

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF WHITTEMORE, IOWA
Wednesday, March 7, 2007 – 5:30 P.M.**

The Council of the City of Whittemore, Iowa, met in regular session on Wednesday, March 7, 2007 at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall with Mayor Pro-Tem Simonson presiding in the absence of Mayor Elbert. Council members present included Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. Council members absent: none. Others in attendance for all or a portion of the meeting were Chris Diggins, Kelly Otto, and Michael D. Elbert.

At 5:30 P.M. Mayor Pro-Tem Simonson opened the Public Hearing for the proposed 2007-2008 Fiscal Year Budget. There being no taxpayers present to be heard for or against said budget, there was a motion by Simonson, a second by Dahlhauser, to approve Resolution No. 2007-03, a Resolution adopting said 2007-2008 Fiscal Year budget in the amount of \$1,331,800 "Total Revenues and Other Sources" and \$1,229,400 "Total Expenditures/Transfers Out", with an estimated total tax levy per \$1,000 valuation on regular property at \$9.2477 and an estimated tax levy per \$1,000 valuation on agricultural land at \$3.00375. Roll was called and the vote was as follows, AYES: Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Whereupon Mayor Pro-Tem Simonson declared Resolution No. 2007-03 duly adopted.

There being no corrections or additions, the minutes of the February 7, 2007 regular Council meeting were approved as published in the February 15, 2007 edition of the *Whittemore Independent*.

The Clerk-Treasurer's Financial Reports for the month of February, 2007 were reviewed. Following are Receipts and Transfers for the month: General \$3716.19; Electric \$30152.62; Gas \$67907.47; Water \$6009.73; Sewer Rental \$3453.17; Solid Waste \$3360.04; Payroll \$12105.41; Equipment \$2113.07; Special Account \$45.54; Trees Savings Account \$0.69; Playground Fund \$0.16; Project Share \$5.00; Community Center Savings \$8.00; Road Use Tax \$4071.53; Customer Deposit \$300.00; Special Assessment \$none; Library Improvement Savings \$1740.74; Library Renovations Savings \$851.34; Library Regular \$103.49; Library Renovations Savings \$none; Community Enhancement \$200.00. Motion was made by Dahlhauser and seconded by Setzer to accept the February, 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 - \$76255.90
Farmers State Bank, February ACH service fee - 5.00
Total (all) Employee Wages - 7529.59
Total (all) Contract Labor - 336.00

Advanta, lodging for Gas OQ workshop; computer anti-virus program; "Shop" tools; supplies at Library -
680.76

Janan Gillis, cleaning at Library - 88.00

Sandy Long, reimbursement for coffee maker, carafe and furnace filters purchased - 68.34

Algona Publishing Co., laminating - 19.00

Family Fun, 1 year (10 issues) subscription renewal - 14.95

Audio Editions, audio cassettes and binders - 110.84

Baker & Taylor, books - 106.45

HyVee Floral Shop, green plant for (Mrs. Lynn) Sheri Kueck's funeral - 30.00

Stundahl's Cleaning, February cleaning at Community Center - 100.00

Iowa Department of Public Health, 2007 Swimming Pool registration renewal fee - 35.00

Trupke Electric Motor, white and silver paint markers - 6.01

Northwest Communications, website hosting fee - 20.00

Mid-American Research Chemical, "Wipe-Out" grease cleaner at Light Plant - 606.54

