

**FINANCIAL
REPORTS**

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to approve sending Alex Weego and Alice Melzer to the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference**, Jim Opelia 2nd, Don Fitzgerald, Jim Opelia and Juanita Mitchell in favor, Alex Weego & Alice Melzer abstained, motion carried.

Alice Melzer asked what the Victor Lundeen bill was for and Clerk Michael Dagen said that the bill was for city check blanks. Juanita asked if the dialer alarms are completely installed and Lead Maintenance Luke Mitchell said yes. Alex Weego asked about the property tax bill and Clerk Dagen said that the bill is for the property that city purchased from the Nazarene church last year, a property at the very north end of front street and for environmental fees.

Jim Opelia made motion **to accept the financial statement and to pay checks #'s 13841 to 13861**, Donald Fitzgerald 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

**MAINTENANCE
REPORT**

Luke Mitchell shared that the bathrooms at the park were vandalized this past weekend.

Clerk Dagen told the council that Amy Morris's water & sewer account used \$21.98 over their monthly average due to letting their water run per instruction from the water department to prevent the freezing of her waterline. Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to credit the Morris water & sewer account \$21.98**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

**CLERK'S
REPORT**

Clerk Michael Dagen shared that an additional service that the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) will be offering is web and IT assistance. Michael said that this might be a good option for the city if they were to decide to manage their own website and designate email addresses for city officials, fire department members and staff. Dagen told the council that the 2nd year the clerk institute was definitely a worthwhile experience.

Old Business

**MILL
REMOVAL**

Donald Fitzgerald said that there has been no change with the old mill removal.

**MUNICIPAL
DERIVATIVES
CLASS
ACTION SUIT**

Clerk Dagen explained that he searched through the boxes of old files that were brought over from the fire hall, but was unable to locate documents listing any of the companies involved in the class action law suit. Michael suggested that the city wait to see if they receive any further correspondence on this matter.

**WI-FI
ROUTER**

Michael Dagen shared that \$300 has been pledged by Hewitt citizens and the Hewitt Historical Society towards the \$620 new Wi-Fi router. Alex Weego made a motion **to pay \$350 towards a new Wi-Fi router**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

**CLEAN UP
DAY**

There was a discussion about the increasing cost of the city clean up day. Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to discontinue the city clean up day**, Alex Weego 2nd, Fitz, Alex, Juanita, Alice in favor, Jim Opelia no, motion carried.

New Business

**RESOLUTION
#14-006 ISSUING
A MINNESOTA
RURAL WATER
BOND FOR ROAD
CONSTRUCTION**

Alex Weego gave a recap of the process and reason for the timing of the city repaving the paved streets north of 210.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to approve Resolution #14-006 Authorizing the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of \$119,000 General Obligation Street Reconstruction Bonds, Series 2014 A**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

PICKLE FEST

Hewitt Fire Chief Adam Templin said that the Hewitt Fire Department is interested in taking over the Pickle Festival. Donald Fitzgerald shared that he felt with the upcoming road construction project, it would be a good idea to post pone the festival for one year. Alex Weego thought that taking a year off might inspire more people to volunteer for the Pickle Fest Committee. Mayor Juanita Mitchell said that she spoke with Gerald Ganske today and learned that REA Energy Cooperative donated barricade supplies for the tractor pull track.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to cancel the Hewitt Pickle Fest**, Alice Melzer 2nd all in favor motion carried.

**TODD
COUNTY
FOOD
VENDORS
LICENSE**

There was a discussion about the new Todd County Food Vendor License requirements.

**SENIOR
CENTER**

Alex Weego explained that he has been approached by a Wadena business that is looking for a place to set up an antique book store and he thought of the Hewitt senior center might be a good location. There was a discussion about the city’s options for leasing or selling the building. Mayor Mitchell suggested that the city sell the senior center, due to the amount of maintenance needed there.

