

**CITY OF MT. MORRIS  
CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING  
February 10, 2014**

At **6:30 p.m.**, Mayor Dan Lavelle called the Regular Council Meeting to order.

**PRESENT:** Dan Lavelle  
Randy Michaels  
Tonya Davis  
Mark Middleton  
Ed Sullivan  
Judd Judkins  
Dennis Heidenfeldt

**ABSENT:** None.

**OTHERS:** City Manager Tom Darnell, City Attorney Charles Forrest, Police Chief Keith Becker, Fire Chief Damon Tobias, DPW Superintendant Jeff Roth, City Treasurer Vicki Fishell and City Clerk Tema J. Lucero.

The Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Davis to approve the regular meeting minutes held on January 27, 2014.

All Ayes  
Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mayor Dan Lavelle presented Cody A. Fishell with a Proclamation for achieving Eagle Scout.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANT:**

A motion was made by Council member Middleton and seconded by Council member Heidenfeldt to approve Warrant #14-04 in the amount of \$56,272.78.

Roll Call:               \_\_\_7\_\_\_Ayes                       \_\_\_0\_\_\_Nay                       \_\_\_0\_\_\_Absent  
Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

John Fejedelem – 604 Walnut – Said that Republic cracked his trash can, and the DPW replaced it.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

No unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. RESOLUTION 14-10: Adoption of Purchasing Policy.**

Council member Judkins asked if the change was made to the credit cards from 60 days instead of 30.

City Manager Tom Darnell said that was the only change made.

A motion was made by Council member Heidenfeldt and seconded by Council member Michaels to **approve RESOLUTION 14-10: Adoption of Purchasing Policy.**

Roll Call:               \_\_\_7\_\_\_Ayes                       \_\_\_0\_\_\_Nay                       \_\_\_0\_\_\_Absent  
Motion carried.

**b. Discussion on letter of intent to Honeywell.**

City Manager Tom Darnell explained what Honeywell does and what the letter of intent was for. He's looking to have a representative from Honeywell come to one of the March meetings.

Council member Sullivan asked if we should be bidding out the services, City Manager Tom Darnell explained right now there is nothing to bid out, they just have estimates. The estimates are 1,050,000 with a savings of \$42,000 in the first year on energy savings. The city would have a total savings of \$85,000 in energy and \$544,000 in operational savings in the course of the 15 year project. Council member Sullivan stated that was a lot of money with a long payback.

Council member Heidenfeldt asked how we would pay for it. City Manager Tom Darnell explained there is no payment the first year. The second year payment would be \$87,000 and the savings from the first and second year would pay for that, after that the balance would have to be financed. Council member Heidenfeldt asked if that would come from General Fund or Streets. City Manager Tom Darnell explained that with street lighting you would have a choice, but the DPW, library, and city hall would all be General Fund.

Council member Judkins asked if it cost anything for them to come to the meeting. City Manager Tom Darnell answered no. There is no obligation until council approves the letter of intent. If for any reason the letter of intent is withdrawn then the City would pay for any work to date.

Council member Sullivan said he hears Consumers on the radio offering these types of services and asked if we have checked with them. City Manager Tom Darnell said he's talked some to consumers mainly about street lights.

Mayor Lavelle asked if there were any other companies that did this, City Manager Tom Darnell said there was another one called Johnson Controls but he has not talked to them.

**c. Discussion on truck purchase for DPW.**

City Manager Tom Darnell explained the trucks condition and the pictures that were in the packet, the truck needs work which is estimated around \$1,000 plus tires.

Council member Davis asked if this is the same truck they had already voted on and asked why it was being brought back up. She said the problems are normal wear and tear and she wants to see the truck because the pictures could be magnified. City Manager Tom Darnell said it's still in the budget and he wants to see if anyone wants to bring it up again. The new truck is budgeted through the water and sewer fund, and the repairs to the old truck would be done through general fund. Council member Davis asked what the truck was used for and if it was necessary to buy him a new truck. City Manager Tom Darnell said it was necessary and with the new truck it would have upgrades and would be able to be used for plowing. It would also allow all the DPW employees to ride in one vehicle for training. He asked the council what direction they were going in towards purchasing the truck, Mayor Dan Lavelle said it's going towards the next budget.

