

**MINUTES OF THE EPHRAIM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
EPHRAIM CITY BUILDING
5 S. MAIN
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2011
7:00 PM**

The Ephraim City Council convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 2, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in the Ephraim City Council Room.

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Parrish, Mayor
Kim Cragun, Mayor Pro Tem
Greg Dart
Terry Lund
Don Olson
Richard Squire

STAFF PRESENT

Regan Bolli, City Manager
Bryan Kimball, City Planner
Leigh Ann Warnock, City Recorder
Ron Rasmussen, Police Chief

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

See attached.

Mayor Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Lund led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Parrish left the audience with a thought.

PUBLIC SESSION

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Council reviewed the minutes of the January 19, 2011 City Council meeting.

Councilmember Olson moved to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2011 City Council meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Squire. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Dart, Lund, Olson, Cragun, and Squire. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF WARRANT REGISTER

The Council reviewed the Warrant Register of January 31, 2011.

Councilmember Squire moved to approve the warrant register of January 31, 2011 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lund. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Dart, Lund, Olson, Cragun, and Squire. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Abraham Hundepool asked for a brief overview of the budgetary process.

Budgets run from July first to the end of June. Administration has started putting preliminary numbers together and each department determines what it will need for the next fiscal year. During April or May Administration and Elected Officials meet on a Saturday to discuss the budget. Numbers are crunched with the Accountant and a tentative budget will be presented the first meeting in May. Over the last three years the City has decreased its operating budget every year as income continues to go down.

Mr. Hundepool asked if the public was allowed to make comment before the final budget is approved. City Manager Bolli explained that after the preliminary presentation there will be a public hearing before the actual approval. That is where the public will have an opportunity to make comment.

Mr. Hundepool expressed concern that if the public hearing is immediately preceding approval of the final budget, the public will not be allowed adequate input about issues.

Mayor Parrish assured Mr. Hundepool that his job is to be as tight as possible in order to remain fiscally sound. However, when it comes to budgets, each department is taken care of. If we don't have the money, we can't spend it.

Mr. Hundepool felt it would be helpful to know if there is going to be increase requested by a department and to know the rationale behind it in order to be educated enough to make comments. Chief Rasmussen commented that the budgeting process is very detailed. Each item must be listed out and justified. Mayor Parrish stated the City is willing to share that information.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ALLOWING COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, ETC. TO ADVERTISE ON THE CITY'S ELECTRONIC SIGN

Councilmember Olson reminded the Council of the original intent to give signage to the businesses in the Commercial Subdivision. He feels all businesses should be offered free signage perhaps at certain times of the day. He suggested listing all the businesses in Ephraim. Advertisement time could also be sold; the Mayor would prefer to see some revenues from the sign.

Abraham Hundepool suggested surveying businesses to determine interest.

APPROVAL OF LARRY BRADLEY AS A MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Councilmember Lund moved to approve Larry Bradley as a new Historical Committee Member. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dart. A roll call vote was taken: voting "yes" Councilmembers Dart, Lund, Olson, Cragun, and Squire. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried

DISCUSSION AND DECISION REGARDING BALL PARK CONCESSIONS

This past summer the City Rec Department ran the concessions at the four-plex for all ballgames other than the Lion's Tournament, hoping to generate more money for the Rec programs. Money was earned, however it was the opinion of the Rec board that the

revenues gained were not worth the hassle and headache and suggest it be put out to bid for those interested in running it. A contract could be drawn up outlining rent, cleanliness regulations, etc. Mr. Bolli will draft a contract.

Councilmember Squire moved to have Mr. Bolli to put out a bid plan for the concession contract.. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Dart. A roll call vote was taken: voting “yes” Councilmembers Dart, Lund, Olson, Cragun, and Squire. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Manager Bolli gave an update on two grants applied for with CDBG. The City was awarded both grants, one for property acquisition for the Housing Authority, the other for sewer expansion. Ephraim came in first and second place in the Six County area. Exact amounts will be announced in April.

Terry Lund

ECHA—Marlin Christensen was at the meeting and some misunderstandings were cleared up there. A price was set on the Layton home. A family wanted ECHA to build them a home for a certain amount, which was discussed. Also discussed was the possibility for acquiring more property and the CDBG grant money will help out with that.

Billing Format—Penny Kittelsrud has been working on getting our bills changed from a postcard to a full page sheet but that but got bumped because of the Pinetree lawsuit and power issues. Manager Bolli will follow up with that.

Thompson Oil Update—Manager Bolli spoke to Don Thompson (Thompson Oil Company) in a meeting regarding fuel price, tank specifications and delivery for a City-owned fuel tank. Since they last spoke no action has been made other than looking into whether a City-owned fuel tank is economically feasible.

Volunteer Crossing Guards—Things are still up and going and working well. Chief Rasmussen says there are a lot less complaints and concerns from the citizens now. It slows people down.

Don Olson

Meet the Officials Day—Mayor Parrish and Councilmember Olson went with the YCC and had a good and informative time.

League of Cities and towns—Meetings are the 13-15 of April.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council for consideration, Councilmember Cragun moved the meeting adjourn at 7:40 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Olson. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled to be held on February 16, 2011, starting at 7:00 p.m., in the Ephraim City Council room.

MINUTES APPROVED:

Mayor

Date

ATTEST:

City Recorder

Date