REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
Monday, March 27, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, Mayor Morey called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

ROLL CALL: Members present: Mayor Michael J. Morey; Council Members Paul Fisch (7:13 p.m.), Randi Vick, Gary Klug and Robert Standish. Members absent: None. Consultants and City staff present: Michael Gerardy and Robert L. Nelson. Visitors present: David Geske, Andy Bobrytzke, Ruth Pongratz and Jane Palen, Reporter.

CONSENT AGENDA: Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Member Vick, seconded by Member Klug, to approve the Consent Agenda items, listed below. All members present voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

A. MINUTES OF PAST MEETINGS: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday, March 13; Special Meeting (jointly with Houston County Commissioners) on Thursday, March 16 and Special Meeting held Tuesday, March 21, 2006, as presented.

B. TRADE SHOW/TRAINING SEMINAR: To authorize Myron Kinneberg to attend a Delco sponsored event at the Onalaska Omni Center on March 29, authorizing mileage reimbursement and reimbursement of necessary expenses.

C. HOUSTON COUNTY FAIR BOOTH: To authorize cost sharing of a fair booth with Houston County EDA or other municipal EDA's.

D. EDA ANNUAL REPORT: To acknowledge receipt of the 2005 Annual Report, authorized by Joyce Iverson, EDA Director.

VISITORS AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. CALEDONIA GREEN: Ruth Pongratz, President, reviewed the history of Caledonia Green and referred to various flower garden plantings throughout the community. She reported the City had not made a contribution to Caledonia Green in the past several years. Major support had been received from the VFW, which now no longer operates the VFW Club. Following her presentation, a motion was made by Member Standish, seconded by Member Klug, to donate $1,000 to Caledonia Green, such funds to be paid out of the Municipal Liquor Store account. Members voting in favor: Morey, Vick, Klug and Standish. Opposed: None. Abstaining: Fisch (Member Fisch arrived at 7:13 p.m., in the middle of discussion of the topic). The motion was declared carried.

B. MOSQUITO CONTROL: David Geske, LaCrosse County Health Department, petitioned the Council to continue the Mosquito Control Program of the past many years for the City Of Caledonia. He anticipated that the cost for the summer of 2006 would not greatly exceed that of 2005, being $1,280. Mr. Geske reviewed the statistics, concerning the eastern tree hole mosquito from years ago when Houston County had as many as 26 cases each summer and now has reduced that number to 4 or 5. He informed the Council that new varieties of alien, imported mosquitos are traveling westward or northward across the country and within the next few years may be in this territory. Mr. Geske informed the Council that there are 28 varieties or species of mosquitos in this area, but only 4 are container breeders and carry viral infections. There activity spans the months of late April – October and sometimes even into November, depending upon weather conditions. Following Mr. Geske's presentation and discussion, a motion was made by Member Fisch and seconded by Mayor Morey to approve the mosquito control program for the summer of 2006 for a cost of up to $1,500. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

C. NOISE NUISANCE: Clerk Nelson reported that an inquiry had been made at the Clerk's Office concerning the possibility of an ordinance limiting the times of day when noisy equipment, operated by a homeowner, could be utilized. An example was operating a snow blower at 5:00 a.m. Following brief discussion, the Council decided by general consensus that prohibiting this type of activity, especially snow blowing, lawn mowing or other constructive tasks would not be desirable, particularly considering that the activity is sporadic and not performed or necessary on a daily basis.

D. ZONING APPLICATION – SCHULDT: At this time the Council reviewed the Zoning Application of David and Karolina Schuldt who had requested re-zoning of a portion of their property on the west side of STH 44/76 from Highway Business District (B-2) to Agricultural

(AG). Assuming approval of that request, A further request was to grant a variance to separate a 2 acre parcel for a single family dwelling as opposed to 5 acres, as prescribed by Section 153.064 (E) (2). Following review and discussion and considering the possibility that the Highway Business District may actually be considered for expansion in this area under the current study being conducted to update the City Comprehensive Plan, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Fisch, to deny the request to re-zone the specified parcel from Highway Business District (B-2) to Agricultural (AG). Members voting in favor: Morey, Fisch, Vick and Klug. Opposed: Standish. The motion was declared carried.

E. ZONING APPLICATION – AMERICAN LEGION: At this time the Council reviewed an application presented by Zoning Administrator Michael Gerardy on behalf of the American Legion to install a 6' x 3', interior lighted, double faced sign on the front of the Club at a height of 13.5' above the sidewalk. Mr. Gerardy recommended approval since there appeared to be no hazards or concerns associated with the size, design or height of the proposed sign. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Morey, seconded by Member Vick to approve the application to install a sign. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

F. ZONING APPLICATION – MEINERS: Mr. Gerardy introduced the application of Harley Meiners, 210 Sunset Boulevard, proposing to construct a 12' x 24' deck accessed with a wheelchair ramp, located 5' from the north (side) property line. Noting that the adjoining property owner on that boundary line had no objection to the proposed construction and acknowledging the necessity of a wheelchair ramp of a handicapped ramp, Mr. Gerardy recommended approval. Following brief discussion, a motion was made by Member Klug, seconded by Member Standish, to approve the Zoning Application and grant a 5' setback variance on the north (side) property line for construction of the handicapped ramp. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

G. BITUMINOUS SEAL COAT BIDS: At this time all bids received were open and read aloud for 2006 seal coat work. Following the opening and tallying of bids, a motion was made by Member Fisch, seconded by Member Klug, to award the bid to the apparent low bidder, Scott Construction. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried. (Bids received are listed below)

	Scott Construction	Fred Carlson	Astech Corp.
Bituminous Material 14,000 gal.	$ 27,720.00		$ 31,500.00
Natural Gravel 585 Ton	$ 17,450.55		$ 40,950.00
	$ 45,170.55		$ 72,450.00
Bituminous Material 14,000 gal	$ 27,720.00	$ 65,240.00	$ 31,500.00
Washed Limestone 585 ton	$ 12,121.20	$ 5,703.75	$ 30,420.00
	$ 39,841.20	$ 70,943.75	$ 61,920.00

H. WATER TOWER ANTENNA: Andy Bobrytzke, Midwest Wireless Communications, informed the Council that Midwest Wireless was interested in investigating installation of receiving antennas on top of the Ramsey Street Water Tower to enhance reception within the municipal limits of the City for its customers. He said Midwest Wireless would investigate a full sight which would cost approximately $300,000 for materials and equipment in 2007. That sight maybe the city water tower or another location. The current petition would be to begin with two receiving antennas to boost the signal for city users. Discussion was held about exchanging agreements and scheduling the types and progress of work, liability the city may have for protecting any antennas and other issues. At this time the discussion ended with a plan to exchange information over the next month when Mr. Bobrytzke would return at the Regular Meeting to be held April 24 for a decision by the Council. At this time, a motion was made by Member Klug, seconded by Member Standish, authorizing city staff to pursue investigation of this proposal and exchange communications and draft agreements with Midwest Wireless for submittal to the Council at the April 24 meeting. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

1. LMC, Friday Fax, 3-17-06.
2. LMC, Friday Fax, 3-24-06.
3. SE MN Long Range Transportation Plan, MN/DOT, 2008-2030.
4. 2006 Community Development Priorities.

OLD BUSINESS

A. LABOR NEGOTIATIONS – REMINDER: Clerk Nelson informed the Wage Committee (Morey & Fisch) that the Police Association President would be unavailable for negotiations for the next week, but a date must be scheduled thereafter to complete negotiations for the contract which would follow December 31, 2005.

NEW BUSINESS

A. ATHLETIC FIELD RENTAL: Clerk Nelson reported receiving a phone call from Caledonia Public Schools, requesting authorization to rent the Athletic Fields for spring baseball as had been done for the past couple of years. Nelson reminded the Council that the Caledonia Soccer Association had showed interest in renting the fields in previous years. Since the school had already rented the field each of those two years, the Soccer Association negotiated with the school to utilize a field area out at the new middle/high school. Since then, Nelson said he was not aware that the Soccer Association had further interest in utilizing the city fields. Following discussion, a motion was made by Member Klug, seconded by Mayor Morey, to offer the public school rental of the fields for $250 each for the baseball and softball field. Members voting in favor: Morey, Klug and Standish. Opposed: Vick and Fisch. The motion was declared carried.

B. WATER MAIN EXTENSION: The City has received a requested to investigate extending water main to 4 or more properties along the north side of Old Highway Drive and west of STH 44/76. The property owners are currently on a system which was personally designed and provides water service by means of a 1.5" diameter service line to several properties. This system was installed many years ago. During the past five or six years this service line has broken several times and some of the property owners are looking for a more efficient and longer lasting service. City staff have reviewed the locations of nearest water mains to the properties and would recommended extension of a main from the Caledonia Industrial Park into this area. Clerk Nelson recommended that Davy Engineering provide an estimated cost of this improvement, contact be made with all concerned property owners as to the special assessment cost share each of them would receive and receive their feedback for the Council to decide whether or not the improvement would be implemented. Following discussion, a motion was made by Member Standish, seconded by Member Vick, to contact Davy Engineering Company for an engineering estimate not to exceed a cost of $3,500 for their study and submittal of a feasibility report, providing the estimated cost of such improvement and also showing a distribution of cost to each property owner as special assessments. All members voted in favor and the motion was declared carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

A. REQUEST FOR DONATION: Distributed with the Agenda was a letter from the Better Business Bureau, representing the Caledonia High School FCCLA, requesting contributions for a student trip.

B. LOSS CONTROL WORKERS COMPENSATION REVIEW: Clerk Nelson reviewed a document, received from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust, showing the numbers and types of accidents and injuries suffered by city staff over the past six year period. There were 43 incidents reported, but the types of injuries were sufficiently varied to indicate there was no specific trend of injuries.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Vick and seconded by Member Fisch. All members voted in favor, the motion was declared carried and the meeting then adjourned at 9:52 p.m. The next Regular Meeting of the City Council is scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Monday, April 10, 2006, in the Council Room, City Hall.

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Michael J. Morey, Mayor

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Robert L. Nelson
City Clerk - Administrator