

7/8/2009

The seventh regular meeting of the 116th Council met July 8, 2009 at 7:00PM. The Mayor called the meeting to order with all members except Wilhelm present. The Clerk's minutes were read, with a motion by Solomonson to accept, seconded by Christenson. Car. 4-0. The Fire Department was represented by Jon Harrington. A grant has been applied for to put in an exhaust system. The Fire Department would finance 10% of the cost. A sprinkler system would not need to be installed since the square footage is under what the code requires. A copy of the audit of the Zumbro Falls Firemen's Relief Association as of 12/31/2008 was presented to Council Members. The retirement fund has lost \$111,000, and a recommendation the City contributes \$12,000 per year for the next ten years, would make up the loss. Christenson expressed concerns over the recommendation. Any fireman with 10 years of service in could retire, but not take money out of the fund until age 50. Those with 20 years are fully funded, and could start taking the retirement at 50 years of age. Christenson recommended lowering the funding for those firemen under 50 years and not within the 10 year range. The City's contribution has been \$40 per fireman. With the possibility of 4, 20 year retirements coming, the current fund would be wiped out. Christenson asked Jon to explore other options that would allow the City to fund without a large outlay of cash. Christenson made a motion to have the Fire Department meet with the Council and work out funding, denying the current funding proposal. Solomonson seconded. Car 4-0. A demolition permit will be needed for the old Appel barn to be torn down by Chris Cose, since burning is not an option. VanDeWalker said the signals on the tower antennas are working great. Free internet service for the City would be a part of the rent for the use of the tower. He is checking on the cost of remote computers for water & sewer, and People's is looking at what the cost reduction would be if a daily trip to check on the system was not needed. The power is still off at the Pussycat Cabaret and the dumpster was taken. It is thought that Rouhoff is getting the building back at month end. The attorney said it is possible that Dewitz could sue the City for loss of income, but that has not been done, yet. Paperwork in by Friday to throw out the whole court order. The criminal case is coming up where the open without license and number of times dancing nude(18) before the g-string & pasties ruling will be heard. We still need to refine our ordinances to include no patron tipping and 6' distance from customer. This makes our City less attractive for another adult entertainment business. We can also place a tax on dances. Xcel is planning still on agenda for street lights. The new model home may have been sold. There is a need to repipe the failed water valve. Branch trimmer has not been bought. The Bridge meeting on Friday will include next year's Moto-X dates, looking at flood gates, raising the highway & retaining wall repair. 6 new flags and more poles are needed before Labor Day. Adam's house may be sold. 4-5 cars lined up at end of town like they are for sale. No phone number is visible. Tom Mosher will get gravel done. Rust spot on tower not fixed. Gloria announced the tax settlement payment included over \$4,000 in assessed taxes & delinquents were paid also. She handed out an income & expense recap for 2009 in preparation for a preliminary budget for review. A Ripplin River Daze CD will be purchased. Semiannual water reading will be August 1st. Motion made by Solomonson to pay bill and adjourn, sec. by Christenson. Car. 4-0.

Submitted by Joyce Greer