**ELECTION
JUDGES**

Clerk Michael Dagen asked if the council would like to raise election judge pay to the new minimum wage of \$9.25 per hour which takes effect in August 2014. Alex Weego requested that Michael research if the city is required to raise the election judge pay by the next council meeting.

**RESOLUTION
#14-007
ACCEPTING
FLAG
DONATIONS
FOR VETERANS
MEMORIAL**

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to accept the State of Minnesota and POW Flag donations from Grandma’s Kountry Kitchen and the Hewitt Service Center for the Hewitt Veterans Memorial**, Alice Melzer 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

**LEAGUE OF MN
CITIES
INSURANCE
WORKERS’
COMPENSATION
RENEWAL**

There was a discussion about the city’s options for waiving or not waiving the tort liability limit.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to not waive the tort liability limit**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

The council discussed the deductible level on the city’s workers’ compensation insurance.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to raise the city’s workers compensation deductible to \$500**, Alex Weego 2nd, all in favor motion carried.

Clerk Michael Dagen explained that he has been working on the city’s property insurance coverage with Steve Peterson. Dagen said that Steve wanted the council to know that the city’s pavilions are not covered by the city’s property insurance policy. Alex Weego requested that the clerk ask Steve Peterson to provide an estimate for providing property insurance coverage for the city’s three pavilions.

**FURNACE IN
WATER
PLANT**

Alex Weego shared that the city could save a lot of money by changing the furnace in the water plant. Lead maintenance Luke Mitchell said that heating the water plant with natural gas instead of electricity would pay for itself within a month or two. Alex asked about insulating the water plant at the same time. Luke said that spray foam insulation is expensive, but that it would pay for itself within a year. Donald Fitzgerald asked for a quote by the next council meeting for installing a natural gas furnace in the water plant with and without insulation.

**2014 TAX
BILL**

Alex Weego gave an update on the State of Minnesota's 2014 tax bill. Councilmember Weego shared that the city's LGA would go up by \$800 next year. Alex also said that as part of a two year test program, the state will provide a \$500 per volunteer fire fighter as an incentive to cities in six counties including Todd, to help recruit and retain fire department volunteers.

**TRACTOR
PULL**

There was a discussion about building a new tractor pull track on the land that the city purchased from the Church of Nazerene last summer, located at the intersection of 210 and County Road 44. Juanita Mitchell pointed out that \$7500 was budgeted for the tractor pull track.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to begin building a new tractor pull track**, Juanita Mitchell 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

**420
WISCONSIN
STREET LATE
FEE
COMPLAINT**

Mayor Juanita Mitchell shared she received a phone call informing her of this complaint. Juanita said that the city office was closed a lot last month, so she can sympathize with the complainant. Donald Fitzgerald said that when the office is closed, citizens can use the drop box on the office door to make payments.

Alex Weego made a motion **to credit a onetime \$5 late fee to the complainants account**, Donald Fitzgerald 2nd, Alex, Jim, Alice, Juanita in favor, Fitz no, motion carried.

**711 3rd AVE
EAST- TRASH
FILLED YARD
COMPLAINT**

Donald Fitzgerald showed photographs of the property in question. Councilmember Fitzgerald stated that the property owner has already cleaned up the property so no action is needed. Jim Opelia made a **motion to have the city clerk contact the complainant to inform them that the property has been cleaned up**, Donald Fitzgerald 2nd, Alex, Fitz, Alice in favor, Juanita nay, motion carried.

**CLOSED
MEETING**

Lead maintenance Luke Mitchell requested that the meeting be closed for an employee evaluation. Luke requested that Clerk Dagen leave the meeting as well.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to close the meeting**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to open the meeting**, Jim Opelia 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

The Council discussed and resolved the issue presented by Lead Maintenance Luke Mitchell.

**MEETING
ADJOURNED**

Donald Fitzgerald made a motion **to adjourn the meeting**, Alex Weego 2nd, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor _____ Clerk _____

