Clerk Meeting Notes September 10, 2019

Meeting start @ 7:15 p.m. Quorum met

Roll call: Barb Matal, Stephanie Schmidt, Kathy Herrman, Bill Stark, Bev Stark (clerk), Thomas McElroy (mayor), Shelby Waterhouse (water and sewer technician), Steve Engel (mowing, road work)

Minutes of August meeting were read by Bev. Approved and seconded.

Thomas appointed Bev Stark be approved as interim clerk/treasurer until we get past some of the upheaval (i.e. USDA grant application, loan application for sewer improvements). Legality of combined position discussed. It is understood that this is not uncommon in small towns. Kathy Herrman is interested in the treasurer position. We need to update the signature card to include another signee. Bev will get paperwork from the bank.

Shelby Waterhouse requested that the chlorination system be updated to a safer system using liquid chlorine instead of chlorine gas. The council agreed. Shelby will get costs and equipment specifics for the next council meeting in Oct. He also brought a WaterWise Enterprises price list. Shelby has also attended two classes: Chlorination and Disinfection for Potable Water, and Potable Water Certification Prep.

Old Business: Jerilyn Stull of LaCrosse Abstract and Title is working on lagoon easements.

New Business: The 2020 Annual Budget was submitted for approval. Bill moved for approval, Stephanie seconded…motion voted on and passed. Jackie Reynolds and Cassie (?) moved into 105 W 3rd (previously owned by Theresa Williams, currently owned by Mitch and Nikki Connors) on 9-9-19. They were given a welcome letter, and utilities are switched to J Reynolds’ name.

Bills were approved to be paid.

Meeting recessed at 7:10.

Meeting reconvened at the school basement @ 7:15 p.m. for the public hearing of the sewer lagoon rebuild. Faye Trent of Great Plains Development, Richard Ammel of EBH Engineering, Bob Pfeifer, Judy Hoffman, and Louise Dechant attended public meeting.

The city of Liebenthal is under orders from KDHE to improve our sewer lagoons. If awarded the USDA RD loan then we will have 40 years to pay off, with no penalty for early payment, and at 2.1% interest. Faye Trent was approved as Grant Administrator for grant through CDBG for improvements to sewer lagoons. Judy H. complained that notice was difficult to find (small print and on last page with small type). Suggested next time to include public notice in the city bills. Richard A. explained details of the lagoon repair. Public meeting was adjourned at 7:35.

Business meeting was reconvened at 7:38 after JH, BP and LD left. EBH Engineers fees are estimated at $81,000. Bill moved to approve EBH as contractors, Barb M seconded. Vote carried. Thomas signed these contracts. Faye Trent explained that a fee is associated with writing the grant proposal which covers overhead of administering grant (10 % for administration approx. $1500. If we pay a membership fee then they charge 5% ($750). Bill makes a motion to have Great Plains Dev. as grant coordinators, Kathy seconded. Vote passed. Resolution 2019-01 moved to pass by Bill, seconded by Barb, vote passed.

Originals for these Resolutions will be in application and we will receive a copy. The CDBG budget will be put together by Faye, and she’ll send a copy to Aubrey Neussendorfer (USDA RD).

Bill moved to appoint Great Plains Development as administrator, Barb seconded, motion passed.

Bill moved to adjourn, Stephanie seconded, motion passed.