Resale Power Group of Iowa, power purchased - 21,724.66

Brown Supply Co., 4" PVC pipe and cast couplings (water leak repairs) - 791.10

Westrum Leak Detection Inc., leak detection services (Palo Alto Street) - 560.00

Maguire Iron, Inc., #3 (of 12) payments for new stand piping in Water tower - 1,977.50
 Cargill Inc., bulk coarse salt at Water Plant - 3,086.79
 Mangold Environmental Testing, Inc., 24-hour composite testing at Lagoon - 43.00
 Horizons Unlimited, recyclables processing fee - 64.20
 Shamrock Recycling, recycling fees - 567.83
 City of Spencer, landfill fees - 447.54
 Agri-Services of Northern Iowa Inc., pick-up tire repair (in the absence of B. Walker) - 15.75
 MaxYield Cooperative, February vehicular fuel statement - 1,170.74
 Schmitt Hardware, February statement - 25.85
 ATC Cablevision, Library and City Hall internet service - 85.80
 Printing Services Inc., supplies - 96.07
 Knoer Industrial Supply, yellow and blue marking paint (locates); shop towels at
 Light Plant - 284.00
 Iowa Utilities Board, FY 2007 Estimated Remainder Assessment (3rd qtr) electric & gas - 165.00
 Whittemore Independent, February publications - 317.29
 Elbert Chevrolet Inc., February statement includes new battery for HyRanger, PTO
 cable adjustment on HyRanger, service and coolant leak repairs on 1992
 Chevy pickup, and a hose assembly for 1992 Chevy pickup - 523.91
 Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, NCISA Safety Dues (339.64) and
 (Gas) Operator Qualification Workshop registration fees (Mike and Bryan) - 869.64
 L & G Inc., water main break repairs (2) \$2158.70; snow removal (thru 2-27) \$945.00 - 3,103.70
 City of Whittemore, utilities (includes generating at Light Plant \$4105.53) - 9,849.10
 City of Whittemore, \$224.91 total petty cash expenses as: Cleaning at City Hall \$25.00; Map table at Light
 Plant \$24.25; Postage at Library \$70.00; Postage for Urban Revitalization information to interested party
 \$1.11; Water samples postage \$2.55; stamps (utility bills, 10th of the month bills, etc.) \$102.00

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

The Council reviewed these applications for "Builder's Permits":

Ben Eischen: Replace overhead (single) garage door with two individual (10x8) overhead doors at 200 Fourth Street.

Adolph "Ernie" Kurtz: Install three windows (approx. 3x6) in shop garage at 514 Palo Alto Street.

Upon motions by Setzer and Dahlhauser and a unanimous vote of the Council, the above-listed applications were approved and Building Permits were issued.

At 5:45 P.M. the Public Hearing on the proposed 2007 "Whittemore Code of Ordinances", as prepared by North Iowa Area Council of Governments and the City of Whittemore, was opened. There being no persons present to be heard for or against the proposed code, motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Setzer to approve and place on file ORDINANCE NO. 160, an Ordinance adopting the 2007 Whittemore Municipal Code of Ordinances. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.

It was moved by Muller and seconded by Dahlhauser to waive the second and third readings of ORDINANCE NO. 160. Roll call vote was as follows, AYES: Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Motion carried.

Motion was then made by Setzer and seconded by Brownell to pass final consideration of ORDINANCE NO. 160. Roll call vote was as follows, AYES: Dahlhauser, Setzer, Brownell and Muller. NAYS: none. Whereupon Mayor Pro-Tem Simonson declared ORDINANCE NO. 160 duly adopted. The new ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon publication as required by Iowa law.

Kelly Otto, a representative of ATC Cablevision Company in Ayrshire, was present to discuss with the Council the television rate increase ("Basic Service" \$4.00 per customer) that went into effect on March 1. The main reason for the price escalation was due to the increased charges for service from ESPN Sports Network. Increased service fees were also realized for CNN and FOX networks. Councilman Brownell inquired about the poor reception some households are experiencing; Mrs. Otto stated that households having problems should contact ATC directly and service personnel will and try to rectify the trouble. ATC Cablevision's telephone number is: 1-800-642-2884.

The following applications for employment at the Whittemore Swimming Pool during the summer of 2007 were reviewed: Logan Wood and Spense Simonson for Lifeguards and Co-Managers; Patrick Elbert for Lifeguard; Nathan Dahlhauser for Lifeguard; Madison Dahlhauser for Lifeguard; and Alex Lenz for Lifeguard. Also, Megan Meyer (for Lifeguard) and Amanda Sidles (for Lifeguard) have taken out applications but did not return them in time for the meeting.

The delinquent accounts were considered and disconnects were ordered (where applicable).

The Clerk reported Joni Bollinger of Northern Natural Gas Company in Omaha has called the office and expects word of our application for storage should be announced within the next few weeks and she feels that Whittemore has a good chance of getting the amount requested. Should we be approved, Councilman Setzer reports the City can start injecting stored natural gas in 2008.

No word has been received yet from Rolfe (Recreation) regarding plans for the 2007 Summer Little League Program. The Clerk was asked to advertise for Concession Stand coordinators/workers.

