Agenda
Regular Meeting of the City Council
Monday, March 23, 2009

I. Call to Order
   A. 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

II. Roll Call
   A. Members present:

   B. Members absent:

   C. Consultants and City Staff present:

   D. Visitors present:

III. Consent Agenda
   A. Minutes of Past Meetings: Consideration for approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday, March 9, 2009, as presented. Addendum #1

   B. Charitable Gambling: Consideration for approval of an Application for Exempt Permit, submitted by the Caledonia Rod & Gun Club, for a gambling event to be conducted at Good Times Bar & Pizza, 118 Bissen Street, on March 28, 2009, to include raffles. Further, they request waiver of the waiting period.

   C. Workshops
      1. Water / Waste Water Workshop: I request authorization for Council Member Murphy and Tony Klug to attend a water / waste water workshop to be held at Oronoco on March 24. There is no registration fee, though there may be reimbursable expenditures for meals, and the like, and mileage charges.

      2. Annual LMC Loss Control Meeting: To request authorization for Council Member Murphy, Bob Nelson, Tony Klug, Mike Gerardy, Stephanie Mann and Randy Shefelbine to attend the Annual Loss Control Meetings. This is to take place at Rochester on April 21. Registration fee is $20 per person.

   D.

   E.

Council Action:

IV. Visitors and Communications

A. Manufactured Home Park: Notice has been sent that the Council will make a decision on the application from Mike Rogich to establish a manufactured home park along the south side of East Grant Street. Addendum #2

Council Action:

B. Zoning Application – Ron Hagen: Mr. Hagen is returning with a revised drawing, illustrating the proposed construction on an 8 ft. wide mud room then attached to a 30′ x 36′ garage. Addendum #3

Council Action:

C. Police Officer Response Time: Is the Council prepared to make a decision at this time, regarding the 15 minute residents and response time for police officers. The officers have testified that some cities have a longer response time, such as 30 minutes, some cities leave it up to the officer as a discretionary issue of how far they should live from their duty assignment and some cities apparently have no restriction whatever with officers or chiefs of police living a significant distance from their duty station. On the other hand officers have negotiated the Caledonia Police Association Agreement to be paid through their lunch hour since they claim they are often interrupted having their meals and must immediately leave the restaurant with their food uneaten in order to respond to emergency situations. Often times police officers even leave their vehicles running in the sense of urgent response that they need not take the time to start the vehicle to response to an emergency call. Within the past few years, a newly hired police officer has been instructed to move nearer to Caledonia from the city of Spring Grove, a distance of 9 miles whereas this petition is being made to reside at a city located approximately 12.5 miles away with a stretch of extremely cricked and hazardous roadway, Badger Hill, between Houston and Caledonia. If it is true as Officer Heuser stated that because of snowing and frosted conditions an officer may take longer than 15 minutes to respond to the duty station even if living in Caledonia, then it would follow that under those adverse conditions it may take an hour for an officer to respond from Houston.

Council Action:

D. City Accountant: Stephanie Mann will present a report of 2008 showing budgeted amounts versus actual, a cash and investments statement as of February 28, 2009 and a debt service statement. Addendums #4, #5 & #6

Council Action:

E.

F.

G. Communications

1. Tri-County Electric Annual Meeting. Addendum #7
2. Zero Deaths, MNDOT. Addendum #8

V. Old Business

A. Water Purchases: At the past council meeting a council member indicated that water cooler rental equipment and water in container purchases should be terminated by the City and left up to individuals to purchase their own water. While investigating the issue, I found that water coolers were being rented for the City Clerk's Office, Police Department and Liquor Store. Water in jugs is purchased to be placed on these coolers. In addition, one-half liter water bottles are purchased by the Fire Department, presumably to be taken to fires and practices for the firefighters. Does the Council wish to treat all these uses equally? I recommend a motion and vote be taken by the Council on this issue as it was in all other previously decided measures for budget reduction.

Council Action:

B. Zoning Amendments: Regarding the multiple proposed zoning amendments to be made to the section for manufactured home parks, how do you wish to proceed? Do you wish to set a time for continued meeting or a special meeting when you would review each of the proposed amendments line by line as a committee of the whole?

Council Action:

C.

D.

VI. New Business

A.

B.

C.

VII. Clerk's Report

A. EDA Program: I will explain a current concern with the EDA Program and a project which has completed its second year of contract for a tax abatement.

B. Police Chief Position: As of this date we have 3 applications for the position of police chief.

C. Liquor Store Staffing: The interview committee is scheduling interviews for Thursday, March 26, for the position of Liquor Store Assistant Manager.

D. Continued Meeting: This is a reminder of the continued meeting scheduled for Monday, March 30, when the Council will hear from The Brimeyer Group, Inc., concerning their plan and proposal for conducting the hire of an administrator for the City of Caledonia. That meeting will also include consideration of the zoning ordinance amendments for parking spaces and for uses in an R-2 District which are to include government buildings. That continued meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m.

E. Claims Inquires: At the first meeting of the month the Council made inquires concerning some claims, as follows. With regard to a billing from Green Power Equipment, a question was asked about which generator needed the repair. It was the large generator behind city hall which is to operate the city hall and city auditorium in the event of loss of the substation. Also a question was asked about the billing from Hawkins Incorporated for chemicals for the water and waste water systems. Tony Klug says he bid the items out years ago, but primarily changed to the current company because they delivered the chemicals in bulk and during business hours. The company, from whom we previously purchased, delivered the chemicals in the middle of the night or at times when the plant was not open. They were dropped off in 15 gallon containers outside the fence. The orders for chemicals included certain types of acids. Tony believed this was highly inconvenient and possibly risky should any passersby's be tempted to break open the containers. Therefore he switched to this company. We also checked on the expense for costs of W-2 Forms from Reliance Business Forms. The total cost of $260.04 was for tax forms which are a series of forms compatible with the software program that the city owns. Part of the reason for the high cost is that the forms come in packets of 100. We need more than 100 but less than the 200 of each series of forms which we must buy. If they could be purchased individually we would probably only need 130 or 140 forms.

F. Spring Grove Summer Program: Representatives of the City of Spring Grove attended the March 16th meeting of the Recreation Committee. Discussion was held on the possibility of Caledonia joining a league of smaller communities on this side of the Mississippi River to include some Iowa communities. The general belief is that it is now to late in the year to consider moving from the LaCrosse League, but attention would be given to it for 2010 and thereafter. One volunteer coach said he did organize his team and teams from Spring Grove to

play some extra games last summer and would certainly look forward to doing that this summer.

G. Construction Improvement Presentation: Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Associates called, asking if the Council would like to have a presentation from their Association on the procedure for going through a construction improvement project which would include discussion on engineering, financing, inspection, and the like. I believe Mayor Burns recently attended a meeting in the League of Southeast Minnesota Municipalities where such a presentation was made.

H.

I.

VIII. Miscellaneous Items

A.

B.

C.

IX. Adjournment