BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 17, 2011

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Tim Lies led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Government Center, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Tim Lies called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Gary Trost, Cary Coop, Paul Chard and Scott Schneider. Councilmember Michael Pingalore was not present.

Also present were City Administrator David Murphy, Community Development Director Trisha Rosenfeld, Public Works Superintendent Al Fahey, Finance Director Dawn Meyer, Police Chief Tom Stolee, City Engineer Joe Duncan and City Attorney Bob Vose. Beth Dempsey served as the Video Recording Operator.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

4.1. Regular Session Minutes of October 3, 2011.
4.2. Resolution 11-122 Accepting Donation of Sand for Sand Volleyball Court by Chard Tiling.
4.3. Calling for Public Hearing for Proposed Ordinance Amendment Pertaining to Stormwater Management Easements.

MOTION by Councilmember Chard, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve the consent agenda as follows: 4.1. Regular Session Minutes of October 3, 2011, 4.2. Resolution 11-122 Accepting Donation of Sand for Sand Volleyball Court by Chard Tiling and 4.3. Calling for Public Hearing for Proposed Ordinance Amendment Pertaining to Stormwater Management Easements. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

5.1. Ambulance Department.

Ridgeview Ambulance Manager Doug Sweeney was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Ambulance Department report.

5.2. Fire Department.

Fire Chief Randy Koepp was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Fire Department report.

5.3. Police Department.

Police Chief Tom Stolee was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Police Department report.

5.4. Community Development Department.

Community Development Director Trisha Rosenfeld was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Community Development Department report.

5.5. City Administration Report.

City Administrator David Murphy was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the City Administration report.

6. PUBLIC FORUM.

No one spoke at the public forum.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION - Chard Tiling and Excavating, Inc.

Mayor Lies acknowledged the donation of sand for the Chatfield Park sand volleyball court by Leroy and Connie Chard of Chard Tiling and Excavating, Inc.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

Note: A request for a conditional use permit to allow used auto sales at 721 East Main Street has been withdrawn after publication of the notice.

7.1. CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING - Variance Request – 844 Lindsey Lane. The City Council will accept public comment on a request by Darrold and Connie Kern, 844 Lindsey Lane, Belle Plaine, for a six (6) foot variance from Section 1105.05 to allow the expansion of attached garage to encroach the north side yard setback in the R-1, Single Family District.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated October 17, 2011 from Community Development Director Rosenfeld regarding a variance request by Darrold and Connie Kern.

Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained the applicants, Darrold and Connie Kern, 844 Lindsey Lane, would like to put a 14' by 29' addition onto the existing garage. The garage is attached to the primary structure. With the addition, the applicants are requesting a variance to encroach the side yard setback 6 feet. The required side yard setback for this property is 10 feet. The applicant meets all requirements for the property with the proposed garage addition, with the exception to the interior side yard setback. The applicant is proposing to encroach into the 10 foot setback a maximum of 6 feet, leaving 4 feet to the property line on the north side of the primary structure. This property has a 50 foot drainage and utility easement in the rear portion of the property. There are also 5 foot easements adjacent to the side property lines. The Planning Commission recommended approval of a five-foot variance so that the garage addition remains out of the 5 foot easement on the north side.

Mayor Lies announced the continuation of the public hearing at 6:43 p.m. and asked for public comment. There was no response.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to close the public hearing at 6:44 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Chard inquired about the roof line of the expanded garage. Mr. Kern replied the gable will be offset from the current angle.

1. Resolution 11-104 Granting a Variance to Allow the Expansion of an Attached Garage at 844 Lindsey Lane.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to approve Resolution 11-104 Granting a Variance to Allow the Expansion of an Attached Garage at 844 Lindsey Lane. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. BUSINESS.

8.1. Presentation of Claims.

Councilmember Chard inquired about the claim for Gerres Welding and Manufacturing, LLC for $934.75. Public Works Superintendent Fahey explained it was the repair and modification of the tank for the truck and loader.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to approve the Presentation of Claims as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.2. Resolution11-120 Awarding Bid for the 2011 Drainage Stabilization Project.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated October 17, 2011 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the awarding of bid for the 2011 drainage stabilization project.

City Administrator Murphy explained that bids were advertised and received for construction of the 2011 storm water drainage project. The low bidder is Selly Excavating from LeCenter, MN. The bid from Selly Excavating is $32,608.50 for the entire project. The City has not received all right-of-entry agreements and therefore will not be able to complete the entire project. Portions of the project will be able to be completed which will help to alleviate some of the drainage issues experienced in the three locations. A map of the areas of the project that will be able to be constructed were included with City Administrator Murphy's memo.

City Engineer Duncan explained that the contractor will proceed with the project based on unit prices as a majority of the project will not be constructed due to lack of signed right-of-entry agreements.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to approve Resolution11-120 Awarding Bid for the 2011 Drainage Stabilization Project to Selly Construction, Inc ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.3. Authorizing Advertising to Seek Candidates for Public Works Seasonal Employment.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated October 17, 2011 from Public Works Superintendent Fahey regarding seasonal employment.

Public Works Superintendent Fahey explained the public works department utilizes seasonal employees to help with snow removal. The seasonal employees are used only on an on-call basis. They are called in to remove snow from City property, trails and haul snow after a snow event. The wage scale will be the start step of public works 1 position.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to authorize advertising to seek candidates for public works seasonal employment. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.4. Authorizing Purchase of Snow Plow.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated October 17, 2011 from Public Works Superintendent Fahey regarding the purchase of a plow truck.

Public Works Superintendent Fahey explained the purchase of this plow truck is to replace the 2000 Sterling. The industry recommendation is to replace plow trucks every 10-12 years, due to the heavy use they get during snow events. These trucks are loaded with materials used to treat and combat snow and ice, and these materials are very corrosive. Also the plowing itself creates far more wear and tear on a plow truck than a truck just used for hauling materials. Public Works Superintendent Fahey further explained that he has not obtained a price for the complete package yet as he would like to demo a rear-wing mounted plow with an under-belly blade. Once this is demonstrated, Public Works Superintendent Fahey will obtain cost estimates for this type or the conventional one. Included with Public Works Superintendent Fahey's memo was the state bid price from International Trucks.

Councilmember Trost asked how many miles are on the truck. Public Works Superintendent Fahey replied 60,000 and that snow plowing miles increase wear and tear on a vehicle. Councilmember Trost stated he was opposed to the purchase. Mayor Lies commented that it is important to maintain an adequate fleet of vehicles. Councilmember Schneider concurred with Mayor Lies.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to authorize the purchase of a 2012-13 International Truck at a cost of $70,445.04 plus tax and license. Councilmember Trost VOTED NAY. ALL OTHERS VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.5. Authorizing Upgrade Computer Software.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated October 17, 2011 from City Administrator Murphy regarding upgrading the city computer software.

City Administrator Murphy explained that the 2011 budget anticipates upgrading of 20 city workstations to Microsoft Office 2010 and six workstations to Office Pro Plus which includes Publisher. There is a need to upgrade seven of the workstations to Windows 7. The estimated software costs are $9,446.88 with installation costs estimated at $3,733.31 for a total of $13,380.19.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Chard, to approve the upgrade of city computer software at a cost of $13,380.19. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Recess Regular Session.

Mayor Lies recessed the regular session at 7:09 p.m. and announced the closed session.

8.6. Closed Session.

Mayor Lies convened the closed session at 7:15 p.m. with Councilmembers Trost, Coop, Chard and Schneider present. Also present were City Administrator Murphy, Finance Director Dawn Meyer, Public Works Superintendent Fahey and City Attorney Bob Vose.

1. LELS Labor Negotiations.
2. Discussion on Property Acquisition.

The council and staff discussed a proposal from the Law Enforcement Labor Services union and also potential property acquisition. The closed session was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Reconvene Regular Session.

Mayor Lies reconvened the regular session at 8:10 p.m.

9. ADMINISTRATION.
9.1. Upcoming Meetings.
1. Park Board, 5:00 p.m. Monday, Oct. 24.
2. Community Rec, 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 26.
3. City Council, 6:00 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7.

The council was reminded of the upcoming meetings as listed.

10. ADJOURN.
MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary