Agenda
Regular Meeting of the City Council
Monday, February 9, 2009

I. Call to Order
   A. 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room, City Hall.

II. Roll Call
   A. Members present:

   B. Members absent:

   C. Consultants and City Staff present:

   D. Visitors present:

III. Consent Agenda
   A. Minutes of Past Meetings: Consideration for approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held Monday, January 26, 2009, as presented. Addendum #1

   B.

   C.

Council Action:

IV. Visitors and Communications
   A. Administrative Coordinator
      1. Equipment Rental Rates: Mr. Gerardy will make a recommendation to the Council concerning the add-on of a fuel fee for equipment rental services.

Council Action:

      2. Zoning Application: Mr. Gerardy will discuss provisions for setting a time limit, possibility 180 days for zoning construction projects.

Council Action:

3. Shade Tree Program: Mr. Gerardy will update the Council on orders for shade trees and make a recommendation for ordering.

Council Action:

4. Other Issues:

Council Action:

B. Electric Department Issues

1. Citizen Request to Bury Overhead Wires: There has been discussion for many years of either relocating a utility pole or perhaps burying the overhead wires underground at the location of 309 West South Street. We will describe this in detail for the Council at the meeting.

Council Action:

2. Purchased Meter Testing Bench: Mr. Blocker will describe for the Council the need for a meter testing bench at the electric department and request authorization to purchase according to the costs itemized on Addendum #2. There are miscellaneous, minor expenses associated with this for which he shall request authorization to spend up to $2,000.

Council Action:

3. Committee Clarification: With regard to the Electric Department, there is a question whether or not there should be 2 or 3 employees for the electric department. There is also the issue of a council committee interviewing prospective employees for positions in the City for all departments. The question is whether the issue of the number of employees in the electric department should first be resolved by the committee for the enterprise funds (Murphy and Lemke) before interviews would be conducted by the governmental committee (Perry and Murphy).

Council Action:

4. Electrical Rate Power Cost Adjustment (PCA): Tri-County Electric Cooperative has been charging a whole sale power cost adjustment to the City of Caledonia which in January costs the City an additional $14,489.89 above and beyond the normal wholesale rates. Tri-County Electric recommends that the City of Caledonia also establish a power cost adjustment flexible rate which would change every month according

to the charges made by Tri-County Electric or a calculated charge for the City of Caledonia based upon Tri-County's rate. I will explain this in greater detail at the meeting, but do request the Council authorize a new charge of a power cost adjustment which will vary monthly, depending upon the charge made to the City by Tri-County Electric in its wholesale rate. Addendum #3

Council Action:

5. Predicted Wholesale Electrical Rate Change: Tri-County Electric Cooperative gave notice to the City that there will be a 10% to 13% wholesale rate increase effective with the beginning of the next contract year, May 1, 2009. When PowerPlus Engineers Tom Nigon and Chuck Gustafson were visiting Caledonia a few days ago, I discussed this anticipated rate with them, asking if we needed to have engineering expertise to change our rates or if we might simply increase our kilowatt hour charge for each of our electrical classifications by a percent. At that time, they appeared to think it would be sufficient if we increased our kilowatt charge by a percent amount. Today, however, I received an e-mail from Tom Nigon proposing that we could have an engineering calculation of the anticipated rate adjustment to make up for the increased wholesale costs for an engineering fee not to exceed $1,000. Is the Council satisfied if we do the calculations ourselves for a percentage approved by the City Council at our recommendation? Addendum #4

Council Action:

6. Locate Seminar: Mr. Blocker requests authorization to attend a locate seminar on February 26, 2009 at Brooklyn Park. In addition to the training, our two locating machines will be calibrated without charge. Addendum #5

Council Action:

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D.

V. Claims

A. Prepaid Claims: Review, discussion and deliberation of the Prepaid Claims List for January 2009. Addendum #6

Council Action:

B. Claims Payable: Review, discussion and deliberation of the Claims Payable for January 2009. Addendum #7

Council Action:

VI. Old Business

A. 2009 LGA Reduction: The only number put before the public by Governor Pawlenty for Local Government Aid reduction in 2009 is $72,120 for the City of Caledonia. Possible reductions of expenditures to accommodate that LGA reduction are shown Addendum #8.

Council Action:

B. Per Diem Payments: At a recent Council Meeting, the Council approved $100 per day as per diem payment for fire fighters attending the IS 300 Course. Does the Council agree that the $100 per diem payment may also be made to Council Members attending the course?

Council Action:

C. Budget Reductions for 2009/2010: Is there any other discussion at this time concerning proposed budget adjustments or areas to consider in addition to paragraph A above. We will plan to return to the next council meeting on February 23 with suggestions for budget reduction in 2010.

Council Action:

D. Mobile Home Park Regulations: Member Perry has suggestion for Council Committee and staff study regarding regulations for mobile home parks. She will outline her proposal to the Council.

Council Action:

E.

F.

VII. New Business

A. Auditorium Use

1. Census Bureau Request: A party who is involved in the 2010 Census has requested space to train up to 30 people during an afternoon session and evening session one day per week, but does not know any many weeks

the training would continue. The training is requested without payment. I will explain this further at the meeting, but one possible location would be the auditorium basement.

Council Action:

2. Local Uses: The Auditorium is used by a number of persons or groups, including boy scouts, girl scouts, 4-H and others. In addition, individuals have rented keys and utilized the facility when their time allows. These uses may be for something as simple as practicing basketball. The vast majority, if not all of these uses are without payment to the City. That also includes the volleyball which was recently requested and for which the Council asked for a donation of approximately $1.00 per person. Does the Council want some kind of analysis of uses for the auditorium by these varieties of persons to determine whether there should be a charge for such use?

Council Action:

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VIII. Clerk's Report

A. Police Department Reports: Enclosed with the Agenda is the Officer Activity List and Officer Activity Summary for January 2009. Addendums #9 & #10

B. Discharge Monitoring Report: Enclosed with the Agenda is the Discharge Monitoring Report for January 2009 showing a Total Average Monthly Nitrogen Level of 7.5 mg/l. Addendum #11

C. Citizen Request for Reimbursement: Enclosed is a letter from Lloyd Ogilvie who has suffered sanitary sewer backup into his basement twice within a 6 or 7 month period. Addendum #12

D. Fire Department Grant: The Fire Department, according to Assistant Chief #2, Matt Hoscheit, shall attempt to write a grant for reimbursement of training expenses from the Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education (MBFTE).

E.

F.

IX. Miscellaneous Items

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X. Adjournment