

Ruthven City Council Meeting  
August 18, 2010

The Ruthven City Council, of the City of Ruthven, Iowa, met on the 18th Day of August, 2010, 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, Trenton Keefer in the Chair, and the roll being called, the following members were present:

PRESENT: Anderson, Henningsen, Johnson, Schoning,

ABSENT: VerHelst

Schoning motioned and Henningsen 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.

Schoning introduced Resolution no. 12-2010, A resolution of the city council of the City of Ruthven, Iowa, to approve River Valley Telecommunications Coop. use of the public right of way for telecommunications service for the next twenty five years.. Seconded by Johnson.

Resolution adopted with roll call vote.

Aye: Johnson, Henningsen, Anderson, Schoning. Nay: None Absent: VerHelst

Don Halder Zoning Officer was present to discuss a zoning permit for 1408 Main St. He is concerned if the property lines will allow space for the structure that has already begun to be built. The Council directed a letter sent to the property owner to establish the property lines and stop further building until the issue can be resolved and a valid zoning permit is obtained.

The buildings at 1309 & 1311 Gowrie Street were again discussed. Information was provided to the Council regarding costs for asbestos abatement and demolition.

Johnson made a motion for the City of Ruthven to take no action at this time. Schoning seconded the motion. Aye – Johnson, Schoning. Nay – Henningsen, Anderson. Motion failed.

Anderson made a motion to check if the City's liability insurance would cover if the city obtained these properties. Henningsen seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Steffens were also suppose to check for funding.

Schoning made a motion to direct the city clerk to apply for the Keep Iowa Beautiful Grant. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

The Council acknowledge the receipt of the petition regarding the community center presented from Mary Steffen at the last council meeting. No action taken.

Henningsen made a motion to issue a check to the Ruthven American Legion for the final payment for the gaming grants when the check is received from Palo Alto Co. Gaming Development. Schoning seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Council reviewed photos of the current status of nuisance properties. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Henningsen made a motion to approve the use of the street excavation permit application. Schoning seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

The Council was updated that all the state final papers has now been received and filed for the winter disaster. It was also stated that there will be meeting for the summer disaster on Aug. 19,2010.

Information on City finances was provided to the Council to review.

Mayor Trenton Keefer announced that a verbal resignation from Jeff Simington for the Public Works Director position has been received effective Aug. 20, 2010.

Henningsen made a motion to hire and advertise to fill the second full time position. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Henningsen made a motion to check with Iowa Lakes Rural Water and Brian Klein to check rates for testing services in the interim. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

The idea to change employee benefits to accrual for vacation and sick time was presented. This may be further discussed.

It was reported that an election for mayor on this years general election will not be needed provided that the position is filled through August 25, 2010. If vacated after that date the normal procedures would apply. This was clarification due to some changes at the state level.

Henningsen made a motion to put Ordinance 03-2010 on first filing. An Ordinance Setting the Meeting Date and Time by Resolution. Johnson seconded the motion. Whereupon, the Mayor put the question on the motion, and the roll being called, the vote thereon was as follows:

Ayes: Johnson, Henningsen, Schoning, Anderson

Nayes: None

Absent: VerHelst

Henningsen made a motion to approve Peterson Farm Equipment to install a small sanitary sewer to service their shop only due to the fact it is not feasible for the City to provide service to that location. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

A discussed occurred regarding setting misc. charges. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

A discussion occurred regarding customers with previous delinquent accounts.

Henningsen made a motion to purchase a 10 compartment recycling trailer from Pro-tainer for the Palo Alto Co. Gaming and DNR SWAP grants. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Henningsen made a motion to allow the R-A Junior class free use of the social center to hold blood drives. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

Henningsen made a motion to allow the Ruthven Masonic Lodge free use of the social center to hold their meetings. Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

It was suggested to start the search for a pool manager for next year earlier.

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:18 by Henningsen and seconded by Johnson. Motion carried with all members present voting aye.

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Trenton Keefer, Mayor

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Kay Suhr, City Clerk