

Barrett City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2011
6:30 p.m.
Barrett City Office

Present: Mayor-Troy Johnson; Council-Todd Lang, Derek Getz; Clerk/Treasurer-Marita Rhude; Maintenance-Gerald Puchalski; Fire Chief-Dave Lien, Jr.; Guests-Kathy Dahl, Karen Alvstad,
Absent: Council-Deborah Nelson Pick, Earl Janshen.

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m..

Getz made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14th meeting, seconded by Lang. MCU

A question was raised on the appointment for 2 council members to the Fire Dept. Board of Trustees, when both of the council members are also members of the Fire Dept. Clerk will check with the League of MN Cities to see if this is a conflict.

Kathy Dahl was present to discuss the forming of an Arts Advisory Commission. The make up of the Commission was discussed along with the number of members. Kathy Dahl will bring the names of the people willing to serve to the next meeting for the City Council to make appointments.

Karen Alvstad was present to ask the City Council about putting in a Volleyball Court, as the 24th of June celebration will feature a volleyball tournament. The Barrett Inn has agreed to put one in on the lot next to the Barrett Inn but would like the City to agree not to charge commercial taxes on this lot. The City does not have control of the decision on if a lot is considered commercial or residential for tax purposes.

Dave Lien, Jr, Fire Chief, was present to address a number of issues. The City had a Loss Control Specialist from the League of MN Cities come in and assess how we would do in an OSHA audit. Some of the items that need to be addressed include have a written Respiratory Training Policy, Dave is working on this and will bring it to the council for approval when completed. Another item that needs to be addressed is snow removal from overhead doors and service access door, Dave wondered if the City could not include this in their snow removal contract. Dave brought up some of the lights in the fire hall that are not working. He stated they are obsolete and need to be replaced. Council felt that they should just replace the ones that are not working at this time and budget to replace so many each year until they have all been updated. Dave explained that the new radios on the ARMER system are owned by the City of Elbow Lake, however there will be a legal agreement that Elbow Lake owns them and each City will be responsible for damage and repairs on their own equipment. When they have been depreciated out they will be turned over to the City.

Council reviewed the letter from the Loss Control Specialist who also visited the Water Treatment Plant and the Maintenance Shop. Gerald is addressing the issues raised and will completed the items that still require action.

Johnson made a motion to approve the renewal of the Barrett Inn 2½ Liquor License, seconded by Getz.
MCU

Council reviewed the information from Rural Development on the payment to Grant County Highway Dept for County Road 2 work. Rural Development only approved \$44,754.25 in expenses to the County, they did not approve paying for the replacing of the railroad tracks as the City bore their waterline under the tracks and felt that replacing the crossing was normal road maintenance and not a part of the project needed for our infrastructure. Johnson made a motion to pay Grant County Highway Dept \$44,754.25 as approved by Rural

Development, seconded by Lang.

MCU

Council discussed the problem of transporting stray dogs to the Grant County Humane Society. No solution was come up with, Clerk is to communicate with the Humane Society and put on next months agenda.

Gerald reported that he had a request for a conditional use permit to allow for a horse at 505 County Road 2 from Kilomarie Dunn who was looking at purchasing this property. Our Ordinance states that farm animals are only allowed are lots of 5 acres or more and this lot is 4.5 acres. Getz made a motion to approve a conditional use permit for one horse to Kilomarie Dunn for 505 County Road 2, seconded by Johnson. MCU

Gerald presented two proposals to replace the lawnmower. Amundson Equipment for \$3,650 and Midwest Machinery for \$3,850 plus trade-in of the old lawnmower. The budget to replace the lawnmower was \$3,000. Johnson made a motion to trade the lawnmower with Amundson Equipment for \$3,650, seconded by Lang. MCU

Gerald reported that he had been approached about the land that the City owns on the north side of the lake. Hedtke is planning on putting his land, which is next to ours, into a REM easement with native grasses. This area is in our wellhead protection area and putting it into native grasses is very beneficial to protecting our water supply. Gerald felt that we need to also put the City's land into native grasses at the same time, this would set a good example for others in our wellhead protection area. Soil & Water conservation can help some with the cost of doing this but it would require some funds from the City. This would not occur until 2012 so it would give the City time to budget for this expense. Troy will visit with the DNR about what options are available for the City of Barrett as far as putting this land into a permanent easement.

Marita asked the council if they wanted to again ask Barrett Lake Resort if they wanted to continue to maintain the beach and open the bathrooms for this summer, and if they want to hold a City Clean-up Day. Council said to get prices on both and put on next months agenda. Council was asked if they wanted to purchase a video camera or just borrow one from someone, it was decided to try one from someone and see how it works.

Johnson made a motion to accept a \$25 donation for the Grain Tube Fund, seconded by Lang.

MCU

Lang made a motion to pay bills in the amount of \$44,203.87, seconded by Getz.

MCU

Getz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Johnson.

MCU

Marita Rhude
Clerk/Treasurer