

September 1, 2009 **Council Minutes**

The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Lange, Beisner, T Schmidt, Raatz, Schraufnagel, Hederer and Kaiser. Holtzhausen was absent. Also present were Clerk Connie Gurtner, DPW Harland Higley Jr, Police Chief Ron Gosse and Auditor Jack Vig.

Agenda was posted by the clerk. The agenda will stand as the order of the meeting.

Minutes of the August 4th council meeting were pre read and reviewed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Schraufnagel to approve as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Financial Statement and Bills were discussed. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Lange to pay the bills as presented. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund \$430,685.05; Water Department \$51,533.97; Sewer Department \$31,824.61; Net payroll - \$19,013.01. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Jack Vig 2008 Audit Review and Rate Case Study: Jack Vig reviewed the 2008 audit in detail with the council. He also reviewed the rate case study for the water rate increase. The estimate increase overall is 80%.

Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission met on August 10th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Purchasing a telephone system for the police building, Lange questioned why Colby would be paying for the physical assets. It was clarified that Colby pays for 45% of the utilities for the Police Department building. There were three bids; Van Ert Electric-\$6,988 (Digital), TDS-\$8,211(Digital), and Vital Communications-\$6,870 (Voice over IP). Lange questioned what if you lose the internet, and then you lose the phone too. The commission approved the purchase. Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Lange to approve the purchase of a telephone system for the police building from Vital Communication for \$6,870. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Purchasing a surveillance system for the inside of the new police building, there were three bids; Van Ert Electric- \$4,900 (6 cameras), Per Mar Security- \$9,858 (8 cameras), and Vital Communications- \$5,627 (8 cameras). The commission approved this purchase with Vital Communications. Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Hederer to approve the purchase of a surveillance system for the inside of the new police building from Vital Communications at a cost of \$5,627. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Purchasing a radio system for the new police building, there were two bids; Vital Communications- \$11,711, and Northway Communications- \$11,832. The commission approved the purchase from Northway Communications. Chief Gosse reported that these quote amounts have change to Vital Communications - \$10,736 and Northway Communication - \$11,524. Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Beisner to purchase a new radio system for the public safety building from Northway Communications at a cost of \$11,524. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Hiring a company to cable the building for radios, telephones, video, and computers, there were two bids; Van Ert Electric-\$5,240 and Vital Communications-\$4,150. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Schmidt to hire Vital Communications to put cable in the building for radios, telephones, video and computers at a cost of \$4,150. Motion carried with a voice vote. Raatz voted no.

Under the Chief's report, the grant from Marathon County TRACS Program was awarded to the Abbotsford/Colby police department. Upon receiving the grant the department will be getting a new computer for the Chief's car, 4 printers for the cars, cables, and \$400 toward installation. Marathon County is also going to pay for all of the radios; however, the police department will be responsible for the installation (\$300/radio). The radios that Marathon County is purchasing don't have the siren package. You would have to buy the siren package separate to put onto the new radios. The siren package is \$390 each/car. The total per car would be roughly \$690. The total for all four cars would be \$2,760. It was questioned if we could just do one or two a year, or if there was a deadline. Chief Gosse explained that Marathon County doesn't have a deadline. There is money in the metal plate fund.

Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Lange to approve the actions and expenditures of the Police Commission for August. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Water/Sewer/Street Committee met on August 20th.

Dedication of South 4th Street/Installation of Water & Sewer for Development

Due to interest in developing the property owned by Gene Wilde extending S 4th Street was discussed. The costs were estimated as follows:

Manhole ♦ \$2,200 Sewer ♦ \$22,750 Water - \$16,250

The mayor expressed concern about the length needed for private laterals. Special assessments would need to be charged to the property owners and the city would be responsible for ♦ the cost for the park side. The possibility of using utility lines from the south through the city's property was discussed as well. The mayor suggested speaking with the potential property buyers and current owner to set up a package that allows for services to that property and the dedication of the streets in this area. This package would be beneficial to all parties involved. The committee voted to schedule a meeting with the current owner and the prospective owners to put together a developer's agreement.

Earth Inc. Contract for Crushing Concrete

Earth Inc. will charge \$3.50/ton for crushing the concrete. Bugar charged \$4.00/ton last time the city needed this done plus the mobilization fees for their equipment. Earth Inc. already has the equipment needed in the area so the only cost would be for the tonnage.

