

**MINUTES OF A STUDY SESSION OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
JUNE 4, 2009, 4:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Acting Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order. Council members present were Councilors Victoria Hallin, Dick Dobson and Lee Steinbrecher. Mayor Jeremy Riddle was absent. Staff present was Steve Jackson, Jay Blake, and Katie Hunter.

PARK TRESPASSING DECLARATION

Sargeant Backlund explained that in May, the Princeton Police were dispatched to Riverside Park for an intoxicated underage male who ended up with alcohol poisoning. The officers investigated the incident and arrested Eugene Charles Kneer for Procuring Alcohol to a Minor. Backlund requested approval of the Council to issue Mr. Kneer a Trespass Notice from the park. Backlund supplied the Council with copies of MN Statute 609.605; TRESPASS. The notice will forbid Mr. Kneer from entering Riverside Park.

DOBSON MOVED TO ALLOW SARGEANT BACKLUND TO ISSUE MR. KNEER A TRESPASS NOTICE FROM RIVERSIDE PARK. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UPDATE ON NEIGHBORHOOD STABLIZATION PROGRAM

Jay Blake stated that he looked into three different foreclosed properties. One is listed \$75,000.00 and would only need new windows and a new roof. The second home is a HUD home with five bedrooms and needing a lot of improvements. This home is listed at \$74,900.00 with nearly 1800 square feet. The third home he looked into is an older home and at one time was a beautiful home. This home is located along West Branch where four or five homes have already gone through rehabilitation. This home is listed at \$42,000.00 currently.

Lakes and Pines will do the inspections on the homes and give an estimated list of repairs. Then, this list is presented to the EDA.

Blake stated that he is already in contact with families that are interested in purchasing the homes after they are fixed up. Jay stated that if possible, he would like to arrange for improvements to take place without having to actually purchase the home.

Whitcomb asked if the Council had any questions on the NSP update. No comments or questions from the Council at this time.

FORECLOSURE ORDINANCE

Dick Scheiffer stated that when looking into other cities that have Foreclosure Ordinances, he found that other municipalities have more authority over the properties and are able to charge fees. Because it is hard to tell whether the buildings are actually foreclosed or just empty, Scheiffer suggested titling the ordinance as Vacant Building Ordinance. Scheifer stated that by the next council meeting, he will have something in place for the council to view.

Scheiffer stated that past assessment records will be looked at on each home, then Mr. Blake will give the condition of property. The City will then determine whether or not the expenses we incur are likely to be recovered. Blake stated that the goal is to condense the process, and give fair legal opportunities to the homeowner fix their properties. Dobson stated that speeding up the process is a plus so our city stays a nice city.

RESOLUTION #09-22 A RESOLUTION ORDERING THE CORRECTION OF HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS AT 1806 FIRST STREET, PRINCETON, MN

Blake explained that the property located at 1806 First Street is littered with oil, tires, and batteries that have not been cleaned up and the property owner unable to be reached. The building is currently open and is considered an unsafe structure. Building Inspector Lynn Paulson concluded that the structure is hazardous, in addition to the problems that are ongoing. Schieffer brought an updated Resolution #09-22.

Sheiffer stated that the cost of tearing down the home would be too high. In the updated resolution, staff is asking council to approve boarding the home up. The home currently has seven years of back taxes.

Blake stated that Gerold will look into local contractors to take care of the boarding up of the home. The costs of boarding the home up will be assessed to property.

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 09-22. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

SALE OF LIQUOR STORE

Blake updated the City Council on the purchase agreement for the sale of the old Liquor Store. Brueske's attorney has looked over the purchase agreement. The Contract for Deed will be a separate form that will be reviewed later. Blake stated that because we are a City Government, there are no taxes due. The closing date will be set for the week after next.

Blake stated that staff has asked Brueske to get approval from city on specific alterations of the building before performing the upgrades. Blake also stated that Brueske would like to open his new business on July 15, 2009. The Council asked what the old Zapp Sporting Goods location was going to be used for. Blake explained that Brueske would like to use the other building downtown for another business venture.

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF PRINCETON, SELLER AND JAM PROPERTIES, BUYER. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Steinbrecher commented that three different people commented to him that if they knew they could have gotten a deal that good, they would have put in an offer on the lot.

ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Board of Review Training

For the Council's information, there is a Local Board Training being held at Borgholm Township Hall on Thursday, June 18th, 2009 at 1:00 pm. At this time, no one can attend this particular training.

Fireworks Permit - Ace Hardware

DOBSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR SALE OF FIREWORKS AT THE PRINCETON ACE HARDWARE 706 SOUTH RUM RIVER DRIVE. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Fireworks Permit - TNT Fireworks

DOBSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR SALE OF FIREWORKS AT THE PRINCETON PAMIDA; 705 NORTHLAND DRIVE. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Peddler's License - Uncle Gerry

HALLIN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A PEDDLER'S LICENSE FOR UNCLE GERRY SELLING COTTON CANDY ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE FOR JULY 11, 2009. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Peddler's License – Hoffman

HALLIN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A PEDDLER'S LICENSE FOR BEN AND ERIN HOFFMAN; SUBCONTRACTORS FOR JOE NOTSCH, SELLING FOOD AT A STATIONARY TRAILER AND ALONG THE PARADE ROUTE FOR JULY 11, 2009. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Raffle License – Lions Club

STEINBRECHER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR EXEMPT PERMIT FOR THE PRINCETON LIONS CLUB FOR A RAFFLE HELD AT STEVENS RESTAURANT AT 202 RUM RIVER DRIVE ON OCTOBER 5, 2009. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Temporary 3.2 License – Jaycees

DOBSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE A TEMPORARY 3.2 LICENSE FOR THE PRINCETON JAYCEES FOR JUNE 13, 2009 FOR A BEER GARDEN AT THE CRAFT FAIR SUBJECT TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Speaker at Future Meeting Date

Sargeant Backlund discussed having Joe Korte, the St. Cloud Police Department Prevention Officer, come to speak to the Council regarding restrictions on allowing past felons to move into the city. The next work session is set for July 2, but there are two Council Members that already know they cannot attend because of the upcoming Fourth of July weekend. Blake stated he will suggest July 9, 2009 inviting the speaker to come before the Council.

June 4, 2009
Page 4

There being no further business, DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:25 P .M. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 4; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Hunter, City Clerk

ATTEST:

Paul Whitcomb, Acting Mayor