The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Solberg, O’Brien, Kolden, Hesgard, Oestreich, Hederer and Kaiser. Schmidt was absent. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk 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 August 7th meeting were pre-read and reviewed. Motion was made by Hesgard, seconded by Oestreich 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 Solberg to approve the financial statement and bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund $223,807.47; Water Department $26,426.33; Sewer Department $17,711.61; Net payroll $20,500.01. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Public Comment:** The item from Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee report regarding the Boy Scout Shelter Repairs will be discussed under public comment. Jerry Zygowicz from the Boy Scouts was present and voiced some concerns regarding the issues with the shelter. He doesn’t understand why now the city is concerned about the Boy Scouts using the shelter. He is also wondering what the plan is with all of the materials that are on the list of costs to repair the building. DPW Higley explained the issues that need to be repaired which included the roof, siding and doors. He stated that the city is asking for the Boy Scouts to pay for the materials and the city crew will make the repairs to the building. Jerry Zygowicz stated that the scouts don’t have enough money to pay for those repairs. They may have ½ of the money. Mayor Schmidt suggested that this item be discussed at a committee in the near future.

**Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission** met on August 13th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Wellness Training:Chief Bauer would like to see the officers attend wellness training. The purpose of the training is to keep the officer’s mental and physical state as healthy as possible. Police officers deal with difficult situations on a daily basis and this training is geared towards making sure they learn how to effectively deal with the everyday stressors they encounter in their position. Chief Bauer believes it is important to offer this training for the current officers at this time, as the department has handled some especially difficult calls and situations recently. The cost of the two-day training is $4,000 plus travel and lodging expenses for the instructors. Chief Bauer estimated that the travel and lodging could cost up to $1,500. Other area departments have shown interest in attending the wellness training as well and would contribute towards the overall cost. The committee questioned Chief Bauer on how the department would pay for the training; he said there would be extra money in the training budget at the end of the year. Kramer stated that he has a hard time making decisions on the spot for agenda items such as these. He would like the information ahead of time so he has time to digest and make an informed decision. The commission approved the cost of the wellness training. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Kolden to approve the cost of wellness training with the total amount not to exceed $5,500. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Lieutenant Position:Chief Bauer stated he would like to create a lieutenant position within the department. Bauer stated that he is very limited on time lately and could use some administrative help. The lieutenant position would have added supervisory responsibilities and duties in addition to being a patrolman. The lieutenant would also be available when Chief Bauer is unavailable to handle situations that need supervisory attention. Bauer would like permission to create a job description and duties for the position and discuss it at a later meeting. An officer from within would be promoted to the lieutenant position with a small pay raise. The commission approved allowing Chief Bauer to move forward with creating a lieutenant position within the department.

Chief’s Report:Chief Bauer did not have time to provide a K9 report for July but will present a report at the September meeting. Bauer stated that citations were up this month because of the Click it or Ticket program. Bauer reported on minor maintenance issues with the Ford Expedition. Schmidt asked Bauer to provide the Police Commission with a list of all vehicles and their current mileage at next month’s meeting.

The commission met in closed session for the purpose of conducting interviews for the SRO position. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to accept the recommendations of the SRO committee and the Colby/Abbotsford Police Commission to hire Patrick Leichtnam as the SRO officer for the Abbotsford and Colby School Districts at the pay rate of $21.93 per hour, with an increase to $23.15 per hour following a 6 month probationary period, with all other benefits and conditions as per the current union contract. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Hederer, Hesgard, Kaiser, O’Brien, Oestreich, Solberg. Noes – none. Schmidt absent. Kolden abstained from voting. Motion carried.

**Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee** met on August 20th.

Municipal Rental Policy/Slip & Slide Rules: The committee reviewed the policy in detail. It was decided to charge $250.00 for a security deposit for non-residents. We are going to add some wording to charge any excess cost of damages above the security deposit. DPW Higley asked if we can add wording to restrict the use of motorized vehicles in the parks. Motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by O’Brien to approve the Park Rental Policy that was drafted by the committee. Motion carried with a voice vote.

2019 Budget: Bosmans explained the optimal layout and types of lights for the two volleyball courts. The LED light cost is $272 per fixture and 8 fixtures are required at a total cost of $2,176. Metal halide $100 per fixture at a total cost of $800. The electric cost to run these lights is minimal for the amount of time required during the summer. The cost of wiring is about $260 and about $100 in conduit/connectors/etc. The total cost of LED lights is about $2,800 and the committee will consider these costs for the 2019 budget. The committee discussed some 2019 projects for next year – dug out repairs, S 1st Street Shelter, seal the tennis and basketball courts, roof at the shelter of South 6th Street, tree plantings.

Kaiser thanked the organizers of this year’s volleyball league. The 1st place winners had donated the money back to the city to be used for repairs at the park.

