

The Cresco City Council met January 10, 2011, at 6:30 pm at City Hall. Council members Blake, Bouska, Loveless, and McCarville were present. Council member Moore was absent.

It was moved by Bouska to approve the consent agenda, which included approval of: the agenda as amended by removing item #3 Awarding of the Hotel/Motel Tax Tourism Grants; claims; the minutes of the December 22, 2010 Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Blake and passed all ayes.

Public Works Director Rod Freidhof was absent so Girolamo reported on: (a) meeting with City Engineer, Bill Angerman from WHKS with Rod, Ron & Michelle: discussed Cresco Food Technologies proposal for changes to the agreement for pH violations; the hydrogen sulfide odor testing; the sludge storage project; and the sump pump inspection project. Bill will be at the February 7th meeting to discuss street assessment projects, sump pump inspections and to set the date for bid letting for the sludge storage project; (b) Trees Forever meeting at City Hall at 6:00 on Wednesday, January 26th. This will be an informational meeting regarding Emerald Ashbore. The City of Ridgeway will be here and the public is welcome. (c) Cresco Tree meeting will be Wednesday February 2nd at 5:00 at City Hall which will be a more specific meeting on the Cresco Tree Report. (d) Water Department: repaired the water main break and discovered that the water was going directly into the sewer line so the sewer line will need to be repaired in the spring. (e) Sewer Department: Cody started last week and Rod is working full time in City Hall now. (f) Street Department: received the maintainer last week and is busy moving snow and clearing intakes. Blake asked about a street sign needed at 7th Ave E and 9th St E which has now been ordered and will be installed this spring. Amy asked about the street shop and Bohle replied that we are still working on getting the warranty information. McCarville inquired about the sewer odor and Girolamo replied that there have been no complaints received lately probably due to it being winter and the fact that we are still running water.

Police Chief Mark Kissinger distributed monthly police reports and also a summary of the investigation progress on the vandalism. He reported that they have received walkie talkies for about \$9,000 but most have been paid for with grants. There was a construction meeting for the communications project. They will rewire the towers and repeaters around the County and then the little building at the base of the tower will be constructed in March because the grant money needs to be spent by June. Increased number of parking tickets were due to the snowfall and needing people to have their cars off the roads so the snow plows can get the streets cleaned as soon as possible.

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo reported that (a) budget worksessions are scheduled for January 12th at 2:00 with council and department heads; (b) Denise is working on the website and has reviewed other websites. She recommends adding pictures of council and personnel. A citizen recommended adding contact information for the mayor, council and personnel. She will work on the website as time allows. (c) Girolamo and Mary Schatz, City of Lime Springs City Clerk, will attend the Smart Planning Grant Update & Training in Des Moines on January 24th. (d) Girolamo inquired whether someone should attend a workshop in Ankeny on how to establish a stormwater utility. Council thought it would be good to find out more about stormwater utilities so Michelle or Rod will attend the workshop. (e) Pat Callahan will be at the February 21st Council Meeting to present the Strategic Plan.

Bouska made the motion to put the property at 331 2nd Ave W up for sale for 90 days with a minimum bid to cover the expenses already incurred by the City. McCarville seconded the motion and it passed all ayes.

Girolamo opened the bids for stump grinding. The bids were based on inches and range in prices for gas price fluctuations. Wilson Custom Tree Service was \$.99 to \$1.05; Walton Tree Service \$1.13 to \$1.25; Dusty's Total Tree Service \$.99 to \$1.08. Loveless made a motion to authorize Freidhof to accept the low bid. Blake seconded the motion and it passed all ayes.

Comments from the audience were received from Matt Miner, representative of the Driftrunners, explaining that they are trying to do extra this year to promote Snowfest. They have paid for the expenses but it will cut into their budget for their future projects and operations if they don't receive the Tourism Grant. The groomers will be running all week and hope to have a lot of snowmobiles in town.

Matt Miner, representative of the Cresco Jaycees, mentioned that they can receive a big discount if they pay for the fireworks in February so that is why they are requesting the Tourism Grant for this quarter.

The Tourism Grants will be awarded at the next meeting on January 24th.

It was moved by McCarville to adjourn at 6:59 pm. The motion was seconded by Bouska and passed all ayes. A budget worksession will be January 12, 2011 at 2:00 pm. The next regular Cresco City Council meeting will be January 24, 2011, at 7:00 pm at Cresco City Hall.

Mayor Mark Bohle

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo