

March 3, 2015 **March Council**

The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Henaman, T Schmidt, Thieme, Oestreich, Hederer and Kaiser. O'Brien arrived at 6:40 PM. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Connie Gurtner, DPW Harland Higley Jr and citizens.

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

Minutes of the February 3rd council meeting were pre-read and reviewed.

Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Hederer to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Financial Statement and Bills were discussed. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by T Schmidt to approve the bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund \$669,310.91; Water Department \$61,430.76; Sewer Department \$37,898.66; Net payroll \$16,930.47. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission met on February 9th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Under Chief's report, Officer Bauer explained that they have received 61 applications for the Officer Position and 21 applicants have been invited to test. Based on the test results it is estimated that 10 applicants will be interviewed. Interviews were set up for March 9th and 10th.

Officer Bauer stated he reviewed the Cellcom plan and was able to save about \$70 per month with some changes to the plan.

Officer Bauer will be attending New Chief training put on by the Department of Justice in Madison. At this time there is an officer out on sick leave; it is estimated he will be out for about 2-4 weeks. It was stated that Officer Bauer has handled much of the overtime himself.

The commission met in closed session for the purpose of wage and benefit negotiations for Kocian. The commission approved a wage increase for Sandy Kocian - \$0.35 per hour, increasing her wage from \$17.40 in 2014 to \$17.75 in 2015, with the stipulation of attending training as assigned by the Officer-in-charge/Chief. Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Henaman to approve \$0.35 per hour and with the stipulation that she attend training. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee met on February 24th.

Comments from the Public: Scott Oestreich attended the meetings to voice concerns about the pulling track location. He was asked to attend a City Planning meeting to discuss his concerns further.

Banners: DPW Higley had done some research on banner costs and priced one of the most expensive digital banners from Display Sales at \$136 for a 24" by 60". The city would need 44 banners for the light poles on Highway 13 and the downtown area. The committee didn't decide on a style and would like the council input on designs.

Sidewalk and Slab for Shelter on S 1st Street: The committee would like to see a wood shelter at this location. They also discussed continuing the sidewalk from the new shelter to Broadway Street later this year.

Red Ball Clay on Ball Field: The committee decided to get red ball clay on all the ball fields this year.

Appreciation Plaque at South 6th Street: The committee discussed options to recognize businesses that have contributed to the S 6th Street shelter. They also discussed other items outside of the shelter construction that have been donated and how to recognize everyone.

2015 Projects: Other 2015 projects to consider include: stainless steel and counter tops at the concession stand at the ball park; painting; soccer field; dirt work; new picnic tables; and handicap swings.

Public Works Committee met on February 25th.

Equipment Bids for Wheel Loader/Tractor Loader Backhoe: We received 4 bids for the wheeler loader/tractor loader backhoe from the following companies: Volvo, Cat, John Deere and Case. The committee asked for a recommendation on machines. Higley stated that he and the other city workers went and tested the machines and stated they were all pretty good machines. Higley did state that Volvo is not as good for in trade value down the road compared to the John Deere. Higley stated his recommendation would be to purchase the John Deere Wheel Loader and the Case Backhoe at this time, he does need to review the bids further and will have a recommendation at the March Council Meeting. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to approve the purchase of the Case 580 SN Backhoe at a cost of \$71,010 and the John Deere 544 K Wheel Loader at a cost of \$118,495, unless DPW Higley has continued issues with the salesperson, then he has the right to go with the Volvo L 70H Wheel Loader at a cost of \$115,395. Motion carried with a voice vote. Kaiser abstained from voting.

Backhoe Wheel Loader
Volvo - \$115,395, 1 yr warranty
Cat \$78,200, 1 yr warranty \$134,800, 1 yr warranty
John Deere \$77,950, 7 yr warranty \$118,495, 7 yr warranty
Case \$71,010, 1 yr warranty \$125,452, 3 yr warranty

Well #14 and #15 Updates: Everything is going as planned right now for the well project. Plans for the wells are being reviewed by the DNR at this time.

Five Year Street Plan/Capital Improvement Plan: It's been awhile since we updated the capital improvement plan in regards to the streets; last update was done in 2006. The last update included a lot of projects we have since done and some that we have not gotten to. The mayor stated that with the close of the TIF that money will be tight for future street work. Any new street work would require new engineering numbers so we can budget for it. The city should have roughly about \$100,000 a year for street work going forward, so it may take a couple of years until we can do a project. Higley stated that with MISIP you should always have some sort of plan in place for grants. When creating a new 5 year plan you should consider looking at the condition of things underground when making a priority list. Street projects to consider in the future: North 2nd Street, South 2nd Street, Broadway (From Highway 13 to South 4th), East Street, Washington Street, South 5th Street, Broadway (from South 4th to South 6th St). The committee will brainstorm and bring back their ideas to the next meeting.

