

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF WHITTEMORE, IOWA
*Monday, December 3, 2007 – 5:30 P.M.***

The Council of the City of Whittemore, Iowa, met in regular session on Monday, December 3, 2007 at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Elbert presiding. Present were Council members Simonson, Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. Members absent: none. Others in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting included Councilperson elect Kathy Fraser, Don Miller, Nancy Kayser and son, Andrea Thompson and Mike Elbert.

The Oath of Office for four-year terms of service was administered by Mayor Elbert to newly-elected Councilperson Kathy Fraser and re-elected Councilpersons Karl Setzer and Donna J. Muller. Their terms of office will be January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2012. Incumbent Laurie Dahlhauser, who chose not to seek re-election, was thanked for her eight years of dedicated service to the citizens and community of Whittemore, Iowa.

Don Miller of ATC Cablevision Co., Ayrshire, was in attendance to discuss with the Council current television programming situations, proposed rate increases, and general business of the local cable provider. Mr. Miller stated there will be a rate increase forthcoming and he updated the Council on high-definition viewing and i Wireless communication that will be available in the near future. He also announced that ATC Cablevision Co. will be hosting a soup supper "Open House" on Tuesday, December 18 and he urged cable customers to watch local publications for details of the event.

Nancy Kayser was present representing the Kossuth County Fair Foundation. As the Kossuth County Fair will be celebrating its 150th year in 2008, the Fair Foundation and Fair Board are working to raise funds to help repair and maintain the buildings and resources at the fairgrounds in Algona. She talked about upcoming fundraisers that will be held prior to the July 27 – August 3 fair in 2008. The Council thanked her for taking the time to make a presentation during this meeting. Upon further discussion motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Simonson to purchase a \$100 raffle ticket and make a \$50.00 cash donation to the 150th Celebration of the Kossuth County Fair. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

There being no additions or corrections, the minutes of the November 5, 2007 regular Council meeting were approved as published in the November 15, 2007 edition of the *Whittemore Independent*.

The November, 2007 Clerk- Treasurer's Financial Reports were reviewed. Following are the Receipts and Transfers for the month: General \$23110.52; Electric \$28651.52; Gas \$37308.73; Water \$6249.77; Sewer Rental \$3250.71; Solid Waste \$4359.14; Payroll \$16439.20; Equipment \$2055.10; Special Account \$45.54; Trees Savings Account \$0.46; Playground Savings Account \$0.16; Project Share \$5.00; Community Center Savings \$30.00; Road Use Tax \$3492.03; Customer Deposit \$none; Special Assessment \$none; Library Improvement Savings \$100.00; Library Renovations Savings \$27.28; Library Regular Account \$22.95; Library Renovations Checking \$none; Community Enhancement \$200.00. Motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Setzer to accept the November, 2007 Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

The following claims were presented for payment:

Clayton Energy Corp., reservation charges, service fee and natural gas purchased - \$34187.18
Total (all) Employee Wages – 10228.86
Total (all) Contract Labor – 231.00
A T & T, long-distance calling – 102.31
Qwest, telephone service – 289.18
Treasurer, State of Iowa, sales taxes – 2664.00
Treasurer, State of Iowa, use taxes – 160.00
Advanta, lodging for Gas and Water meetings – 360.49
Iowa DNR, iron removal filter construction permit – 100.00

Don Long, reimbursement for furnace filters purchased - 21.39
 Janan Gillis, cleaning - 80.00
 K-Mart, supplies and videos - 204.20
 Audio Editions, audio cassettes - 8.00
 The Prairie Pirates Movie LLC, video - 17.50
 Redbook, 24-issue subscription renewal - 18.00
 Taste of Home, 20-issue subscription renewal - 19.97
 Create & Decorate, 14-issue subscription renewal - 34.97
 Kossuth Co. Library Association, 2008 membership dues - 25.00
 American Library Association, membership dues for Joy and Judy - 164.00
 Center Point Large Print, books - 38.94
 Thomas Bouregy & Co., books - 138.50
 Baker & Taylor, books - 229.84
 Kossuth Co. Emergency Management Agency, 2007-08 civil defense dues - 238.50
 Stundahl's Cleaning Service, November cleaning at Community Center - 100.00
 Evans Sign & Display, Christmas light bulbs - 68.24
 Border States Electric, lighted "EXIT" sign at Community Center - 108.64
 Arnold Motors, oil filters, thermal flasher, FI male, 250 female - 71.42
 Five-Star Tool & Supply, 2 band saw blades - 119.90
 Northwest Communications, website hosting fee - 25.00
 J. Terry McGuire SERVICEMASTER, carpet and floor cleaning at City Hall - 120.16
 I C & E, annual rent for cooling towers on railroad property - 30.00
 Algona Municipal Utilities, 25 KVA transformer - 100.00
 Resale Power Group of Iowa, power purchased - 19571.97
 Bryan Meyer, mileage to IAMU Water Distribution classes - 92.70
 Hach Company, pocket tester and chemicals in Water Plant - 106.00
 Hydrite Chemical Co., chemicals in Water Plant - 549.45
 Cargill Inc., bulk salt at Water Plant - 3,230.60
 Elbert Bros. Well Drilling Inc., replace submersible pump in Well #4 with Pump rig service, etc.,
 15 HP submersible motor, pump ends, etc. - 7,866.63
 Mangold Environmental Testing Inc., wastewater testing - 43.00
 Stanley Propane, fill LP gas tank at Sewer Plant (@ \$2.08 per gallon) - 1,624.00
 Horizon's Unlimited, recyclables processing fee - 64.20
 CNH Capital, Mid-Land Equipment parts for Case loader - 297.63
 Elbert Chevrolet Inc., bulb for Street Sweeper - 1.92
 Terry's Welding Inc., weld crack in Street Sweeper tank - 53.00
 Whittemore Truck & Trailer Inc., heater hose on Street Sweeper - 14.61
 Mid-American Research Chemical, battery cleaner & protector and
 anti lock anti-seize (all vehicles) - 175.08
 NIACOG, 5th monthly installment (Housing Grant rehab) - 385.00
 Printing Services Inc., supplies at City Hall (including new chair floor mat) - 165.64
 Aramark Uniform Services, rugs, mops and uniforms - 319.84
 I.A.M.U., quarterly NCISA Safety Dues and Gas OQ misc. fees - 303.63
 Bomgaars, hardware cloth, engine heater, brake fluid and floor dry - 71.42
 Whittemore Independent, November publications - 284.65

Motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Muller to pay the above-mentioned claims and any other regular bills received during the month. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

The following building permit applications were submitted for Council approval:

Gerald Bormann: Replace one (east) window in basement of house at 502 Kossuth Street.

Jeff Fehr: Replace old with new, the walk-in door on east side of garage at 523 Third Street.

Larry Besch: Replace old with new, the garage door on house at 617 Fifth Street.

Warren Householder: Tear off old shingles on shop and storage shed and replace with new. All work to be completed at 605 Fifth Street.

Pending final authorization by the city superintendent, motion was made by Muller and seconded by Dahlhauser to approve the above-listed applications for Builder's Permits. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

The delinquent accounts were reviewed; the Clerk was instructed to begin the collection process to recover the arrears amount due on utility account #22001.

Per correspondence with Marsha Cory of Simmering-Cory, Inc. the City of Whittemore has submitted, in a timely manner, an application for a Community Development Block Grant for the construction of a new water treatment plant. At this time, motion was made by Muller and seconded by Simonson to hire Richard Hopper of the engineering firm Jacobson-Westergard & Associates of Estherville to prepare a Viability Report for the City of Whittemore. Roll was called and vote was as follows, AYES: Simonson, Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Motion carried. The report is a necessary component in applying for and receiving a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan for the city's required "local match" (\$586,500) portion of CDBG funding of a new water plant. The Clerk and Superintendent to assist Richard Hopper in compiling the Viability Report; the Clerk to work with Simmering-Cory in order to complete the SRF loan application.

Written correspondences from Bill Lindley of Clayton Energy Corp. report that he has purchased more natural gas for Whittemore for the 2007-08 heating season. Mr. Lindley will be in Whittemore next week on December 11 or 12 to informally meet with those who are available. His time of arrival has yet to be determined.

Upon review of surrounding communities and randomly-selected towns throughout the state with regard to (local) jake brake ordinances, motion was made by Simonson and seconded by Setzer that the City formally abide by State laws governing engine and/or compression brake noise nuisances and that four (4) signs be ordered from the Iowa DOT for the entrances to Whittemore directing semi-trailer traffic to comply with said State laws related to noise nuisances. Roll was called and vote was as follows, AYES: Simonson, Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Councilperson elect Fraser announced the Whittemore website is up and running again and she encourages everyone to keep in contact with www.whittemoreiowa.com

The date and time for the next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2008 beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall.

There were no City Committee Reports to be heard.

With regard to a question raised by Councilman Setzer concerning what appeared to be rusty water problems in late November, Supt. Elbert explained that the city's fire hydrants were flushed on Wednesday, November 28. This routine procedure should solve the problems being experienced by citizens complaining of rusty water. He reported that several attempts were made earlier last fall to flush the hydrants, but problems with the leaking iron removal filter at the water plant prevented performance of the work. With the new motor being installed in the well and the bypass of the iron removal filter taking place, the hydrants were flushed and results seem to have taken care of the rusty water issue.

Councilperson Dahlhauser inquired about the status of the sink hole(s) at the city tennis/basketball courts. Supt. Elbert stated nothing had been done this fall to investigate what the problem might be as they did not appear until late in the season. The courts will be closed all winter due to the sink hole(s). Next spring city personnel will try to determine the cause of the sink hole(s) and the situation can be assessed more accurately at that time.

The upcoming meetings schedule was reviewed.

At this time the Council awarded a 2007 Christmas bonus to each of the employees of the City of Whittemore.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Elbert declared the December 3, 2007 regular meeting adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

/s/ **Linda K. Farrell**
City Clerk