

New Sharon City Council Meeting
Monday, April 7, 2008
7:00 p.m., City Hall

The New Sharon City Council met in regular session at City Hall, Monday, April 7, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Ed Davis presiding. Council members present were Kenneth Ward, Dianna Klinker, Lisa Munn and Larry Applegate. Zack Pickard was absent. City employees in attendance were Kevin Lamberson and Diane Brand. Others in attendance were Jack Pope, Stacia McGriff and Michael Schaffer.

Klinker made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Mayor Davis gave the water, sewer and street reports. There was a total of 3,469,700 gallons of water pumped in March. The average pumped per day was 111,900 with the high being 157,300 and the low being 13,600. Booster pump #1 at the river pump house had to have the bearings replaced. A detention tank at the town pump house had two holes that were repaired. City workers have been busy spreading rock on the gravel roads. We are having problems with a muskrat at the lagoon digging holes in the dike.

The Police Report was given by Lamberson.

The Cemetery report was given by Applegate. He still needs to find someone to repair stones.

The Clerk's Report was given by Brand. The City received the insurance renewal from Patriot Insurance. There was an increase in the workers compensation premium. Brand, Amy McGriff and the EMC auditor have turned in corrected payroll amounts which should lower the premium considerably. There was discussion regarding raising the deductible to help lower the premium. Applegate made a motion to raise the deductible to \$2500. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Klinker made a motion to approve a grant to Jo's for \$981.84 from the New Sharon Recreation and Economic Development Foundation. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Klinker made a motion to leave the NSREDF funding at \$9,000 per year, however, the budget could be amended as the need arises. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

There was discussion regarding installing outside readers in commercial buildings.

The City received an estimate from Denco Corporation for pressure grouting and mud jacking on S. Main Street by the old Casey's. Ward made a motion to do some more investigating and get some more estimates. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

The City received a recommendation from Randy Stravers on how to sell city property located at 108 E. Maple. Munn made a motion to do some more research before making a decision. Applegate seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

There was some discussion regarding whether to allow tree trimmers and landscapers to continue hauling waste to the lagoon. The larger company's have already been notified that they are not to haul trees and waste to the lagoon. Munn made a motion to leave this as is now since there is no way of knowing who is being paid and who is not. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Jack Pope with Garden & Associates presented a proposal to the city for water system improvements. The improvements and their estimated costs include: Pump House/Booster Station Modifications for \$121,440, Well Construction for \$95,000, Elevated Storage Tank Repairs for \$2,750, Water Treatment Plant Improvements for \$156,500 and Distribution System Upgrades for \$187,580 for a total of \$563,230. Since the city did not qualify for the CDBG grant, they will need to apply for a SRF loan from the IA DNR. This is a 20 year loan @ 3% interest with a 1% initiation fee. The council will be raising water rates to help pay for these projects.

Klinker made a motion to apply for a \$600,000 SRF loan from the IA DNR. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Jack explained that the city is waiting on approval from the FHWA before proceeding with the Depot Street project. Right now the project is set for bid letting in May of 2009.

Applegate made a motion to increase the amount paid to Paul Jones for sewer testing by 4%. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Munn made a motion to give Gary Strobel, Kevin Lamberson and Diane Brand a 4% raise effective July 1, 2008. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

The mayor reminded the council that the NSREDF will be at the next meeting to discuss the application from the daycare for funding. He also notified them that the Spring Festival Committee would be attending the next meeting to discuss a possible dance at this year's spring festival.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Diane L. Brand
City Clerk

Edwin L. Davis
Mayor