

**CITY OF SIGOURNEY, IOWA  
MINUTES OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1999**

The Sigourney City Council met in regular session in the City Council Chambers of the Memorial Hall on Wednesday, December 15, 1999, with Mayor John I. Ballensky presiding, and the following Council members answering roll call: Douglas L. Glandon, Bob L. Mendenhall, Jeffrey A. Winn, Ed Conrad, and Lyle G. Van Fleet. Council member Rich Wilkening was absent. Others present, in addition to the Deputy City Clerk, were Marilyn Wells, John Wehr, Ken Bucklin, Jerry Smithart, Don Northup, Jeff Wallerich, Peg Eversmeyer, Jim Eversmeyer, Daniel Schuster, Stan Finch, and John Schroöder.

Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, that the Agenda be approved as posted. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of December 1, 1999, be approved as submitted. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Fred Hensel, CPA, presented in detail the 1998-1999 Audit Report. Council member Glandon moved, seconded by Council member Conrad, to approve the \$150.00 check for the filing fee to the State Auditor. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

City Attorney John Wehr read the newly drawn up Ordinance regarding Vicious Animals. Mr. Wehr first made a few corrections. On the first page item 10 should be scratched, as he was directed to prepare an Ordinance excluding any dogs, which changes number 11 to number 10. Under keeping a vicious dog or cat, person or person should be person or persons. Basically this provides for complete prohibition unless you have the Council's written approval and if you disagree with the Council's decision to allow it or disallow it you can then appeal it to the District Court of Keokuk County Iowa and they will have the final say. This permits a circus to come to town, if they come and apply for permission ahead of time. It would permit the DNR to put on a show of animals if they had prior written permission. Someone could put on a program for the school, if they came to the Council first and said they were bringing this in. It could permit an auction at the sale barn, if they came to the Council first and asked permission to have the sale of wild and vicious animals as described. Mayor Ballensky asked if there were any questions or discussion. John Wehr stated that we have in our code, that any violation of any adopted ordinance is a misdemeanor or a municipal infraction. It can be put in the Ordinance that if this is violated it is punishable by a maximum fine permitted by law or a municipal infraction and each day was another offense. Mayor Ballensky asked the Council to consider this as the first reading toward adoption. Council member Winn moved, seconded by Council member Glandon, that the City approve the Ordinance with the stated changes and consider this as the first reading. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved. Mayor Ballensky announced that the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading would be at the 1<sup>st</sup> regular Council meeting in January of 2000.

Mayor Ballensky stated that we had received information from Pat Callahan regarding establishing a City Administrator. We need to study this and call Mr. Callahan and he will help us work through this.

Mayor Ballensky asked Council member Van Fleet for a report on Memorial Hall. He asked that everyone go downstairs to see all the improvements that had been made.

Council member Van Fleet had nothing to report under Parks and Recreation.

Council member Glandon discussed having the new Council consider doing a street study through French Reneker costing approximately \$4000 to \$5000. Ken Bucklin explained that they would review all the streets as far as condition because sometimes a community will have streets that someone will suggest resurfacing and the street may be to the point that it is going to break up in a few years. If this is the case the City might as well let it go until it does completely break up and then rebuild it. This is the kind of evaluation we would get – which streets should be resurfaced and which ones are beyond this. They would also look at streets that need to be paved. He suggested that we publish this in the paper. It helps down the road if we do decide to go into a street paving program and people/neighborhoods want their street paved. General obligation bonds and special assessments are used to pay for this. Special assessments are hard to accomplish if the public does not want it done. Mr. Bucklin thought it

## -2- Minutes of Sigourney City Council Meeting of December 15, 1999

had been approximately 20 years since we had done a major paving work and if we had General obligation bonds that were getting paid off, we might want to consider doing this program. We could reissue the bonds, the debt service stays level and it doesn't cost the public any more. This would be something to check into. Mayor Ballensky asked what we should consider for the budget to have the study done. Mr. Bucklin will have Bill Potts look into this and get us a figure in January. We should take care of the sewer and water projects before doing work on the streets, so the streets don't have to be torn up soon after they are fixed. Mayor Ballensky feels that if we had a plan to show the community what the priorities are, then when citizens ask about certain streets -- we would have answers.

