

**MINUTES OF STUDY SESSION OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON JANUARY 3, 2008, AT 4:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Acting Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order. Council members present were Acting Mayor Paul Whitcomb and Councilors Dick Dobson and Victoria Hallin. Mayor Jeremy Riddle and Council Member Lee Steinbrecher absent (excused). Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Brian Payne, Jay Blake, and Ann Bien. Also present were City Attorney Dick Schieffer and City Engineer Mike Nielson (WSB).

ARCADIAN HOMES SITUATION

City Planner Blake explained Arcadian Homes is a series of three four-plexes on West Branch Street. He stated the City has received a number of reports in the past of sewage backup, but this last fall a flowage of sewage over the ground was reported. The landowner gave the City permission to jet out the sewer at that time, but it was only a temporary solution. The City was charged and the bill was forwarded to the owner, but it has not been paid. The property is in foreclosure at this time. The problem continues and only recently a renter had to leave their unit until the sewer line was jetted again. He stated staff is looking at ways to remedy the problem and since it is a health threat, staff feels the City can use its nuisance ordinance.

City Attorney Schieffer suggested the best remedy is to use the hazardous building statute, which also covers hazardous conditions on a property. He stated we can take advantage of the prior letter informing the owner the problem needed to be remedied, which the owner did not do. The City can declare the property to be hazardous and order the property owner to fix the problem. If the problem is not fixed or an answer is not received, the City can go to court and then start fixing the problem. The cost can be assessed. He stated the City's lien will have priority over all other liens on the property. Although the case law is old, he feels the court will hold the City's lien as superior since it is usually considered like taxes. Title work has been started.

Blake stated the preliminary cost estimate from Nielson is \$65,926.78. He stated this would not be a public sewer, but a private sewer constructed to City standards. Schieffer stated the statute gives the City the right to go on to the property to do this work, so an easement is not necessary.

Nielson commented the cost could be higher because of the frost. The original estimate was prepared in November when it was first thought to be done. He would go through the plan with contractors to put together a better cost estimate.

Hallin asked if this would help in cleaning up the apartments from mold, sewage, etc. Blake answered no.

Karnowski asked if the residents would be without sewer for a few days while work is being done. Nielson stated there would be temporary bypass pumping.

Whitcomb asked if a public hearing is not necessary since it is private sewer. Shieffer explained a public hearing is not required and the process is similar to non-payment of utilities.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #08-01, A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE CORRECTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AT 101 THROUGH 123 WEST BRANCH STREET. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INTERVIEW BOARD/COMMISSION CANDIDATES

The Council asked those present if they wished to say anything regarding their (re)appointment to the various boards/commissions.

Thom Walker expressed his interest in being reappointed to the EDA.

Mark Schneider stated he has been on the Park Board long enough to know he wants to stay on it, stating they are coming up with new ideas and projects and he wants to continue to be part of it.

Skeeter Lane stated he feels the same as Schneider and cares about the parks.

Eugene Stoeckel explained he was first a liaison from Princeton Township and then appointed to the Airport Board. He stated he wants to continue to be on the board because he thinks they are doing positive things.

Joe Glenn stated he has been actively attending Airport Board meetings for the past several months. He stated he has a vested interest since he is a pilot and also has a hangar at the airport.

Lynette Lindgren stated she owns and operates a business out of airport, she has a couple of hangars at the airport, she is a student pilot, and she wants to be involved in the airport decisions.

Tom Brekke explained he is new to the area. He has been involved in aviation most of his life and wants to see the airport grow. He would also like to see a flight school.

Ed Juntilla stated he enjoys being on the Public Utilities Commission and has not missed a meeting during his past three year term.

Karnowski reported he received a memo from the League of MN Cities regarding a movement to make cable franchise a state regulated operation. He suggested contacting the City's local State representatives if the City wants to keep cable under local control rather than state control.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO REAPPOINT BEN HANSON TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING 12-31-10. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DOBSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT THOM WALKER TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A SIX YEAR TERM EXPIRING 12-31-2013. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Council decided to wait to appoint someone to the uncompleted term of Sarah Lund which expires 12-31-09 since no one has expressed an interest in this position at this time.

DOBSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT MARK SCHNEIDER AND SKEETER LANE TO THE PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD FOR THREE YEAR TERMS EXPIRING 12-31-10. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Regarding the Airport Advisory Board, Dobson stated he thought Stoeckel has been a representative and took an active role and Joe Glenn has been attending meetings, coming up with good questions and answers.

DOBSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT GENE STOECKEL AND APPOINT JOE GLENN TO THE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD FOR THREE YEAR TERMS EXPIRING 12-31-10. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DOBSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT ED JUNTILLA TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION FOR A THREE YEAR TERM EXPIRING 12-31-10. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPOINT LOU HOFFMAN TO THE HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR A FIVE YEAR TERM EXPIRING 12-31-12. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DOBSON MOVED TO REAPPOINT VICTORIA HALLIN TO THE CABLE COMMISSION FOR A ONE YEAR TERM EXPIRING 12-31-09. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCIL LIAISON SELECTIONS

The Council decided to keep the same liaisons to the various Boards:

WHITCOMB MOVED TO KEEP APPOINTMENTS AS THEY ARE:

Planning Commission	Lee Steinbrecher
Park Board	Dick Dobson
Airport Advisory Board	Dick Dobson
Public Utilities Commission	Dick Dobson
Economic Development Commission	Paul Whitcomb, Victoria Hallin
Fire Advisory Board	Paul Whitcomb
Housing & Redevelopment Authority	Dick Dobson
Tree Board	Dick Dobson
Cable Commission	Victoria Hallin
Mille Lacs Co. Historical Society	Jeremy Riddle
Library (P.A.L.S.)	Victoria Hallin
ECRDC Board	Jeremy Riddle
Chamber of Commerce	Lee Steinbrecher

HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2008 PRIORITY GOALS DISCUSSION

Karnowski presented a status report of 2007 priority projects and asked the Council to consider which projects should be considered priority for 2008. Hallin and Dobson thought #18, extension of 21st Avenue south to the industrial park should be moved up to the top of the list. Karnowski also suggested the replacement of the two bridges be at the top of the list. Dobson added the comp plan needs to be worked on on a regular basis.

January 3, 2008

Page 4

GARBAGE HAULING LICENSE FOR ALLIED WASTE SERVICES

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2008 GARBAGE HAULING LICENSE FOR ALLIED WASTE SERVICES. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

There being no further business, DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:07 P.M. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 3; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Bien, Deputy City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor