

TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2007, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Peggy Levesque called to order and presided over the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 2, 2007 at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members: Dave Lykstad, Laura Heideman, Virginia Thompson, Anthony Caldwell and Eric Satterthwaite were present.

Also in attendance: John Downs, citizen; and Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Peggy Levesque requested everyone stand for the "Pledge of Allegiance."

APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2006:

- ❖ **Councilor Virginia Thompson** moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of December 5, 2006. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR DECEMBER 2006 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,630.91:

- ❖ **Councilor Dave Lykstad** moved to approve the bills for December 2006 in the amount of \$54,630.91 (fifty-four thousand six hundred thirty dollars and ninety-one cents). **Councilor Laura Heideman** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked about payment to Erin Madigan. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said this was for cleaning services for the Town Hall and the Community Center. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked about the bill from Platt Electric. **Marla Nevill** said this was to replace tools that were stolen from the Wastewater Treatment Plant. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** asked about the payment to Rednecks and Rugrats. **Marla Nevill** said this was for a Community Center deposit reimbursement. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked about the bill for the false alarms from the Pierce County Sheriff's Department. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she spoke to one of the businesses and they stated someone is setting off the alarm and then watching to see how long it takes the police to respond. She said she spoke to Officer Jenkins and he'll send a copy of the Pierce County ordinance for false alarms. She said she would like to have the Pierce County ordinance adopted as soon as possible in order to streamline the process. She said if we adopt the Pierce County ordinance for false alarms, the bill would be sent directly to the alarm companies or the businesses. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked if Pierce County had waived the charges for the false alarms? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she had **Judy Tremblay** remove the charges for the false alarms. She said there is a few glitches we are trying to work out with Pierce County, and she would keep the Council updated. She said she is also working to verify several call-outs. No further discussion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

BMX Proposal – Mark Hutko – Tabled from December Regular Council Meeting:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said she had not heard from Mark Hutko. Councilor Dave Lykstad asked if they were still running the BMX at the arena? Councilor Laura Heideman said she has not heard the noise so they must have turned down the PA system. Councilor Dave Lykstad said they were only planning to use Campbell's arena for one month and it has been three months. Discussion followed. Mayor Peggy Levesque said she would try to get Mark Hutko to attend the next Council Meeting.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS:

John Downs presented a coffee mug to the Mayor as a gift from Markus Dennis. Mayor Peggy Levesque asked John to tell Markus thank you. Discussion followed.

John Downs said he spoke to the Mayor about vehicles parked along First Street. He said one vehicle has no license plate and there is a trailer that hides the license plate and it has not been registered this year. Councilor Dave Lykstad asked if these vehicles were parked on the same side as the Trail? John Downs said yes. Discussion followed. Mayor Peggy Levesque said she would turn this matter over to the Pierce County Sheriff's Department.

Mayor Peggy Levesque said she received a complaint about the way the Sheriff's Department handled an incident at the arena. She said she told them to contact the Sheriff's Department directly to relay their complaint. Discussion followed. Mayor Peggy Levesque said she would like them to deal directly with the police department. She said there is a lot of theft taking place in town.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Request Increase to Patrol Hours:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said she would like the Council to think about authorizing an increase to the patrol hours for the Sheriff's Department. She said a lot of incidents are taking place in the late night hours. Councilor Anthony Caldwell said that would be \$1,400 a month. He said with the call-outs, we would go over on our budget. Discussion followed. Councilor Anthony Caldwell suggested checking into cameras to ticket speeders. Mayor Peggy Levesque said it could not be done at this point because photo enforcement is only allowed in school zones and at traffic lights. She said photo enforcement is difficult to enforce because you cannot get a picture of the driver. She said this type of citation does not go on the driver's record. Mayor Peggy Levesque said she would like to get an officer to come out to enforce speed limit violations. She said she would speak to Sherm from the Sheriff's Department. Discussion followed. Councilor Anthony Caldwell suggested holding off on boosting police hours. Mayor Peggy Levesque said if we boosted the patrol time by three hours, we would still be within budget. She said she would hate to do nothing. Councilor Anthony Caldwell said he thought we were going to have a ninety-day trial period before increasing police hours. Discussion followed. The general consensus of the Council was to increase police patrol time hours up to the budgeted amount.

