**Willow River City Council Meeting**

May 7, 2018

Approved June 4, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Willow River City Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 7, at the Willow River City Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Brent Switzer.

Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Council Present:** Brent Switzer, Sheldon Johnson, Chris Ketchmark, Darryl Poslusny and Vickie Whitehouse

**Staff Present:** Diane Nelson, Todd Anderson and Kathi Bennett

**Others Present:** Rosie Mielke, Dave Prachar, William Booth, Gerard Bennett and John Mikrot.

**Approval of the Agenda:** Vickie made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda and Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Special Guest, Jason Pearson; Fahrner Asphalt-** Jason had two quotes. One was for crack sealing and the other was for scrub sealing Park Drive. Jason recommended that we do this scrub seal on Park Drive. It is a crack filler and surface treatment in one. What happens with this treatment is that the oil mixture penetrates the asphalt to seal better and to also soften the asphalt so that it won’t crack as easily. Brent asked how long it will last. Jason said 7-10 years. Todd agreed that Park Drive is the worst. It hadn’t been done in the past. Sheldon asked if we had other bids for this process. Todd said that the other people he talked to do not do this type of treatment. Crack sealing the City Streets was around $28,000 and Park Drive alone was around $22,000. Walters Road was discussed. This bid did not include Walters Road. Sheldon suggested we review the bids and make a decision at the next meeting. Motion mad by Sheldon to make a decision at the next meeting. Vickie second. Motion carried with all in favor. Jason offered references if we wanted them. Todd said that he would try to get another bid. The Council thanked Jason for coming.

**Willow River Fire Department, Gerard Bennett**- Runs to date, 14 fire and 33 EMS for a total of 47. The City wanted to clarify that the WRFD will help with National Night Out. Gerard said they would. The SCBA equipment is in all they have had training on it and it is in service. They would like to pass the old equipment on or sell it to another department so that it can be used. Two trucks, an ATV and a snowmobile have been in for service at the FCI and more will be following. The department has applied for a $10,000 matching grant from the DNR. They would use that for new radios and pagers if they get it. Payment for the SCBA grant has come in and the bill is being sent out with May’s bills paid tonight. The department ordered additional items for the SCBA and the Relief Association will be paying for anything above the 5% that the city is paying. Steve Ronning is working as our newest member with the department. Sheldon asked how many would be the “goal” number of members and Gerard thought around 16-20. With Steve, we currently have 14. There are new codes on the overhead doors. See Diane for the codes. The west property – the department would ask the City to purchase it and the Relief Association would make a donation to the City for that. The purpose would be for future Fire Department expansion. There is a new physical exam form that the department would like to adopt and are asking for the City’s approval. Sheldon asked about the brush pile in Rutledge. Gerard said that they tried to burn it and what is left is unburnable and will need to be hauled out by the City of Rutledge. Vickie thought that we had let them know that but Diane said that the City did not contact them. Gerard and Diane will draft a letter to send to the Rutledge City Council.

**Water and Sewer, John Mikrot-** John raised up the water tower heights. They will be flushing hydrants May 14-21. John and Beckie are in the process of discharging the ponds. The work on the ponds is underway. Vickie will talk to MSA regarding the valves that are hard to turn. Sheldon asked about a metal smell in the water. John said that he hasn’t changed anything. It could be the height change.

**Public Works, Todd Anderson –** Todd picked up garbage along the freeway so it is ready to mow. He did some crack sealing in the parking lot. Todd also took the plow and sander off the one ton and washed the loader. He took the sign and the post out at the end of the road at the sewer pond and fixed 4 flags se we now have 15 flags. The park bathroom is now open and the post is fixed by the fire hydrant that got broke off last winter by the school. Todd talked to Rick Fjosne about gravel behind the fire hall. He has some recycled blacktop from the freeway work last summer that we could get for back there. Sheldon asked about the cost? Todd will ask. The high school kids helped rake at the cemetery. CIP was here cleaning by the City Park and they will be back on the 15th to sweep the streets. Sheldon asked if Todd was done doing the patching that he can do. He said that he had some to do by Peggy Sue’s. There was some talk about the fencing at the dam.

**Clerk, Diane Nelson –** I touched base on the flags and banners. I needed some direction from the Council if I should pursue pricing. Sheldon and Chris said “yes”. I asked for Monday and Tuesday June 4th and 5th off. Kathi said that she would work and then I would work Thursday and Friday the 7th and 8th. The Council said that would be fine. The checkbook is in balance. There is a local government meeting on the 29th at 6 PM. The election judges have all responded that they are willing to serve this election.

**Water and Sewer Billing, Katie Bennett –** Kathi had 119 postcard mailers sent out with 25 email bills. We had $14,790.91 sent out in billing and $286.44 charged for late fees. There were 12 friendly reminders, 9 shut-off notices 4 door hangers and 0 were shut-off.

**Flood Update – Vickie.** There is no new information on the dam. The construction started on the sewer ponds and they are still projecting that they will be done on time. Vickie gave permission to cut down 4 trees in order to get the equipment in.

**Zoning, Sheldon Johnson –** There was a permit for the new house on Old Sawmill Road.

**Old Business**  -

1. Park by dam insurance payout. Vickie and Diane are trying to get together information for insurance regarding the lights on the dam. We need to find the invoices for the work done.
2. Audit for approval. Diane mentioned that we did receive a discount for not having them come up to present it to the Council. It was a $1500 savings. Vickie makes a motion to approve the audit. Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor.

Motion made by Darryl to adjourn the meeting. Chris second. Motion carried with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Nelson