

Ruthven City Council Meeting
August 4, 2009

The Ruthven City Council, of the City of Ruthven, Iowa, met on the 4th Day of August, 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 Pro Tem, Jay Schoning in the Chair, and the roll being called, the following members were present:

PRESENT: Hawk, Henningsen, Johnson, Schoning, VerHelst

ABSENT: Oppedal

Hawk motioned and VerHelst 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.

There was a discussion regarding the properties that have received a second letter in regards to nuisance issues on their properties. The property owners were given until August 17, 2009 to resolve the issues.

VerHelst made a motion to proceed with filing contempt of court charges on a property owner that the City of Ruthven has already received a judgment against. The property has not been cleared and fines not paid. There was not a second. Motion died for lack of a second.

Jon Josephson was present in regards to cemetery stone installation. He reported that there have been some cemetery stones installed in a substandard manner. These stones are already tipping. Also stones are getting installed without the purchase of the monument permit. Jon presented his list of recommended installation requirements. It was determined that specifications will be written up and installers will be notified of the requirements.

Jon Josephson also presented a report on the Cemetery grant project including his additional labor hours for the project. The project is currently coming in under budget.

City Clerk Kay Suhr provided information to the Council in regards to the burglar that occurred at the Ruthven Pool on August 2, 2009.

IJOBS was discussed. The city has received \$3,341.29 in grant funds. This is approximately 45% of the funding. The remaining 55% is expected in July 2010. It was discussed what the funds could be used for and the reporting requirements.

Correspondence was shared from Emmetsburg Low Rent Housing Agency in regards to the need to be officially authorized to provide Low Rent Housing services in the City of Ruthven.

Henningsen made a motion to authorize Emmetsburg Low Rent Housing Agency jurisdiction in the City of Ruthven per Iowa Regulation 24CFR982.51. Hawk seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

A discussion occurred in regard to the request from the Ruthven Care Center for separate addresses for the Ruthven Care Center, Ruthven Villa, Ruthven Assisted Living and Office of Opportunity. City Clerk Kay Suhr and Emergency Management Director Mark Hunefeld have visited with the Ruthven Care Center and the Ruthven Post Office as to various options. At the time of the Council meeting a decision had not been made, so the item was tabled until a later date.

Henningsen made a motion to authorize the transfer of payment to Lost Island - Ruthven Betterment Association in the amount of \$4,293.77 to be received from the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Corp. for the gaming grant that the Betterment Association had partnered with the City of Ruthven to receive. VerHelst seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

The Council reviewed a request from Heidi Gellerman for a raise, for cleaning the Social Center. The Council felt she was doing an excellent job, but did not feel they could give her a raise at this time.

VerHelst made a motion to approve a 3% raise for the 3 full time city employees. Henningsen seconded the motion. Ayes – Hawk, Schoning, VerHelst, Henningsen. Nay – Johnson. Motion carried.

It was reported that the grant from Iowa Brownfield for asbestos removal on the buildings has been received. It was also reported the playground equipment installation has been completed and a final report has been sent to the Palo Alto County Gaming Development Corp. for a final payment for that grant.

A motion to adjourn was made at 7:42 by Hawk and seconded by Henningsen. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Jay Schoning, Mayor Pro Tem

Kay Suhr, City Clerk