Council member Heidenfeldt said he was the ones that took the pictures.

Council member Sullivan said he agrees with City Manager Tom Darnell that the truck will eventually have to be replaced.

Council member Davis said she doesn't feel it's necessary with the winter we have had, City Manager Tom Darnell explained that the water and sewer fund would be where the money came from for the new truck and that fund is not over taxed. Council member Davis asked why he couldn't drive the water truck; City manager Tom Darnell explained it has all of the water and sewer repair equipment in it that is used by the DPW workers on a daily basis. Council member Davis said it's unnecessary to buy another vehicle, she doesn't care what fund it comes from.

Council member Judkins asked what month the new truck was voted down, City manager Tom Darnell answered it was probably the second meeting in July or first of August.

Council member Heidenfeldt said another thing to take into consideration is the on-call person needs a dependable vehicle; the DPW Superintendent is the on-call person. Mayor Lavelle said he was not, Council member Heidenfeldt stated he was, DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth answered he was and it has always been that way. Anytime anything happens he is the first call, he goes and checks it out and then calls the guys in if needed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

John Fejedelem – 604 Walnut – asked if it would be a 2014 truck and if it would be under warranty. If it was under warranty it wouldn't cost anything to fix. He is also glad the gates are up.

Lillian Bigelow – 381 Oak – Has a problem with the fire whistle issue, it is for the public.

Dan Davis – 1009 E. Mt. Morris – He thinks money should be spent replacing water and sewer lines instead of on the Honeywell project.

Dorothy Lindsey – 423 Spruce – agreed with Lillian the fire whistle isn't long enough.

**COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS:**

Council member Davis – asked for an update on 929 E. Mt. Morris. City manager Tom Darnell said he wants to set up a meeting with the inspector to go over policies. He did ask the status of it with Regional Inspection and they said the policy is to write three letters before ticketing, so they were sending out a second letter. Council member Davis asked to have that information by the next meeting.

Council member Sullivan – told Keith it was good work in the 2013 report. The plow guys are doing a great job. He attended the MML training over the weekend and it was very beneficial and they did a great job.

Council member Heidenfeldt – asked if anything had been done with the budget calendar, Mayor Dan Lavelle answered no. He also stated that 911 had no choice in changing the fire siren, the federal government made us change it and it's the best we can do with what we have.

Council member Middleton – congratulated Cody, congratulated the chief of police on the crime stats, and congratulated DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth for continuing to do a great Job.

City Clerk Tema J. Lucero – congratulated Cody.

Chief of Police Keith Becker – congratulated Cody.

DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth – congratulated Cody.

Fire Chief Damon Tobias – said for the public hearing he will have his truck at the Clio Fire Department and asked what time they needed it to be gone. Mayor Dan Lavelle told him to get with DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth.

City Attorney Charles Forrest – said the policy issue with Regional Inspection could be from Resolutions, or could be from the state but they will get to the bottom of it.

City Manager Tom Darnell – Said the landlord at 929 has complied with a lot of the work inside the house. He congratulated Cody; Eagle Scout is a big deal. With the fire siren he said we are one of 5 departments in the county that still use them, each time it's used it puts use on an old siren. We may want to consider using it just for tornadoes.

Mayor Dan Lavelle – Explained the letter that was given to council regarding the excellent job with the fire on Coy Street, he thanked the Fire Chief and asked that he pass it on to his guys. He told DPW Superintendent Jeff Roth there was a street light out at the dead end of Washington. He asked the Police Chief to take care of the Semi sitting on Washington, they aren't allowed in the City and that one blocks the view which has almost caused a couple accidents. Those that are going to the ball Saturday he will see you there.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

With no further business, the Council Meeting was adjourned at **7:52 p.m.**