Motion made by Hederer, seconded by T. Schmidt to allow Earth Inc to crush concrete and recycle pile for \$3.50/ ton.
Motion carried with a voice vote

Spence Street Utility/Street Project

Harland, Mayor Schmidt and Beisner met with Randy Anderson August 20, 2009. Anderson asked if the city planned on going forward with the project. Our project needs to be completed before the county can complete their work. The county is responsible for 24 feet down the middle of the road. Between 1st and 2nd Streets, Spence Street is 48 feet wide and from 2nd Street to the West is 36 feet wide. If the city commits to reconstructing their utilities the city would move to the top of the county's timeline with the W Spence/HWY N project. When the county comes through for this project, the utilities would need to be completed and the county would just lay the base and asphalt. The only utility reconstruction is from 1st Street to 4th Street. The estimate for this project from 1st Street to 7th Street is \$708,371.20.

Mowing/Drainage of ditch west of South 6th Street

There have been complaints about water sitting in the ditch to the west of South 6th Street. It is causing a variety of issues. Steve Colby was brought in to go over some different options that could be done to drain the ditch. Laying pipe or a concrete flume and breaker rock are a few options. The committee would like whatever is done to be long term and low maintenance. Kaiser suggested doing/budgeting for sections at a time as this is quite a long ditch. Harland will get prices on piping and labor/material to determine the scope of the project.

Sealing of City Owned Parking Lots ♦ S Division Street

Petersons will charge roughly \$900 to seal the two city parking lots on S Division Street.

Motion made by Hederer, seconded by Beisner to allow Peterson to seal the S Division parking lots at a cost of \$900.
Motion carried with a voice vote. Raatz voted no.

Study of Water Pipeline Project

The mayor asked for comments after reading the feasibility report that was emailed on the water pipeline project. There will be a meeting at 1:30 PM on September 1st and also a meeting on September 29th with Block Grant and DNR. Harland urged all committee members to try to attend. Because of the excessive cost the involved communities are hoping that the government and other agencies will be helpful in funding the project. The committee was encouraged to ask Harland questions on the project as they come up.

Purchase of Pick-Up Truck

Harland reported one bid at \$19,000 for a 2 wheel drive truck from Sebold's Chevrolet. Motion made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Hederer to reject all bids received for the city pick-up. Motion carried with a voice vote.

City Planning Committee met on August 24th, September 1st.

Outdoor Wood Burning Ordinance:

Ralph Hlavin from the Sleep Inn had provided some information for the committee regarding the Outdoor Wood Burning Ordinance. Julie from A-Z Town & Country would like the committee to amend the ordinance to allow for one on her property. She feels that she is far enough away from the Sleep Inn. The current ordinance does not allow for any new outdoor wood burning stoves in the city limits. The committee did not take any action to amend this ordinance, so there is no change to the existing ordinance.

Accessory Building Ordinance:

The committee discussed changes to the accessory uses and structures ordinance. Currently our ordinance regulates the size of garages by square footage. Including a percentage of total square footage into the ordinance was discussed. Also amending the ordinance to cover temporary cover all type buildings and replacement of existing non-conforming buildings were discussed. The clerk will look at other ordinances to calculate some percentages.

Variance Request for City Sign ♦ Recommendation to the Board of Appeals:

Gayle Beisner explained that the City Parks Committee would like to locate North entrance sign on the Pine Ridge Assisted Living Facility property. The variance is unique because the city does not own any land to locate the sign. It is also unique because this is not a second sign owned by the property owners but instead is owned by the city. This sign would not be able to be constructed without this variance and would be a hardship to the economic development in the city. The committee recommended the variance request for the city sign to the Board of Appeals.

Location of Tractor Pulls & Cheese Days:

The Colby Chamber of Commerce proposed moving the Tractor Pulls and Cheese Days down near the East Side ball park north of the Industrial Park. The city owns land east of the ballpark that is being considered. The committee asked how any future improvements for the project will be funded. Motion was made by Schraufnagel, seconded by Hederer to allow the relocation of fill to the new potential Cheese Days pulls site. Motion carried with a voice vote. Kaiser voted no.

