

Ruthven City Council Meeting  
May 19, 2009

The Ruthven City Council, of the City of Ruthven, Iowa, met on the 19th Day of May, 2009, at 6:30 PM, in regular session, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, pursuant to law and to the rules of said council.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor, Charles Oppedal in the Chair, and the roll being called, the following members were present:

PRESENT: Hawk, Johnson, Schoning, Henningsen

ABSENT: VerHelst

Schoning motioned and Johnson seconded to approve the consent agenda items including Minutes, Claims Report and Clerk's Report as presented. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Lisa Scott was present to discuss a parking issue in front of her property at 1403 Rolling Street. It was discussed that a no parking sign posted, would not allow the residents to park there either. The resident will put up their own sign on their property to see if it helps.

There was discussion in regards to semi truck parking on residential property. It was determined that if the street is not along a designated truck route it should not be allowed.

Representatives from the Lost Island Sanitary Sewer District met with the Council. There was discussion in regards for the need of daily readings to be provided by the district. The Lost Island Sanitary Sewer District agreed to start providing that information. There was discussion in regards to the 19% share of the expenses in regards to the lagoon. City Clerk Kay Suhr and Public Works Director Jeff Simington will compile a list of expenses for fiscal year 2008-2009 and provide that to the district.

Henningsen made a motion to purchase pool drain covers to be in compliance with the new safety requirements. Schoning seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting Aye.

The Council was updated on community improvements. The painting of the water tower is underway. The demolition of the Sass and Vanderhoff buildings is expected to start in the next few days. It was discussed to block off the lot when cleared to allow the ground to settle. Delivery has been received for new tables and chairs at the social center. These items have been received as part of the Lost Island – Ruthven Betterment gaming grant. It was suggested to have the Mayor check if there is a consignment auction that the old tables could be put on.

It was reported that some preliminary work has begun for installation of playground equipment.

It was reported that the City has received a payment for a court fine for a nuisance property. The City Council will be assessing any current nuisance properties.

The Ruthven Care Center has requested assistance in filling a dunk tank for activities for Bully Bullhead Weekend. City employees will assist them with this.

It has been determined that there are problems with the interior portion of the water tower. Pictures and exact information was shared with the Council.

Henningsen made a motion to have Maguire Iron make the repairs and the three coat application for \$27,910 while completing the painting project. Hawk second the motion.

Ayes – Henningsen, Schoning, Hawk. Nays – Johnson. Absent – VerHelst. Motion carried.

There was an extensive review and discussion regarding current utility rates and specific revenues and expenses that are incurred by each individual utility.

Johnson made a motion to prepare a draft of a new Sewer Ordinance to change the basic rate for sewer to \$25 and leave the per gallon rate at \$2.35 per 1000 gallons effective July, 1, 2009. Henningsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote.

Ayes: Johnson, Henningsen

Nayes: Schoning, Hawk

Absent: VerHelst

Motion Failed.

Hawk made a motion to prepare a draft of a new Sewer Ordinance to change the basic rate for sewer to \$17 and change the per gallon rate to \$3.00 per 1000 gallons effective July, 1, 2009. Schoning seconded the motion.

Roll call vote.

Ayes: Johnson, Henningsen, Schoning, Hawk

Nayes: None

Absent: VerHelst

Motion Carried.

Schoning made a motion to eliminate the provision relating to a one person household for garbage and establish a basic monthly rate of \$15 for all garbage service effective July 1, 2009. Henningsen seconded the motion.

Roll call vote.

Ayes: Johnson, Henningsen, Schoning, Hawk

Nayes: None

Absent: VerHelst

Motion Carried.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:52 by Henningsen and seconded by Schoning. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

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Charles Oppedal, Mayor

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Kay Suhr, City Clerk