

**New Sharon City Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
7:00 p.m., City Hall**

The New Sharon City Council met in regular session at City Hall, Wednesday, September 17, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Ed Davis presiding. Council members present were Kenneth Ward, Lisa Munn and Larry Applegate. Dianna Klinker and Zack Pickard were absent. City employees in attendance were Diane Brand, Kevin Lamberson and Gary Strobel. Others in attendance were Maynard Huffman, Bob & Twyla Septer, Dennis Houser, Kathy Grundmeier, Frank Reitsma, Jim Hargis, Jim & Sue Stursma and Bill & Sandy Livezey.

After adding item #5 Water St. Project and item #6 Sidewalk Repair for Mark & Pat Hanselman to the agenda Munn made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Applegate seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate made a motion to approve Resolution 091708A – Allowing Area 15 RPC to proceed with the grant/loan applications for a CDBG grant and a SRF Loan through Iowa Finance Authority to finance the Water System Improvement Project. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate made a motion to approve Resolution 091708B – Allowing Area 15 RPC to proceed with the loan application through the Iowa Finance Authority to fund the engineering fees for the Water System Improvement Project. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Ward made a motion to approve Resolution 091708C – Allowing Dennis & Cathy Houser to plant a tree in the parking area at 302 N. Main Street with the understanding that the Houser's will be responsible for any trimming and/or maintenance associated with said tree. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate made a motion to approve a building permit for Jim Hargis to erect a 1600 sf shop at 101 Highland Drive. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate made a motion to approve a building permit for Matt VanWyk to erect a fence at 304 S. Elm Street. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate made a motion to approve a building permit for Aaron Schock to erect a 1200 sf shop at 602 S. Pine Street. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Ward made a motion to approve a request from Blue Moon Bar & Grille for a refund of \$195 on the Liquor License. Applegate seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Bill & Sandy Livezey, Jim & Sue Stursma and Clark & Patti Oldham were invited to attend the meeting to discuss the drainage problem on E. Water Street. Livezey's and Stursma's were in attendance but Oldham's did not reply to the request and did not attend the meeting. The property owners need to install drainage tubes under their driveways and the City will take care of the ditch work and repairing the street once the tubes have been installed. Mayor Davis will check with the City Attorney regarding how to enforce the City Ordinance that is in effect.

Applegate made a motion to approve a request from Mark & Pat Hanselman to replace the sidewalk on the south side of their property at 107 N. Pearl Street. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

At this time, Applegate opened the bids for the vacant lot at 307 E. Cary Street. There were two bids received. Larry Smith bid \$200.00 and Huffman Feed & Supply bid \$500.00. Larry Smith was not in attendance therefore unable to raise his bid. The council discussed whether they wanted to accept this bid or not. Applegate made a motion not to accept this bid. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Applegate opened the bids for the commercial building located at 707 S. Main Street. There were four bids received. Frank Reitsma bid \$5,000.00, Dale & Kathy Grundmeier bid \$5,400.00, Jim Hargis bid \$8,000.00 and Larry Smith bid \$200.00. Jim Hargis' bid was for the entire lot, however, that is not how it was advertised. Mr. Hargis did not want to bid on the smaller lot so his bid was thrown out. Dale & Kathy Grundmeier are the high bidders at this point. At this time, the bidders were given the opportunity to raise their bids:

Frank Reitsma bid	\$5,500
Kathy Grundmeier bid	\$5,600
Frank Reitsma bid	\$5,700
Kathy Grundmeier bid	\$6,000
Frank Reitsma bid	\$6,250
Kathy Grundmeier bid	\$6,500
Frank Reitsma bid	\$6,750
Kathy Grundmeier bid	\$7,000
Frank Reitsma bid	\$7,250
Kathy Grundmeier bid	\$7,300
Frank Reitsma bid	\$7,500

Kathy Grundmeier dropped out at this point. After discussion from the Council, Applegate made a motion not to accept this bid. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

The Water Report was given by Mayor Davis. There was a total of 4,350,000 gallons of water pumped in August. The daily average was 140,000 gallons with the high being 170,000 and the low being 108,000. The #3 well was recently acidized and a new pump and motor installed. Well #2 is in need of the same maintenance. The 50,000-gallon water tank in the park was cleaned & inspected and found to be in good shape.

The Sewer Report was given by Strobel. Everything is working properly at this time. There is a problem with residential homes running their sump pumps into the sewer. Whenever there is a heavy rain, the water runs to the sewer instead of the storm drains. This is against City Ordinance and the Council needs to decide how to proceed.

The Street Report was given by Strobel. Simmons Construction has been rebuilding the intersection at S. Mulberry and E. Cherry. Work should be completed soon.

There was discussion regarding the Depot Street widening project. The bidding let date should be sometime in March of 2009 with work to begin on June 1, 2009. Work is expected to take approximately 4 weeks. The City has closed S. Park Avenue from E. Depot where the gravel ends for drainage tile installation.

The Police Report was given by Chief Lamberson. Terpstra Masonry was hired to remove a window at the police station and fill in the hole.

The Cemetery Report was given by Applegate. Strobel repaired the road in the cemetery.

Applegate made a motion to approve of the changes to the mission statement for Mahaska Emergency Management. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Munn made a motion to allow the foreign exchange student from Germany to observe at the fire station as long as we can include him on the City's insurance policy. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

The Clerk's Report was given by Brand. Munn made a motion to set Beggar's Night for October 31, 2008 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. Brand requested that the City subscribe to the New Sharon Sun and The Oskaloosa Herald. Applegate made a motion to subscribe to both. Munn seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. The batteries on the City's cell phones are not holding a charge. Brand researched and found that batteries would cost \$29.95 each and new phones would cost \$19.95 each with a two-year contract. Applegate made a motion to purchase new phones. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. Brand asked the Council for permission to hire Richard McCulley to manage the City's website at a cost of \$50/month. Munn made a motion to hire Richard for this. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

Munn made a motion to set the date for a public hearing to inform citizens of the City's plan to re-apply for the CDBG grant to help pay for the Water System Improvement Project for October 6, 2008 at 7:00p.m. Ward seconded. Roll Call Vote: All ayes.

There was discussion regarding selling the 1986 International Dump Truck. The Mayor is going to check with Barnes City and Lynnville. If either one of them would like to purchase it; the City can sell it to them without going through the bidding process. There is also a sander that can be bought with it. The sander will be sold at a firm price of \$3,000.

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Davis adjourned the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

Diane L. Brand
City Clerk

Edwin L. Davis
Mayor