Bid for Public Library Occupancy Assessment

The committee reviewed the bid from Ratsch Engineering Company of \$2,000 to study the clinic building for the purpose of determining the feasibility of and structural modifications necessary to convert it to public library occupancy. This bid was

\$1,000 more than the council had approved to pay for this study. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Lange to re-bid the project. Roll Call Vote: Yes ♦ Lange, Beisner, Schmidt, Raatz. No ♦ Schraufnagel, Hederer, Kaiser. Motion carried.

Seno Companies Developers Agreement

This agreement amends the current developer's agreement with Summit Corp to allow Seno Development (Colby-Abbotsford Senior Village LLC) taxes to pay a portion of the commitment. Seno Corporation has committed to \$18,000 for 2011, 2012 and 2013. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Lange to approve the amendment to Summit Corp developer's agreement. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Board of Appeals met on August 24th.

Request for sign variance from the City of Colby for the North Entrance Sign

The variance is required from Ordinance Section 13-1-144(b)(1)(a) to allow for a second sign on the parcel. Notices were sent to Medford Vet Clinic, Audrey Venzke, Community Bank of Central WI and Super 29 Shell.

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Mayor Schmidt: Mayor Schmidt reported on the United Communities of Clark County Meeting.

Clerk Gurtner: Clerk Gurtner reported that the Computer Recycling Event will be September 18th and September 19th at the city shop.

Harland Higley Jr: The following building permits were issued: Lester Willner, 200 N Division St, re-roof; Mark Vollrath, 307 S 6th St, utility shed; Duane Underwood, 601B W Washington St, concrete slab in front of garage; Rosie Lioce-Sorci, 601 W Washington St, concrete slab in front of garage; Janet Gurtner, 207 N 6th St, new home; Deb McGhee, 219 S 3rd St, re-roof, re-shingle; Tesmer's T & C, 121 S 1st St, re-roof & furnace; Lyle Johnson, 201 N 1st St, kitchen remodel; Mary Dommer, 511 N 3rd St, kitchen remodel, Franklin Gustafson, 516 N Division St, re-roof.

Well #13 is holding at 45 gpm after pumping for 80 hours.

The easement and DOT application have been received from Fred Miller for the North city sign. The DOT application has been mailed.

Engineer Mike Voss: Engineer Mike Voss did not attend the meeting tonight but distributed an update on the ongoing projects in the city.

Operator's License: Application were received for operator's licenses for the following: Sherry Viegut, 208 Hickory Street, Abbotsford ♦ motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Schraufnagel to approve. Lori Holtzheimer, W1103 Capital Rd, Spencer ♦ motion was made by Schraufnagel seconded by Beisner to approve. Thomas Cheney, 511 E Terrace St, Colby ♦ motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Schraufnagel to approve. Stephanie Dunlavy, 704 W Adams St, Colby ♦ motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by Hederer to approve. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Offer to Purchase Agreement with Precision Builders ♦ 110 S Division Street: The city had accepted a bid from Precision Builders to purchase 110 S Division Street which the city received from a tax deed. During the title search the title company and Attorney Gamoke determined that the city should not sell that property for three years from the transfer date. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Hederer to sign an offer to purchase agreement that with Precision Builders to spell out the terms of the sale. The purchase price is \$21,500 and the closing date is scheduled for September 15, 2010. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Moving Old ♦ Welcome to Colby ♦ Sign to Industrial Park: Todd Schmidt from the Colby Chamber of Commerce reviewed some locations with the Mayor to re-locate the old ♦ Welcome to Colby ♦ Sign. The city owned lot in the Industrial Park right next to the water tower was a suggested spot. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Schraufnagel to move the old ♦ Welcome to Colby ♦ sign to this location. Raatz suggested using posts to mount the sign rather than using the current base. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Committee meetings for September: Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on September 14, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. at the Colby-Abbotsford Police Department. Water/Sewer/Streets Committee will meet on September 29, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. Finance Committee will meet on September 29, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. Personnel/Labor Relations Committee will meet on September 15th and 22nd at 6:00 P.M. Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee will meet on September 9, 2009 at 6:00 P.M.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Beisner to adjourn at 9:25 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved _____ Mayor _____
James W Schmidt
Attest _____
Connie Gurtner, Clerk