

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF WHITTEMORE, IOWA
Monday, July 7, 2008 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Council of the City of Whittemore, Iowa, met in regular session on Monday, July 7, 2008 at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Elbert presiding. Members present included Simonson, Fraser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. Absent: none. Others in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting included Kris Stubbs, Holly and Bill Simonson, Roger and Ione Kenne, Bev Walker, Joe and Mary Straub, Rick Hopper, Andi Thompson and Mike Elbert.

Mayor Elbert thanked the Legion members and friends who helped build the handicap accessible ramps for Henry “Hank” Ewoldt and Jerry Walker. Efforts like these are what make Whittemore work!

City officials met with Bill and Holly Simonson, Roger and Ione Kenne, Bev Walker and Joe and Mary Straub about problems with water and/or sewer back-up in their basements after the recent heavy rains on Wednesday, June 11. The City will conduct dye testing for several of the homeowners to help determine where the floor drains exit the homes and if they are connected to the correct sewer line. Supt. Elbert will also make sure repairs are made to the catch basin at the west corner of the intersection of Kossuth and Third Streets.

Kris Stubbs of the Resale Power Group of Iowa met with the Council to discuss electric rates and other issues associated with the energy industry. She has reviewed the City of Whittemore’s current rate structure, described as a declining block rate, and she spoke of several means to achieve goals set forth by the utility. The Council had several questions regarding charges, credits, etc. associated with the City of Whittemore being considered an “interruptible service” with R.P.G.I. and Kris Stubbs promised to look into the monthly billing process. Several other issues were discussed and the Mayor and Council thanked Ms. Stubbs for her very informative presentation.

There being no corrections or additions, the minutes of the June 2, 2008 regular Council meeting and the minutes of the June 9, 2008 Special Council meeting were approved as published in the June 7 and June 19, 2008 editions of the *Whittemore Independent*.

The June, 2008 Clerk-Treasurer’s Financial Reports were presented for review. Following are the Receipts and Transfers for the Month: General \$27917.00; Electric \$26976.19; Gas \$52294.96; Water \$26221.61; Sewer Rental \$3285.40; Solid Waste \$4422.89; Payroll \$19847.19; Equipment \$7924.12; Special Account \$45.54; Trees Savings Account \$0.40; Playground Fund \$0.14; Project Share \$5.00; Community Center Savings \$80.00; Road Use Tax \$3814.90; Customer Deposit \$150.00; Special Assessment \$none; Library Improvement Savings \$260.00; Library Renovations Savings \$4.41; Library Regular \$44131.02; Library Renovations Checking \$none; Community Enhancement \$200.00.

Mayor Elbert read a copy of a letter from the Iowa Department of Economic Development, requesting cities who received grant monies for the fiscal year 2008-09, to consider foregoing spending the money for one year and donating the funds back to the State of Iowa to assist with disaster relief efforts in neighboring communities affected by tornadoes and heavy flooding. The Mayor and Council feel the \$300,000 awarded to the City of Whittemore by IDED for the water treatment plant project is far too important to the community of Whittemore to consider delaying the plant replacement project for one year, and the Council unanimously agreed to proceed forward with plans for a new water plant facility. Motion was then made by Brownell and seconded by Fraser to accept the June, 2008 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 - \$31803.79
Total (all) Employee Wages – 12054.96
Total Mayor and Council Members salaries, 2nd Quarter, 2008 – 729.96

Total (all) Contract Labor – 675.50
 Matt McCauley, refund of customer deposit – 348.00
 A T & T, long-distance calling – 95.26
 Qwest, (all) telephone bills – 213.42
 Treasurer, State of Iowa, sales taxes – 2093.00
 City of Whittemore, FY 2007-08 transfers – 40000.00
 Whittemore Public Library, FY 2007-08 transfer from City – 40600.00
 Shamrock Recycling, E-Waste and Brown Goods recycling day hosting fee – 175.00
 Advanta, lodging for IAMU (electric) meeting in Ankeny – 64.72
 Janan Gillis, cleaning - 80.00
 K-Mart, supplies - 37.19
 Good Housekeeping, 1 year subscription renewal - 21.37
 Iowa Gardening, 2 year subscription renewal - 24.95
 Mayo Clinic Health Letter, 2 year subscription renewal - 49.00
 The Family Handyman, 1 year subscription renewal - 24.98
 Sports Illustrated, 1 year subscription renewal - 89.04
 Country Extra, 2 year subscription renewal - 21.96
 The Des Moines Register, 1 year/52 weeks daily newspaper (only) subscription renewal - 156.00
 Eischen Sausage Haus, meat/sausage for Library's Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser on June 15, 2008 - 56.00
 Pitchers, supplies for Library's Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser (\$122.60) and hand towel dispenser - 176.15
 Discount School Supply, supplies for Summer Reading Program - 39.49
 Mr. Twister, entertainment for Summer Reading Program - 295.00
 Office Depot, office supplies - 112.23
 Demco, supplies - 182.66
 Midwest Tape, audio books - 117.57
 Baker & Taylor Entertainment, videos - 178.17
 Midamerica Books, books - 208.06
 Baker & Taylor Books, books - 341.33
 Center Point Large Print, books - 38.94
 Stundahl's Cleaning Service, June cleaning of Community Center - 125.00
 Hutzell's Inc., Little League materials/equipment - 39.75
 Community Lumber Supply, ball marker/lime for Little League ball diamond and sand mix, and 30 SL1
 tubes, etc. at Swimming Pool - 601.46
 Palmer Pools & Spas, ¾ hp. Pump and a case of Pool Magnet - 579.20
 PepsiAmericas, pop at Pool and Noah's Park - 112.80
 Allyn Boelman, CPR renewal certifications for (3) lifeguards - 60.00
 Tom Eischen Sales, chain saw sharpening (trees) - 20.00
 L & G Inc., skid loader with grapples for tree removal - 150.00
 Northwest Communications, monthly website hosting fee - 25.00
 Iowa League of Cities, FY 2008-09 membership dues - 374.00
 NIACOG, 12th monthly installment for Housing Rehab grant (\$385.00) and
 FY 2008-09 membership dues - 708.30
 City of West Bend, set electric utility pole - 160.50
 Resale Power Group of Iowa, power purchased - 26,158.95
 Hydrite Chemical Co., chemicals at Water Plant - 571.58
 Cargill Inc., coarse salt at Water Plant - 3,209.79
 Mangold Environmental Testing, wastewater testing - 72.00
 Horizon's Unlimited, recyclables processing fee - 64.20
 Shamrock Recycling, recycling fees - 655.20
 Kurt's Lawn Care, 2nd application at Noah's Park, Pool, Time Square, signs, etc. - 443.00
 Bonnstetter Auto Body, mirror for 1992 Chevy pickup - 33.05
 Lacial Equipment Inc., materials for Street Sweeper repair - 781.12
 Elbert Chevrolet Inc., steering wheel fluid on Dump Truck - 9.20
 Gene's Tire Center, (mower) flat tire repair - 19.80
 Printing Services Inc., supplies at City Hall - 93.56
 Whittemore Independent, 1 yr. subscription renewal at Library and City Hall - 50.00

Whittemore Independent, June publications - 281.85
ATC Cablevision, monthly internet fees at Library and City Hall - 55.68
Bro Business, copies at Library and City Hall - 145.89
Pool Tech, pumps and tube assembly for use at Swimming Pool and Water Plant - 986.94
Mid-American Research Chemical, insect repellent - 213.14
K's Industrial Supply, "NO Smoking" signs for all public areas (\$349.55) and correction to Inv. 1248 for street marking paint - 416.16
Bomgaars, air compressor, shop vac and brake fluid for "Shop", floor wax and trash bags at Light Plant, and paper towel at Ball Park - 289.85
Max Yield Cooperative, June statement includes marking lime for ball diamond, Parmitol for weed control in Streets, and (all) vehicle fuel - 1,804.87
Schmitt Hardware, June statement - 51.48
Kossuth Economic Development Corp., FY 2008-09 per capital dues (530 @ \$3.60) and County-Wide Breakfast sponsorship - 2,408.00
City of Whittemore, utilities - 2,794.19
City of Whittemore, \$306.03 total petty cash expenses as: \$2.13 paper towel at Ball Park; \$22.25 supplies at Pool; \$16.00 Clerk's Luncheon at Mallard; \$7.50 wash jobs for city vehicles; \$74.11 Library postage; \$2.70 water samples postage; \$1.34 City's 2007 Annual Report to Clayton Energy Corp., \$180.00 stamps.

City of Whittemore OWNER-OCCUPIED REHABILITATION PROGRAM Application and Certification for Partial Payment:

Contractor: A & J Construction, Eagle Grove
Period: Start of project to July 1, 2008
Application for Total Payment Due: \$19,763.00

City of Whittemore Request for Payment/Activity Status for COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (Water Plant Project):

Pay request #1 for period ending June 20, 2008
Engineering fees: \$6,165.00
Total Net Request: \$6,165.00

Motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Muller to approve the above-listed claims for payment. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

The following applications for Builder's Permits were submitted for Council consideration:

Elton Wood: Enlarge existing patio by 4 feet in width. All work to be completed at 514 Fifth Street.

Henry "Hank" Ewoldt: Build handicap accessible ramp on south side of house at 210 Broad Street.

Lois Zimmerman: Paint and reshingle roof of garage at 618 Sixth Street.

Jerry Walker: Building handicap accessible ramp on house at 87 Palo Alto Street.

Adolph "Ernie" Kurtz: Replace one window on east side and two windows on south side of home at 513 Third Street.

Upon motions by Setzer and Simonson and a unanimous vote of the Council, the above-listed applications for Builder's Permits were approved as stated.

The delinquent accounts were reviewed and disconnects were ordered.

At this time Resolution No. 2008-06 was introduced; a Resolution Approving a Member's Certificate and a Base Contract for Sale and Purchase of Natural Gas, Supplemented and Amended by Special Provisions and a Transaction Confirmation, Approving Entry into Said Certificate and Contract, Authorizing Execution of Said Certificate and Contract, Amending and Restating a 28E Agreement and Authorizing and Approving Certain Other Actions. Motion was made by Setzer and seconded by Fraser to approve Resolution No. 2008-06. Roll was called and vote was as follows, AYES: Simonson, Fraser, Setzer,

Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Whereupon Mayor Elbert declared Resolution No. 2008-06 duly adopted.

There followed a continued discussion of the water treatment plant project. Engineer Rick Hopper of Jacobson-Westergard & Associates gave an update on progress being made toward construction of the new facility. Mr. Hopper suggested to the Council that Monday, July 28, 2008 be set as the bid-letting date for the project. Councilman Brownell expressed his disappointment in the engineering firm Jacobson-Westergard & Associates, and its performance to date in getting this project underway. Rick Hopper assured the Mayor and Council that he himself is slightly discouraged that they are about a month behind schedule, but that the City now has a good project and we will obtain good, competitive bids during the bid-letting process. Hopper also stated that the project specs mandate that the plant must be operational by January 1, 2009, or penalties will be applied.

Motion was then made by Fraser and seconded by Muller to set the Water Treatment Plant Project bid-letting date, to coincide with a Special Council Meeting, on Monday, July 28, 2008 beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of Whittemore City Hall. Vote was all AYES; motion carried. Clerk Farrell to contact Marsha Cory of Simmering-Cory with Council questions regarding the bid-letting process.

Mayor Elbert reappointed L. Marie Elbert and Gary Erdman to (each) serve six year terms on the Whittemore Public Library Board of Trustees.

The date and time for the next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2008, beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall.

Councilman Simonson reported he has completed an application for the Liberty Tree Program for the community, and Councilperson Muller reported receiving complaints regarding bicyclists riding on the sidewalks throughout the downtown business district. Residents are reminded that City Code prohibits such action, and parents are requested to talk with their children regarding bike-riding regulations and other safety practices.

Supt. Elbert informed the Council he had contacted the owners of the property at 514 First Street and they stated they will assume the responsibility of cleaning up and removing junk that has accumulated on the property.

Deputy Clerk Thompson was happy to report that the 2008 Whittemore Girls Little League team had an undefeated season this year and that they also won the Championship game of the Rolfe League on Saturday, June 28.

Motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Setzer to accept a bid in the amount of \$2,899.77 from Dave Koppen Construction & Cabinetry to install a gable-style roof on the chemical building at the Swimming Pool. Roll was called and vote was as follows, AYES: Simonson, Fraser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Council reviewed the 2008-09 Fiscal Year salaries for Library employees. During the regular monthly meeting held on June 24, 2008, Library Board of Trustee members set the following wages for the (part-time) Library employees: Sandy Long \$12.32 per hour; Joy Metzger \$9.30 per hour; Judy Erdman \$8.35 per hour; and Deb Kollasch \$8.35 per hour.

The upcoming meetings schedule was reviewed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Elbert declared the July 7, 2008 regular Council meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

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