South 6th Street Shelter: The Colby Pullers Club has agreed to move the shelter to the city property that they are using for pulls. Motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by Solberg to allow the Colby Pullers Club to move the building to the city property and allow them to use it. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Central Fire & EMS District** met on August 23rd.

The committee approved the 2019 budget of $663,500 of which the City of Colby’s portion is $61,116. The district is looking to get a motion from the city to see if they support the budget. Motion was made by O’Brien, seconded by Hederer to tentatively approve the 2019 budget of $663,500 until we have our budget meeting. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The district is looking at hiring a grant writer to try and get some money for the new district. There are more opportunities for grant money in the early years of a new district.

Chief Nitzke resigned from the district effective November 30, 2018.

**Mayor Schmidt**: Mayor Schmidt reported on the meeting of the Clark County Economic Development Meeting.

Mayor Schmidt appointed Tammy Solberg and Joanne Runge as Election Inspectors. Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to approve the appointments. Motion carried with a voice vote. Solberg abstained.

**Clerk Gurtner:** Gurtner reported that it is getting hard to find election workers and our neighboring communities are paying $12.00/hour, so we will discuss a wage increase a future meeting. She also reported on her WMCA training last week.

**Harland Higley**:The following building permits were issued: Merlin Schaefer, 503 S Main St, concrete driveway; Dennis Frome, 306 W Spence St, replace windows and step; Kevin Michlig, 502 S Main Street, sun porch; Loos Machine & Automation, 205 W Washington St, building expansion.

DPW Higley reported on the wells and pumping gallons from the water department.

**Engineer:** Mike Voss from MSA provided an update for the council. The City of Colby has been awarded a DNR principle forgiveness for our well projects of approximately $470,000. This money in addition to the $400,000 of CDBG will be used to do the Well #14 uranium removal and Well #9 & Well #12 Nitrate Mitigation projects.

**Operator’s License**:Motion was made by Kaiser, seconded by Hederer to approve the following operator’s licenses for Ashley Hagen, 220 W Taylor St, Unity and Katrina Kolzow, N13286 HiLine Ave, Colby. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Resolution 11-2018 Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Highground and Central Wisconsin Remembers Yellow Ribbon Campaign and Central Wisconsin Remembers Ceremonies:** Motion was made by Hesgard, seconded by Kolden to approve Resolution 11-2018 as follows. Motion carried with a voice vote.

*Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Highground,*

*and Central Wisconsin Remembers Yellow Ribbon Campaign*

*and Central Wisconsin Remembers Ceremonies*

1. *WHEREAS, the Highground in rural Neillsville, Clark County, Wisconsin, USA is commemorating their 30th Anniversary and that of the “Fragments” Vietnam Veterans Tribute; and*
2. *WHERAS, the Highground has become a veteran’s memorial park that pays tribute to the fallen service men and women, and honors the survivors, their service, and their sacrifices in times of conflict and in times of peace. It also pays tribute to the people who supported them when they were away and upon their return; and*
3. *WHEREAS, this site which started as the Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park in 1988, has evolved into “The Highground” and is now the home to tributes to all veterans, Legacy Stones, Learning Center, Meditation Garden, hiking trails, and much more; and*
4. *WHEREAS, honoring the mission of the Highground to offer healing and education by bringing past lessons into our hopes for the future; and*
5. *WHEREAS, so many gave their lives for our freedom and The Highground is a healing and learning site for both veterans and their families; and*
6. *WHEREAS, as part of this historic anniversary, will mark the day of September 22, 2018 as the official anniversary with parade, ceremonies and tribute; and*
7. *WHEREAS, we wholeheartedly, actively and reverently, participate in the recognition of our Vietnam Veterans – as this is also the midpoint of the 50th Anniversary of the United States Commemoration of the Vietnam War (1962-1975).*
8. *NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, we, the Colby Common Council pass this resolution as our way to honor The Highground and all our veterans and support the September 22, 2018 Central Wisconsin Remembers Those Who Served in Vietnam “Welcome Home” Ceremonies.*
9. *BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, we show our support for the “Yellow Ribbon Campaign” adjoining the “Light Up America” National recognition campaign marking September 22, 2018 thru Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2018 and ask all citizens to join in this very special recognition by honorably displaying yellow ribbons to officially welcome home our veterans.*

**Committee meetings for August:** Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on September 10, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the Police Department. Central Fire & EMS District will meet on September 20, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Colby City Hall. City Planning Committee will meet at 6:15 PM on September 26, 2018. Finance Committee will meet at 7:00 PM or immediately following City Planning Committee on September 26, 2018. Parks/Rec/Recycling will meet on Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

**Adjourn:**  Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Oestreich to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Connie Gurtner, Clerk