

Minot Park Board Minutes
September 15, 2009

The Minot Park Board met on September 15, 2009 at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Courtroom.

Members Present: Robert Petry, Ron Bieri, Robert Walstad, Connie Feist, and Cliff Hovda. Also present were Ron Merritt and Cindy Thomas.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Public Hearing on the 2010 budget was then opened. Motion by Petry, second by Bieri to adopt the 2010 Budget in the amount of \$5,115,073.00 and place and pass on first reading Ordinance #236 to levy the taxes for the 2010 budget. The motion was then amended to change the amount to \$5,617,073.00 to include the special assessments in the 2010 budget. Petry stated one of the items up for discussion in the 2010 budget was a line item dedicated to an additional \$30,106.00 towards the city pension plan. This amount was determined by the City as an additional contribution towards the plan. Cindy Hemphill, Finance Director, City of Minot, had provided a note explaining the reason the contribution is needed. After discussion, it was decided to place and pass on first reading and amend the budget if necessary, once Hemphill has had the chance to explain the contribution. On roll call, motion carried with Walstad voting no. The public hearing was then closed.

The regular meeting of the Minot Park Board continued at 7:30 PM.

Personal Appearances: Jackie Jensen appeared before the Board to explain the Lure Coursing Event she would like to hold at the Soccer Complex. Motion by Bieri, second by Feist to allow a Lure Coursing Event to be held at the Soccer Complex on Sunday, October 11, 2009. Walstad questioned if this had been done before. Jensen stated this would be the first held in Minot. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Joe Davis appeared before the Board to discuss a skateboard competition. The Board encouraged him to arrange for one early next summer, as there is work to be done this fall at the park.

John Walker also appeared before the Board to inquire as to the possibility of expanding the skate park to include more things for bikes or to build a bike park in another area. A good discussion was held with Walker and the Board encouraged him to talk with his friends to see what would work for the bikers. Walstad questioned if they would want an indoor park. Walker thought this would be a good idea as there is not much to do in the winter other than snow boarding.

Aaron Bateman, Chris Alexander, Phil Alexander, and Jeff Ward, Boy Scout Troop 436, attended the meeting. The boys, Aaron and Chris are working on their merit badges.

Dudley Zimmerman attended the meeting to field any questions that may arise on the shelter discussion. Walstad stated he has heard from several people regarding the drive through Oak and how much they enjoy being able to do that. Feist questioned if there have been any safety issues with cars and would like some feedback concerning this both in Oak and Roosevelt.

Randy Burckhard, maintenance superintendent, appeared before the Board to state that if skate parks and bikes do not mix well, we need to look at a separate facility for bikers.

Motion by Bieri, second by Hovda to approve minutes from the August 18, 2009 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Petry, second by Bieri to approve minutes from the August 25, 2009 special meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Petry, second by Hovda to approve minutes from the August 27, 2009 special meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Bieri, second by Petry to approve bills in the amount of \$149,121.78. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Motion by Petry, second by Hovda to approve salaries in the amount of \$184,062.90. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Golf Committee Report: Hovda briefly went through the golf committee report. Motion by Hovda, second by Bieri to spend up to \$5000.00 towards a golf course consultant and written report for the Souris Valley Golf Course. Petry reminded the Board this was just one man's opinion and felt a citizen's committee would be a better idea. Feist felt there is already a citizen's committee judging from the number of calls she receives on the golf course. She went on to state she felt we had professional people on staff to take care of the course. She was also concerned with the plan already in place. Walstad felt this was a reasonable price to pay for expert advice. On roll call, motion carried with Petry and Feist voting no.

Zoo Committee Report: Petry briefly went over the zoo committee minutes.

Parks Committee Report: Motion by Bieri, second by Feist to adopt the following addendum to the shelter rental policy:

\$5.00 charge per table- Small shelter-any number over 15 tables
Large shelter-any number over 30 tables

\$1.00 charge per trash can over what is provided at each shelter.

On roll call, all members voted yes.

Bieri reported because of Sertoma's great success with Christmas in the Park, an 'addition' to the garage addition is being built in Oak Park. The concrete for this project has been poured and work will continue on the addition into the fall.

Steve Wharton, Horticulturist, appeared before the Board to present bids that were opened on a mid size pickup for his department. There were two bids received. The low bid was from Westlie Motor Company for a 2010 Ford Ranger pickup in the amount of \$16,198.00. Motion by Bieri, second by Hovda to accept the bid from Westlie Motor Company in the amount of \$16,198.00 for a 2010 Ford Ranger pickup. Petry questioned if there would be any add on to the vehicle. Wharton would like to have a box liner in the truck and received a quote from Tuff Trucks for a spray on liner in the amount of \$450.00. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Motion by Bieri, second by Petry to allow Wharton to spend \$450.00 from the vehicle line item for a spray on bed liner for the new Ford truck. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Randy Burckhard appeared before the Board to present a quote on a new Malibu to replace the Malibu lost in the vandalism incident. He had received a quote from Don Bessette Motors for a 2008 Chevy Malibu for \$10,034.50. The insurance company had issued a check for \$11,455.75 for the totaled car. This would save \$1421.25 from the insurance company if this car were purchased. Motion by Petry, second by Bieri to approve the purchase of the 2008 Chevy Malibu from Don Bessette Motors. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Administration Committee Report: There was a committee of the whole meeting held on the preliminary budget during this meeting time.

Motion by Petry, second by Hovda to approve the administratively approved alcohol permits from August 17 to September 9, 2009. Motion carried.

Other Business: Motion by Bieri, second by Hovda to authorize Ron Merritt to secure financing for the zamboni purchased for the Maysa Arena. Feist questioned what the total amount would be and what the term would be. Merritt stated the purchase price is \$99,986.83. There is \$23,000.00 budgeted this year along with approximately \$13,000.00 in the Foundation for this piece of equipment, so approximately \$64,000.00 with a term of 5 years. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Discussion was then held on the park attorney. Walstad felt the Board needed to start work on finding a new attorney as the current attorney is longer residing in town. Bieri agreed and thought van deStreek should be contacted for recommendations. Walstad stated this should be discussed further at the Administration committee.

More discussion was held regarding the pension plan contribution. It was decided the second reading of the 2010 budget would be held on October 6, 2009 at 12:00 Noon where Hemphill could come with an explanation. Walstad and Merritt will meet with Hemphill in the mean time in case she cannot attend the October 6 meeting.

Director's Report: Merritt reported the NDRPA State Conference would be held in Minot next week, September 22-24, 2009. He reported the turnout should be very good, with close to 60 people in attendance for the entire conference. There will also be 19 exhibitors and several other people attending one or more individual sessions. Walstad encouraged everyone to attend, as we are the hosts of the event. Bieri questioned if the staff would be able to attend at will. Merritt stated they would.

Merritt also reported we are still waiting on FEMA money, but is hoping it will arrive soon.

Commissioner's Reports: Bieri stated it was so nice to see so many people using the splash pad today, especially in September.

Walstad stated it would have been a nice day to have a paddleboat on the river.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Cynthia Thomas, clerk

Robert Walstad, President