AWC Loss Control Grant:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said she is pleased to announce that we were awarded the \$1,000 (one thousand dollar) Loss Control Grant from AWC. She said Tony came up with the idea of replacing the teeter-totter at the Third Street Park. *She said she* spoke to the insurance and they would allow us to use the grant money to help pay for the purchase of a piece of playground equipment. Councilor Anthony Caldwell said he was checking out the Rock & Cross with a purchase price of \$3,995 and with the tax a total purchase price of \$4,346.56. He said Big Toys is located in University Place. He said if we do not purchase the Rock & Cross before the end of January, the cost would increase 4% or \$160. Discussion followed regarding ground preparation and installation. Mayor Peggy Levesque said we have to send a confirmation by June 15, 2007 to the Association of Washington Cities that we have expended the \$1,000

grant. Discussion followed. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said the Rock & Cross would probably be installed in May with a north/south installation.

- ❖ **Councilor Virginia Thompson** moved to approve the purchase and installation of the Rock & Cross for the Third Street Park. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Jail Costs:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said jail costs would not be increased until March 2007.

PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT:

Hypodermic Needles Turned over to Sheriff's Department:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said he turned *hypodermic needles* over to the Pierce County Sheriff's Department that was found by Tacoma Avenue and SW Second Street. He said he had also received complaints of a chemical smell. Discussion followed.

STEP Tank Overflow due to Power Outage:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said when the power is out the STEP tank fills up quickly, and we had one tank overflow when we had the power outage. He suggested putting a note on the utility billing requesting patrons to limit water usage during a power outage. Discussion followed.

Vault Toilet at Third Street Park:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said we have to pump the vault toilet at Third Street Park.

CLERK'S REPORT:

None.

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORT:

Tax Collection for the Arts:

Councilor Dave Lykstad said a portion of money for Capital Improvement projects could be designated to the Arts. **John Downs** said 1% of the construction project for the Narrows Bridge has been designated for the Arts. He said artwork could be placed along the trail, possibly small sculptures and area history. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she would like to see murals on the existing bulletin boards at the Trail Head that depict the area. Discussion followed.

Restricted Parking Signs for NW Washington Street:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell asked about the "Restricted Parking" signs for NW Washington Street. **Marla Nevill** said she was not sure whom to contact to order the signs. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said to contact Zumar.

Eagle Scout Projects:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said we lost two picnic tables during the flooding and **Dan Plewnarz** would be willing to build two new picnic tables if the town paid for the materials. Discussion followed. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said we still have sandbags. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** asked how long the sandbags would last? **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said they would last six to eight months if left outside. He said the sand should be removed from the Fire Station. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said the Scouts would be willing to help relocate the sand. Discussion followed.

Council Retreat:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said it would be nice to have the Council Retreat as an annual event. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** said it really helped last year. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked about compliance to

the Open Public Meetings Act? **Marla Nevill** said the Council Retreat had to be posted and it was open to the public. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** asked the Council if they would like to have a Facilitator for the Council Retreat. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** said he did not think they needed a Facilitator. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said as an elected official they did not get a lot of perks. She asked the Council what date would work for them? Discussion followed. The Council set the tentative date of January 28, 2007 for the Council Retreat. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she would do some research and get back to the Council.

Flags at Half-Staff:

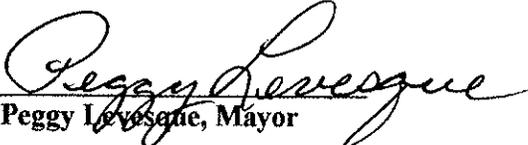
Councilor Dave Lykstad asked why the flags were flying at half-staff? **Marla Nevill** said we received a Presidential Proclamation requesting flags be flown at half-staff for thirty days in honor of the passing of President Gerald Ford. Discussion followed.

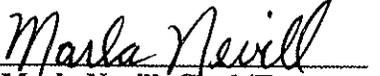
Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said we are working with Gordon Aleshire to try to get Pierce County to cover the Planning, Zoning and Code Enforcement for the Town of South Prairie. She said she did not anticipate hearing back from Pierce County for quite a while. She said she sent a lot of questions to Gordon via email. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked if Pierce County would cover everything? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we would let Pierce County handle everything. She said we have not heard back from Pierce County. Discussion followed.

RECESS TO JANUARY 16, 2007:

- ❖ At 8:30 PM, **Councilor Dave Lykstad** moved to recess the Regular Council Meeting of January 2, 2007 to January 16, 2007, 7:00 PM. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**


Peggy Levesque, Mayor


Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer