

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
APRIL 10, 2008, 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Riddle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Mayor Jeremy Riddle and Councilors Paul Whitcomb, Dick Dobson, Victoria Hallin, and Lee Steinbrecher. Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Tom Mismash, Brian Payne, Joe Backlund, Bob Gerold, and Ann Bien. Also present was City Attorney Damien Toven.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO THE AGENDA:

Under Consent Agenda:

- A. Permits and Licenses
 - 1. TNT Fireworks, Sale of fireworks at Pamida's parking lot
- B. Personnel
 - 2. Liquor Store
 - b. Stephanie Hauger, hire as Liquor Clerk @ \$9.48/hr. eff. 04-09-08
 - c. Jon Moos, hire as Liquor Clerk @ \$9.48/hr. eff. 04-14-08
 - d. Amanda Oehmen, hire as Liquor Clerk @\$9.48/hr. eff. 04-10-08

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2008 AND BOARD OF REVIEW OF APRIL 3, 2008

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 28, 2008, AND BOARD OF REVIEW OF APRIL 3, 2008. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Hallin corrected the amount the City received from the Cable Commission was over \$27,000. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADOPT THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT. ON THE VOTE AS AMENDED: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Permits and Licenses**
 - 1. TNT Fireworks, Sale of fireworks at Pamida's parking lot
- B. Personnel**
 - 1. Fire Department
 - a. Jeremy Ostrander – Status Change to Regular Firefighter eff. 04-10-08
 - 2. Liquor Store
 - a. Norah Roberts, Step Increase to \$14.10/hr. eff. on or about 04-22-08
 - b. Stephanie Hauger, hire as Liquor Clerk @ \$9.48/hr. eff. 04-09-08
 - c. Jon Moos, hire as Liquor Clerk @ \$9.48/hr. eff. 04-14-08
 - d. Amanda Oehmen, hire as Liquor Clerk @\$9.48/hr. eff. 04-10-08
- C. Donations/Designations**

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

OPEN FORUM

No one was present for Open Forum.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

A. Ad Hoc Bridge Committee

- 1. Draft Minutes of March 25, 2008**
The above minutes were reviewed.

B. Fire Advisory Board

- 1. Draft Minutes of April 1, 2008**
The above minutes were reviewed.

C. EDA

- 1. Draft Minutes of March 27, 2008**
The above minutes were reviewed.

D. PUC

- 1. Minutes of February 27, 2008**
The above minutes were reviewed.

E. Cable Commission – Council Member Hallin

Hallin reported she attended the April 7th meeting. She stated there are 9 cities and 2 townships in the Commission. They are conducting an audit of the franchise fees and expect to find miscalculations which will result in more fees paid to the entities. They will be meeting again in June.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Princeton Fireworks Fund Request for Donation

James Dalziel explained that the Fireworks Committee is a separate group from the Legion and VFW, and he has been assigned to be in charge of this year's fireworks display on July 3rd at the Fairgrounds. He stated activities will include a live band at 7 p.m., food sold by the 4H, and other family activities. He asked for the City to consider a donate, not asking for a specific amount. He stated the total cost is a little over \$12,000. No salaries are paid and they are asking other organizations for donations as well. He explained this year they will be honoring Viet Nam and Cold War Vets. He explained the Committee has been hit hard by the Legion not sponsoring gambling sites and the VFW income is lower. They will also be asking FD and PD to participate in safety and security, as well as promotion. The rainout date is the following Sunday. Jackson reported the City donated \$500 in 2007.

DOBSON MOVED TO DONATE \$500 TO THE FIREWORKS FUND. HALLIN SECOND-ED THE MOTION.

Steinbrecher asked if the Council would consider raising the donation to \$1,000 because of the shortage of money. Karnowski suggested locking the donation at \$500 and add to it if necessary.

ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Troy Minske, Request for Street Dance

Troy Minske explained he is trying to organize a street dance on Saturday, June 21st, as a kick off to the summer. He stated the dance will run from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. and will be free to the public. The Jaycees will be selling alcohol. He stated he may ask for a police officer to be present for security.

Police Chief Payne recommended a fenced in area to serve alcohol and someone to control ingress and egress to the area to monitor minors. He stated he can have extra officers on duty, but cannot provide a specific officer. Minske stated he hadn't initially thought about the alcohol issue, but has started to address concerns. He stated he would not be blocking off street in front of other businesses.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE A STREET DANCE IN FRONT OF 101 NORTH 4TH AVENUE ON JUNE 21, 2008, FROM 7 P.M. UNTIL 11 P.M. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C. Mille Lacs County Historical Society Assessment Request

Representatives from the Mille Lacs County Historical Society asked to postpone this item until another meeting to allow them to gather more information.

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO POSTPONE THIS ITEM UNTIL A FUTURE MEETING.

D. Northern Attitudes Street Dance Info

Carol Dalske, owner of Northern Attitudes Bar and Grill, reported she has scheduled her annual street dance on June 12, 2008, in conjunction with Rum River Festival from 8 p.m. until midnight. She explained her parking lot will be fenced off as in previous years and there have been no problems in the past. Police Chief Payne stated from the Police Department's perspective, Dalske has set the bar for street dances by doing a really good job of maintaining the beer gardens. No action was required by the Council.

E. Memorial Day Walk Information

Karnowski reported a Memorial Day Walk is scheduled for May 26th from 10:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. along Highways 95 and 169. Dobson stated his problem is the time frame they are using, that being Memorial Day since it is the day veterans honor veterans. He stated the Vets have programs from 10 a.m. until the afternoon. As a veteran, he doesn't like anything taking a way from the Veteran's program. He stated he also concerned with safety on the highways. Riddle stated he has met both representatives of the Walk and suggested Dobson talk to them about future dates.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. PFRD Fee Ordinance Amendment (first reading)

Karnowski reported the City has finally instituted a billing process for fire runs and we have now received our first payments from insurance companies for recent fire runs. He explained the billing was based on the rate reviewed and recommended by the Fire Advisory Board and adopted by the City Council. He reminded the Council the reason the rate structure outlined in the ordinance was adopted was because FEMA requires that rates be in place before they will reimburse a City should the City send the department to assist at a major disaster (like the St. Peter tornado, etc.).

He reported the insurance companies sent payments for the maximum amount allowed under most insured's policies, which is \$500. He stated that demonstrates one of the concerns the Fire Advisory Board and staff had when the concept was recommended to the Council of what do about the balance.

He stated the options available include going after the insured for the balance/difference which was not the original intent of the Council. Another option would be to adjust the rate by adding "minimum charge" language. He stated Fire Chief Roxbury suggested that the City's base charge for fires could be \$500 and the base charge for vehicular accidents \$300. The City currently does not charge for medical runs.

The Fire Advisory Board reviewed the issue and recommends that the Council adopt an amendment to the current ordinance to charge a base fee of \$300 to \$500.

DOBSON MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE #617, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING EXHIBIT E, FEE SCHEDULE OF THE PRINCETON CODE OF ORDINANCES. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Riddle asked if there was an option to add "maximum allowed by the insurance company." Karnowski answered we've been advised to stay away from that type of language. Steinbrecher asked if \$150 was enough for loads of water; especially for luxury items; i.e. swimming pools. Riddle thought the cost of water is quite low so the \$150 would probably be enough.

ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Ordinance #616, Storm Sewer Utility

Blake reviewed the Storm Water Utility (SWU) information sheet provided by WSB. He explained a storm water utility fee is part of the water resource management plan and is charged to existing landowners like similar utilities (sanitary sewer and water). The fees generated are used to offset maintenance of the current storm water system. A SWU is already adopted by several neighboring cities. Staff compared the proposed quarterly rates to other communities around us and found them to be comparable.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE #616, AN ORDINANCE CREATING A STORM SEWER UTILITY. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Premise Permit for Elk Lake Easy Riders Snowmobile Club

Jay Swanson, president of the Elk Lake Easy Riders Snowmobile Club, was present to request approval of a premise permit for his organization to sell pulltabs at the Princeton Golf Club. He handed out a list of donations the organization has paid out in past years.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #08-13, A RESOLUTION APPROVING PREMISE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR ELK LAKE EASY RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Steinbrecher stated he would like to see some monies come back to the school district and community. Swanson stated they would like to make these types of donation and the key issue is to request the funding.

ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Asbestos Removal – Riebe Property

Blake reported the City received five comparable new quotes through Resource Training for removing the asbestos from the buildings and stabilizing the lead paint at the Riebe

property. The low bid was from Environmental Plant Services for \$6,000. The cost is 50% reimbursable from the MN DNR Grant the City received last year.

HALLIN MOVED TO ACCEPT BID OF \$6,000 FROM ENVIRONMENTAL PLANT SERVICES FOR REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS AND STABILIZING THE LEAD PAINT AT THE RIEBE PROPERTY. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Compost Site Program

Mismash reported the annual compost site program for city residents will begin this weekend. He explained it is a good public relations program and is used by many resident, although it does not pay for itself.

MISCELLANEOUS: None

BILL LIST – \$167,826.38

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE MANUAL CHECKS NUMBERING 58519-58521 FOR A TOTAL OF \$217.85 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST, WHICH WILL BE CHECKS NUMBERING 58523-58605, FOR A TOTAL OF \$167,608.53 AS SHOWN ON THE BILL LIST. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:45 P.M. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Bien, Deputy City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor