

CITY OF MILFORD
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 26, 2010
MINUTES

A special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Milford, Nebraska was held at the Webermeier Community Library in said City on the 26th day of July 2010 at 7:00 pm. Present were: Mayor Dean A. Bruha; Council members: Jeff Baker, Rick Fortune, Jeff Heckman, Dan Kral; Chief of Police Forrest Siebken; Maintenance Supt. Mark Frey; City Clerk Jeanne Hoggins. Also present: Fire Chief John Melena, Fire Secretary Marcy Hostetler; Maintenance Staff Gary TeSelle, Dave Dahle and Ben Rediger.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three public places; a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Certification of Posting attached to these minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and Council of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bruha called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Mayor Bruha publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for review and is posted on the east wall of the meeting room at the Webermeier Community Room.

Budget Review: Accountant Dennis Kubicek made available written documentations showing the proposed transfers comparing 2010 and 2011 along with a proposed .05 increase in property tax request, bringing the levy to .4223, an increase of \$50.00 on a \$100,000.00 home. The proposed figures that were presented by the City Council would also include \$42,000 deficit spending within the budget from the general fund. Even if the Council cuts \$42,000 out of the proposed budget the levy would still increase to .4223. Discussion was held regarding current levy amount and valuation increase. Jeff Baker and Jeff Heckman had previously met and came up with reductions to be made to the current proposed budget worksheet. Fortune thought the Council needed to hear from Dennis Kubicek before altering any of the numbers. Mayor Bruha requested that we listen to the changes proposed by Baker and Heckman. Dennis Kubicek will be out to the regular August 3rd meeting. Baker started noting different line items to be reduced including: General contract labor (cleaning of City Hall), requesting a specific list of general membership & fees paid, Police meetings & training, printing & publication, repair & maintenance,

operating supplies; Fire meetings & training, repair & maintenance of vehicle, fire supplies; Parks gas & oil, operating supplies. Heckman noted cuts in Pool operating supplies, cutting hours of operation and Library books & publications. Discussion was held among the group regarding: distribution of funds with grant projects, if reserve funds are being used, how budget figures should be entered when funds for a specific project come in and go out. Hoggins informed the group that they still need to keep in mind that too many cuts and working with lean figures will not allow funds to be built up in the reserve accounts. Fiscal responsibility in spending is just as important. Advertising banners were mentioned to bring in income for the Recreation Dept. Baker will discuss this with the Recreation Board. Marcy Hostetler questioned what the contract labor line item is used for within the Fire Dept. Sr. Center figures and Sinking Fund figures were noted and discussed. Fortune was adamant about talking to Dennis Kubicek before they proceeded any further.

Proposal for Part-time Receptionist/Recreation Director: Tiffany Fougeron completed her last day at the City Office today. Baker proposed combining the Recreation Director and Receptionist position. Make the position a 20-30 hour position in the office and eliminate the Recreation Director Position. This will reduce the budget approximately \$2,000.00 It was discussed to have the summer help prep the fields for the summer program. Mark Frey noted that he would not have the summer help run tournaments over the weekends. The maintenance dept. would maintain the fields as they have done in the past. Handling tournaments will need to be discussed due to overtime. Item tabled until further decisions made regarding the position.

Salaries/Health Insurance: These two items were discussed together as requested by the Council. Chief Siebken reviewed the material presented by our Insurance Agent Dana Troske. Several policy options were presented and discussed. Baker noted that under the circumstances we will need to look at having the employees pay a portion of the health insurance premium. His suggestion was to phase the 20% increase over a 5 year period. Raises given to adjust income and have employee pay a percentage of insurance premium. Baker has no problem funding an HSA account. Some employees may not get an increase. Baker proposed to pick a plan and give the employees a 3% increase and phase 20% of the health insurance cost over 5 years. The three supervisors may get a 1% increase. Out of the \$300,000.00 in property tax request, \$150,000.00 is spread between 3 employees with insurance and benefits. This will not be considered a cost of living raise. Maintenance worker Gary TeSelle commented on the experience of the group and noted that younger employees are not going to come to work for water and sewer at current pay scale and reduction of benefits. Frey asked

the Council to please consider the newer employees that were promised health insurance benefits when they were hired. TeSelle also asked the Council to talk to the employees regarding ideas to reduce spending. Don't just look at cutting wages and benefits.

Approve bid for Bucket Truck: Maintenance Supt. Mark Frey informed the Council that the bucket truck that they looked at was blowing water and had a head gasket out. All of the other trucks are gone. The vehicle cost \$17,000.00 before they knew the head gasket was out. They will see what it would cost to repair the vehicle or even wait to see if something else comes in. Item tabled.

Approve bid for School Safety Lights: A bid for \$12,500.00 was received for new crossing lights. Chief Siebken reported that as of today he received information on the "Safe Routes to School" grant. It is a 75/25 split and he wanted to check to see if the school would go in with the City. He will report back to the Council at the August meeting. Item tabled.

Hire Library Assistant: No discussion held on this item.

Pool closing date for the summer: No discussion held on this item.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Heckman and seconded by Kral to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Heckman yes, Kral yes, Baker yes, Fortune yes. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Jeanne Hoggins, City Clerk

Dean A. Bruha, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Milford, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Mayor and Council of July 26, 2010 that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the City Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

(SEAL)

Jeanne Hoggins, City Clerk