase of a fire rescue van. They stated the van currently in use requires a great deal of maintenance and is becoming a road hazard. They currently have about \$20,000 in pledges, are still seeking out other pledges and plan to purchase an updated used van at a cost of between \$30,000 - \$40,000. Niki made a motion, seconded by Pat for the City of Warba to contribute \$5,000 to the WFS Fire Department to aid in the purchase of a fire rescue van. Approved 3-0. Jordan excused himself from the meeting prior to the vote, but stated he supported a \$5,000 contribution. Don abstained from the vote because he is a member of the fire department.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Utility: David reported that CapTrico performed pressure tests on gas lines and everything checked out okay. The stop sign by Casper Leather is down – David will make contacts to have it put back up. The ditches and area around the sewer ponds will be mowed as soon as the repairs to the tractor are completed. David is still waiting on North Star Pump and Casper for repairs to the pumping system and shut off installation to be completed. David also noted that the weather warning siren isn't working. Replacement would cost approximately \$25000. The Council asked David to research the City's options for a weather warning system. A list of needed safety equipment and research on increased water usage have not been completed at this time.

Community Center: Pat was pleased to acknowledge the Bean family for donating a computer and educational computer games to the community center. Community Center open hours will be set up for area children to make use of the computer & games. Pat also noted that yellow has been chosen as the new color for the interior of the community center.

Recreation: Cheri reported the Warba-Feeley Recreation Board has been busy. Warren Spawn has been appointed to head the Rec. Board. Benches will be placed by the playground and the warming shack, 2 BBQ pits are to be installed, and a plan is being considered to plant trees. Also, a sweeper was purchased for grounds maintenance.

Fire: David said the Fire Board met July 29. The Northern Lights Charter School will be paying the fire department per time to run school fire drills and the annual BBQ fundraiser for the fire fighters pension fund will be Sept. 27 at the Red Eye in Swan River.

Cemetery: Tami had nothing new to report.

Correspondence: The City received the MPCA 2008 Permit Compliance Summary Report, LMC 2008 Law Summaries and notice of upcoming summits, a notice to participate in the Federal Voting Assistance Program, a copy of the Itasca County Zoning Ordinance amendment and an update on the ATV/OHV trail system. No action needed to be taken.

Old Business: Niki said the internet service is up and running – David said the Fire department agreed to share cost for high speed internet service. The service will be switched over after an antenna has been installed on the community center. Niki said she met with Rural Development representative, Dennis Tabbert, to review the City's financial statements as part of the application process for the wastewater renovation project. They also discussed options if no grant money was available. Dennis said the application could be kept on file. He also said when there isn't enough federal grant money available there is a state agency that can match the amount of federal money. Niki also contacted Affinity Plus to apply for a City credit card, but Affinity Plus doesn't currently offer business credit cards – she will apply for a credit card through American Bank.

New Business: The City received a donation request from the Warba Food Shelf and after some discussion regarding purchasing practices a motion was made by Pat, seconded by Cheri to donate \$400 to the food shelf as a \$400 credit at the Second Harvest Food Bank. Approved 3-0 with Don abstaining because he is Food Shelf treasurer. The final item of discussion was to set the levies for 2009. After discussion the levies for each fund were set as follows: General \$15,500 (a reduction of \$2,500 from the 2008 levy), Road & Bridge \$4,300 (an increase of \$700 to adjust for Itasca County rate increases), Fire \$12,500 (a one time increase of \$5,000 contributed for the purchase of a rescue van), Recreation \$650 (unchanged), Community Center maintenance \$5,000 (an increase of \$2,800 for increased maintenance costs), Community Center building \$300 (unchanged), Utility Tower \$6,000 (unchanged) and Cemetery \$1,000 (unchanged) for a total 2009 levy of \$45,250. A motion was made by Cheri, seconded by Pat to approve the 2009 levies. Approved 4-0.

Announcements:

A motion was made by Pat to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Niki. Approved 4-0.