Review 2015 Street Milling Project: There are several streets that will be milled this summer, the streets are: Adams Street (2nd to 7th) and lay drain tile; Dolf Street (7th to 2nd); North 2nd Street (high school parking lot entrance to Adams); N 4th Street (Dolf to Adams) and the Industrial Park loop. The milling and re-laying will be roughly \$400,000. The city crew can do some of the work themselves and the rest will be left up to the contractor. The milling will start after June 8th and be completed by Sept 1st St.

Joint Fire/Ambulance Department Committee met on February 17th.
Mayor Schmidt reviewed the joint meeting. John Neihart, retired fire chief from Lake Hallie has offered his services to help the committee through this process. He said the next step in the process will be evaluation of all three departments. The committee will meet again on April 14th and he will have a recommendation to the committee if this consolidation would be possible after he completes these evaluations.

Mayor Schmidt: Mayor Schmidt reported on his meeting of Clark County Economic Development.

Clerk Gurtner: Clerk Gurtner informed the council that Deputy Clerk Polivka will be attending the UW Green Bay Clerk/Treasurer's Institute in July.

DPW Harland Higley: The following building permits were issued: Jim Jakel, 804 S Division St, raze house.

DPW Higley reported on the precipitation and flows for February 2015 at the STP. He also reported on the pumpage of water for February 2015.

Operator License: An operator license was received from: Deborah Olson, 303 S 5th Street, Colby, WI - motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Kaiser to approve. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Picnic License: A picnic license was received from: Knights of Columbus for March 13th - fish boil - motion was made by O'Brien, seconded by T Schmidt to approve. Motion carried with a voice vote

South 1st Street Change Order #2 for Switlick and Sons: Motion was made by Henaman, seconded by O'Brien to approve Change Order #2 in the amount of (\$2,000) for Switlick and Sons. This change order is add approximately 250 feet of 5 foot sidewalk and a 20' x 20' shelter slab - cost \$0 and to pay for additional engineering cost related to the installation of steel railings - cost (\$2,000). Motion carried with a voice vote.

MSA Contract Amendment #2 for South 1st Street Project: There is additional engineering costs related to the installation of handrails and because the project went beyond the substantial completion date. Total lump sum of the amendment is \$1,812.11. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to approve this amendment. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Resolution 2-2015 Opposing the Implementation of County Assessment in Wisconsin: Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by T Schmidt to approve Resolution 2-2015 as follows:

City of Colby
Resolution 2-2015
Opposing the Implementation of County Assessment in Wisconsin

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) proposes to change from municipal assessment to county assessment that requires 100% assessment of every property every year; and,

WHEREAS, this proposal will cause an unfathomable waste of taxpayer dollars through extraordinary cost increases; and,

WHEREAS, citizens will only be able to access a few Board of Review proceedings throughout an entire county, which significantly decreases the ability of local knowledge to create accuracy in the assessment process; and,

WHEREAS, towns, cities, and villages are no longer in control of their own costs because the county will just send them a bill; and,

WHEREAS, the proposal is an unprecedented intrusion into local government by requiring the state to suggest a salary range for their assessment director and work with the county to set a county budget and number of employees; and,

WHEREAS, the DOR has cited assessor problems as part of their rationale, but has never revoked an assessor license despite having the authority; and,

WHEREAS, over the last five years the DOR has already required additional work and detailed information from assessors to improve the process; and,

WHEREAS, this proposals kills private sector jobs and grows public sector jobs; and,

WHEREAS, the DOR cites that Wisconsin is one of few states that has municipal assessment, but forgets to note the strong leadership of Wisconsin citizens, our state's dedication to local input, and the simple lack of town government in many states;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Colby, Clark/Marathon Counties does hereby oppose the implementation of county assessment in Wisconsin and asks for the proposal to be removed from the budget; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Cities are and have always been willing to work with the State of Wisconsin, fellow local government groups, and other stakeholders to continually improve the assessment process.

James W Schmidt, Mayor
Connie Gurtner, Clerk

Purchase of VXU Vehicle Drive Bye: Motion was made by T Schmidt, seconded by Thieme to purchase a VXU Vehicle Drive Bye unit and a computer at a cost not to exceed \$9,200. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Committee meetings for March: Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on March 9, 2015 at 6:15 P.M. and March 10, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at the Public Safety Building. City Planning Committee will meet on March 19, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. Personnel/Labor Relations Committee will meet on March 31, 2015 at 6:30 P.M. Public Works Committee will meet on March 30, 2015 at 6:30 P.M.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Thieme to adjourn in closed session at 7:45 P.M. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved _____
James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest _____
Connie Gurtner, Clerk