Ken Bucklin reported on the test wells. Shawver started the first test well on December 14, 1999. They hoped to be to rock by December 15, 1999 and would call Ken tomorrow to let him know where they were. They hope to be done in two weeks with the first well. They may be moving another rig in next week to do the second well.

Ken Bucklin also reported on the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. There are two requirements: one is to have an engineering study done (French Reneker can do) and the other is to have the community to complete a self-assessment of water system viability. This was something the community was supposed to have done a year ago and DNR does not have one on record. DNR sent Ken Bucklin a manual and it is basically information on our system as to sources with a lot of information on finances. Mr. Bucklin suggested that after the first of the year, French Reneker would need to sit down with a working committee to discuss priorities on water main replacement. Priorities were set up four to five years ago and some of these have been worked through. Now we need to decide the next set of priorities, which will be part of the report. A lot of the self-assessment can be done during this working session. What doesn't get done with the Council, Mr. Bucklin can get from the City Clerk and records in the City Clerk's office. It is a total evaluation of our system -- do we have adequate source, adequate treatment, how is the distribution system, how are the finances, are we charging enough for our water to pay for the system, do we have funds set aside for replacement. Mr. Bucklin brought an agreement to do the application and an engineering study. The agreement includes preliminary services, design services, and engineering services during construction. The only thing being priced right now would be for preliminary services. They work with the owner to determine the scope of the project, which is pretty well started. They need to gather information from previous water reports. A lot of this was already done when the original water treatment plant and wells were built. A comprehensive report of the system has been done and this would be an update. They will assist the City in prioritizing the needs in the water distribution system. Mr. Bucklin has done some prioritization based on past leak records. Cost estimates to construct those various segments of the distribution system would then be prepared. This becomes the City's multi year plan for replacement of water mains. Next would be preparing cost estimates for two new wells, pumps, and the piping between the wells and the water plant. We should know by then if the two test wells are going to be successful or not and base the cost on those. Then French Reneker will prepare a letter report, which is suitable for SRF loan, and assist the City in preparation of an application for an SRF loan. Design services, engineering during construction, and other services are services that would be available and used if we make any of the improvements. The cost is \$1700.00 for the preliminary services. The deadline is February 29, 2000, so we need to get started as soon as possible. Council member Mendenhall moved, seconded by Council member Van Fleet, to approve the service agreement with French Reneker to start the preliminary services for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Application. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Ken Bucklin then presented the Delta Road water main project service agreement. The project would start at Garfield and Skillman, run west to the Delta Road, run south to the corner of Delta Road and Old Delta Road and then runs west approximately 300 feet, for a total length of 1300 feet. Included in the agreement are the preliminary services and design services. The City wants the project built this year (before July 1<sup>st</sup>) with payment being made after July 1<sup>st</sup>. This would get us through the leading (surveys, draw the plans and specifications, send those out to contractors). The price would be \$9200. The original estimated cost for this was for several projects together and was \$9500. It is going to cost more to do just the one project, as we want to do the other projects under the SRF loan. Council member Van Fleet wondered if Ken Bucklin knew the street does not lay quite where it is suppose to according to property owners that had their property surveyed. Council member Mendenhall asked if we were replacing 2" line. Ken Bucklin answered that we are replacing 2" line with 6" line. There will be a hydrant at the end of the line. John Wehr asked if that would loop any place. We would be connecting to 2" line already in place at the Kahler's property. Then it would loop back north in the Delta Road. There will need to be more work done someday because the 2" line further out. Council

-3- Minutes of Sigourney City Council Meeting of December 15, 1999

member Mendenhall moved, seconded by Council member Winn, to approve the service agreement with French Reneker to start the preliminary and design services for the Delta Road Project. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Don Northup reported that the Rock Island Well is off. If the pump is fixed, the chlorine is renewed and plugged in, it would go with the motor. DNR only requires that the well be chlorinated. John Ballensky asked if we should go ahead to get the well going again. Ken Bucklin recommended that we should since it is our emergency backup well and it shouldn't be a big cost item to get going. We will also need to keep it maintained. Don Northup stated that DNR was also concerned that the building needed to be replaced. He also asked why the meter was so small. Ken Bucklin stated that it was probably a 2" meter, but the friction loss is relatively small and we would get all the flow we needed. A 6" meter is very expensive. Mayor Ballensky suggested that Council members Van Fleet, Conrad, and Wilkening get together with Don Northup to get something started on replacing the building. Ken Bucklin stated that he had sent a letter to Mayor Ballensky concerning the unpaid bills due to Northway. Mr. Bucklin has sent copies of the original contracts signed by the City, the bills, and he has verified the work. The amount is \$27,492.00. Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Glandon, that the City pay these bills to Northway now. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved. Ken Bucklin stated that the only thing we were waiting on to get the well going again was an iron bacteria test. Jim Dickinson is waiting for the sample bottle to come. Council member Van Fleet asked if we could go ahead and put the Rock Island well back into operation if we get the chlorine set up right without the building being replaced right away. Ken Bucklin thought that would not be a problem with DNR as they mainly wanted us to get it cleaned up. We should not operate it with it being exposed. We are supposed to be doing raw water samples on all the wells and this hasn't been done for five years. Don Northup mentioned DNR said we are a one source entry and need to be two. According to Jim Dickinson that is only a matter of paperwork. Ken Bucklin asked that Don send a copy of whatever is done to them. Council member Conrad talked about the clean up that was done according to Jim Dickinson's report. DNR thought that the Keswick Lift Station wasn't working properly, but it is okay. It uses an air bubbler. Larry Smith showed both Don Northup and Jerry Smithart how it operates. Some wiring did need to be done and Don told Larry Smith to go ahead and do what needed to be done if the cost would be minimal.

The November financial reports were not ready.

Discussed the ad for the Water / Wastewater Superintendent position to be put in the newspapers. The cost for 2 Sundays in the Des Moines **Register** will cost approximately \$650.00 and \$110.00 for the Cedar Rapids **Gazette**. Ken Bucklin suggested that we try the League of Cities web site and the Community College web site. Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Mendenhall, to place the ad for the Water / Wastewater Superintendent in the Des Moines **Register** and the Cedar Rapids **Gazette**. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Mendenhall to approve the annual Council remuneration. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

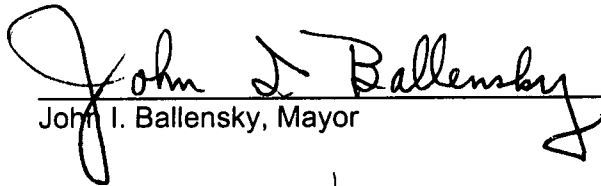
Council member Glandon introduced the Resolution, and moved its adoption, to approve the building permit and Application for Tax Abatement to build a 54' x 150' storage building for M & M Welter, Inc. The second was by Council member Van Fleet. Upon roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

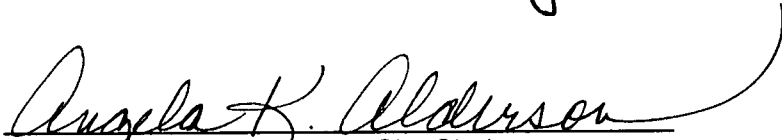
John Schroöder represented Sigourney Ball. He wanted to thank the Council for their funding of \$2000.00 for each of the past two fiscal years and hoped they would continue with this. They started with a capital improvement project. They raised quite a few private donations. They plan to have a \$1500.00 profit from the Concession Stand and with the \$2000.00 from City that would give them approximately \$3500.00 per year. Their five-year plan would cost approximately \$14,500.00 to complete. They have about \$10,000.00 worth of work left to do. Long term goals would be electrical work, fencing, field work and a water fountain. With continued City funding they are hoping to complete these projects over the next three years. The City also gave them sanitary sewer hook up. Don Northup said they were basically here to ask to be funded in the budget for next year. The electrical work would be done next, as it is a

-4- Minutes of Sigourney City Council Meeting of December 15, 1999

safety hazard. He also thanked the Council for their support. Council member Van Fleet moved, seconded by Council member Mendenhall, to approve keeping Sigourney Ball in the budget and donating \$3000 for the coming fiscal year. Upon the roll being called, the following voted: Ayes: Glandon, Mendenhall, Winn, Conrad, and Van Fleet. Nays: None. The motion was approved.

Council member Glandon moved for adjournment at 8:35 p.m. The second was by Council member Mendenhall.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John I. Ballensky, Mayor

Attest:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Angela K. Alderson, Deputy City Clerk