Regarding the Whittemore Swimming Pool in 2007, the following issues were addressed:

- Councilperson Dahlhauser presented a price quote from Farner-Bocken Co. in Fort Dodge for hand towel, soap, and toilet paper dispensers at the Swimming Pool and Community Center. The dispensers are free as long as the products to fill each are purchased from said company. Motion was made by Muller and seconded by Brownell to accept the price quote from Farner-Bocken Co. for dispensers and products for use at the Swimming Pool and the Community Center. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.
- The decision for "Manager" was tabled until a later date. Motion was made by Brownell and seconded by Muller to hire the following individuals as Lifeguards for the summer of 2007: Logan Wood, Spense Simonson, Patrick Elbert, Nathan Dahlhauser, Madison Dahlhauser, Alex Lenz, Megan Meyer and Amanda Sidles. Vote was all AYES; motion carried. Any additional applications will be used as substitutes only, if need be. Councilman Brownell stated he would like to see some sort of hourly log developed this summer indicating the number of swimming patrons in the pool versus the number of lifeguards on duty. It is also felt it would be a good idea to keep track of the number of swimming patrons in the pool, on a daily basis.
- Wages for employees at the Swimming Pool for 2007 were reviewed. Motion was made by Setzer and seconded by Brownell to increase the hourly wages for pool employees for the first time since 2002, setting said wages as follows: Manager/Co-Manager to receive \$7.40 per hour; Returning Lifeguards to receive \$6.30 per hour; and New Lifeguards to receive \$6.15 per hour. Vote was all AYES; motion carried.
- Season Ticket and Daily Admission Prices for 2007 were also considered. Motion was made by Muller and seconded by Brownell that the prices remain the same as in 2006, namely: Family Season Ticket \$65.00 plus tax; Individual/Single Season Ticket \$37.00 plus tax; Daily Admission (all ages, all day) \$4.00 per person; Vacation Ticket (7-day pass) \$25.00 per person. Vote was all AYES; motion carried. The Clerk to develop a seven-day vacation pass that can be punched as used.

Acting in the capacity as Mayor Pro-Tem during this meeting, Councilman Simonson reported the City purchased 20 trees from the Kossuth County Conservation Board last fall to be planted throughout Whittemore this spring.

It was announced by the Iowa Department of Economic Development that the City of Whittemore has been conditionally awarded a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) not to exceed \$278,000 for the rehabilitation of eight single-family owner-occupied homes. The grant will be administered by Steve Wendt of the North Iowa Area Council of Governments, and further information for the public and those interested in applying for housing rehabilitation will be forthcoming shortly.

The date, time and place of the next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 4, 2007 at 5:30 P.M. in the Chambers of City Hall.

Mayor Pro-Tem Simonson and the entire Council thanked the City employees for their diligent work this past month, dealing especially with the water tower and water main break problems Whittemore experienced, and generating electricity for the community during the two recent major snowstorms. The employees were also thanked for keeping the streets cleared and open for travel after the 10" and 12" snowfalls the area received within a ten-day time period.

Councilman Brownell talked about the need for EMT-B personnel in Whittemore, and city officials also discussed possible incentives that could be offered to recruit and keep persons on the Fire Department and Rescue Service squads. No action was taken at this time; the topic to be discussed at a later date and also by the Fire Department and Ambulance Service personnel.

Councilman Setzer reported the attorney's for MaxYield Cooperative and still waiting for the Quit Claim Deed for the property at 301 Fifth Street to be executed. At the time this legal work is completed, the five-year time frame will begin for the City to use the property as grounds for public improvement.

Supt. Elbert discussed the following matters:

- Generating during the power outages went well; there still remains a good supply of diesel fuel in case there is a need to generate in the future.
- Water main breaks have been repaired on Fourth Street near Railroad Street and on Palo Alto Street near the Jim Muller residence. The services performed by Noel Westrum of Westrum Leak Detection Inc., Stratford, Iowa, were first-rate and well worth the \$560.00 it cost to have him come to town.
- Mayor Elbert issued first approval and if the City Council okays the matter, Whittemore certified personnel will assist the community of Rodman with their water testing, reports, etc. until Rodman water department employees become properly registered with the State of Iowa. Rodman has offered to compensate Whittemore \$100 per month to do said work. The Council of Whittemore also approves the arrangement offered by Rodman.
- Supt. Elbert requested and received permission to use "comp" time for the out-of-the-ordinary extra hours he put in generating at the Light Plant during the recent snowstorm events.

Clerk Farrell reported one of the computers at City Hall has a virus and Northland Computer Systems has been contacted to correct the problem. The Clerk was advised to check with Council personnel if the repair project becomes too costly.

The Council reviewed an application from Mary Ellen Meyer for part-time employment at City Hall. The application was placed on file for future reference and the Clerk was asked to advertise the vacant "Deputy City Clerk" (part-time) position in the *Whittemore Independent* newspaper.

The upcoming meetings schedule was reviewed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, motion to adjourn was made by Setzer and seconded by Muller. Vote was all AYES; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 P.M.

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

