

**TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2009, 7:00 PM  
South Prairie Town Hall  
121 NW Washington Street**

*The following is a condensation of the proceedings and is not a verbatim transcript.*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman called to order and presided over the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, March 3, 2009, at 7:00 PM.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Council Members:** Laura Heideman, Gerald Boures, Mathieu Cameron and Karen Shell were present. Council Member Dave Lykstad and Mayor Peggy Levesque were absent.

**Also in attendance:** Anthony Caldwell and Rick Kilbourn, citizens; Larry Harter, Utility Operator; Judy Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer; and Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer

**FLAG SALUTE:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman requested everyone stand for the "Pledge of Allegiance."

**EXCUSE COUNCIL MEMBER AND MAYOR'S ABSENCE:**

- ❖ Councilor Karen Shell moved to excuse Council Member Dave Lykstad and Mayor Peggy Levesque's absence from the March 3, 2009 Council Meeting. Councilor Mathieu Cameron seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MARCH 3, 2009:**

Request Council Amend Agenda as follows:

- 1) Council Action on Mart Kask Memo of February 7, 2009
- 2) Authorize Mayor Pro-Tem to execute Cascade Recreation Agreement to purchase playground equipment
- 3) Authorize award of bid for Fire Station/Community Center flood damage repairs
- 4) Authorize Executive Session at end of Council Meeting for the purpose of reviewing bids for flood damage repairs

- ❖ Councilor Gerald Boures moved to approve the Agenda for March 3, 2009, with amendments. Councilor Karen Shell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009:**

- ❖ Councilor Gerald Boures moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2009, as written. Councilor Karen Shell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR FEBRUARY 2009, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$61,978.79:**

- ❖ Councilor Karen Shell moved to approve the bills for February 2009, in the amount of \$61,978.79 (sixty-one thousand nine hundred seventy-eight dollars and seventy-nine cents). Councilor Mathieu Cameron seconded the motion. Council requested clarification on the bill from Parametrix and the bill from H.D. Fowler for the replacement of the fire hydrant, and the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer answered these inquiries. No further discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Parking Restriction on NW Washington Street – Committee Update:**
  - ❖ **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to table this issue until we receive the report from the committee. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**
  
- 2) **Ordinance No. 511 – Increasing Water and Sewer Rates:**
  - ❖ **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to approve Ordinance No. 511, which increases the Water and Sewer Rates. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** called for discussion. **Judy Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer**, stated the ordinance was not inclusive and asked if it was the intent of the Council that the increase would be 10% (ten percent) overall. She said the ordinance did not address our current billing system, which is a two-tiered system that covers a base rate and consumption. She requested clarification. Council discussion followed. **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to amend her motion to approve Ordinance No. 511 with the following corrections which includes a 10% (ten percent) increase on the current base rate, and a 10% (ten percent) increase on the current usage rate for all Commercial and Residential customers, with yearly increases as stated above, effective January 1 of each year. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the amended motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) **Resolution No. 302 – Designation of Applicant’s Agent:**
  - ❖ **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to approve Resolution No. 302, designating an applicant’s agent for the purpose of obtaining Federal and/or State Emergency or Disaster Assistance Funds. **Councilor Karen Shell** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**
  
- 2) **Colorscapes Agreement Option 1 or Option 2:**
  - ❖ **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to approve the Colorscapes Agreement Option 1 or Option 2 for landscaping maintenance of the South Prairie Community Center, Veterans Memorial and Town Hall following discussion. **Councilor Karen Shell** seconded the motion. **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** called for discussion. Council discussed budget issues and the differences between the two options. In response to a citizen comment, which stated they thought the Cares Committee was taking care of the landscaping maintenance, the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer said that was a one-time shot and they had other priorities. **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** stated she was in favor of approving Option 2. **Councilor Karen Shell** stated she was in favor of Option 1 due to the current economic climate. No further discussion. **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to amend the motion to approve Option 1 in the amount of \$2,385.00 per year (\$198.75 per month). **Councilor Mathieu Cameron** seconded the motion. (Councilor Laura Heideman opposed). **Motion carried.**
  
- 3) **Certificate of Deposit – Rollover or Transfer Funds back to Money Market Account:**
  - ❖ **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to approve either rolling over the Certificate of Deposit (CD) or transfer funds back to the Money Market Account following discussion. **Councilor Mathieu Cameron** seconded the motion. **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** called for discussion. **Judy Tremblay, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer** gave an update on the status of the Certificate of Deposit (CD) interest rates and stated she spoke to the bank and they are no longer offering the Certificate of Deposits

(CDs). No further discussion. **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to amend the motion to transfer the funds from the Certificate of Deposit (CD) back into the Money Market Account. **Councilor Mathieu Cameron** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4) **Mart Kask Memo of February 7, 2009 – Interlocal Agreement, Amendments to the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies, Centers Policies:**

Marla Nevill referenced the memo from Mart Kask (see Exhibit “A” attached) concerning the amendments to the Pierce County Countywide Planning Policies, Centers Policies and read excerpts from the memo as follows:

**Impact on South Prairie**

If the Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies were to be adopted, it would have a **significant negative impact** on South Prairie. For South Prairie to be eligible for competitive grant and aid programs that are subject to countywide evaluation, scoring or ranking, South Prairie must have first been designated a Countywide Center. Since it is now a County policy that Centers will become focal points where public investment is directed.

Under the Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies, it is not possible for South Prairie to be named a Countywide Center. South Prairie fails the minimum Countywide Center designation criteria by not being a focal point for transit and not having a minimum employment base of 1,000 employees.

**Recommendations**

It is my recommendation that the Town adopts one of the options listed below.

1. Write a letter to Pierce County stating that South Prairie does not support the Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies as currently drafted. That South Prairie requests that the Countywide Planning Policies be amended to designate (de facto) all Satellite Cities and Towns as Countywide Centers, regardless of their population size. Historically, Satellite Cities and Towns, some over 100 years old, were created to function as urban centers to service the nearby rural farming development with urban services. They continue to do that today. To send them to oblivion and deprive them from benefits, such as infrastructure grants and aid, extended to other centers is discriminatory and unfair.
2. Adopt the Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies on the condition that Pierce County Regional Council, at their next meeting, goes on record of agreeing to reexamine the criteria for Countywide Centers, in light of the concerns expressed by one or more Satellite Cities and Towns, and if found meritorious, amends the appropriate sections making Satellite Cities and Towns eligible to be named Countywide Centers.

Any potential amendments to the Countywide Centers can be taken up concurrently when the Pierce County Regional Council takes up the proposed amendments relating to low-income housing.

- ❖ **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to direct Mart Kask to write a letter to Pierce County stating South Prairie does not support the Proposed Amendments to the Countywide Planning Policies as currently drafted. (Reference Mart Kask memo of February 7, 2009 – Recommendation 1). **Motion carried unanimously.**

**5) Authorize Mayor Pro-Tem to execute Cascade Recreation Agreement to purchase playground equipment:**

- ❖ **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to authorize the Mayor Pro-Tem to execute the Cascade Recreation Agreement to purchase playground equipment in the amount of \$13,728.33 (thirteen thousand seven hundred twenty-eight dollars and thirty-three cents). **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. Council discussion followed. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS:**

None

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** said the Mayor was gone due to medical issues. Discussion followed.

**PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT:**

**Larry Harter, Utility Operator**, said a bunch of our street signs have disappeared over the last month or so. He said the approximate cost to replace the signs is \$230 plus the cost of hardware, bringing the total to around \$500. Discussion followed. **Larry Harter** said he would submit a purchase request for the replacement of the signs. **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** said she had heard four-wheelers running around town in the early morning hours. Discussion followed.

**PROJECT MANAGER REPORT – FLOOD DAMAGE:**

**Tony Caldwell, Flood Damage Project Manager**, requested the Council discuss the bids for the flood damage repairs in Executive Session.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

**Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer**, said we got a lot of work done when the office was closed during the week of February 17 – 20. Discussion followed.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT:**

**Councilor Gerald Boures** said FEMA cancelled everyone for the Surface Water Management Meeting, which was scheduled for February 19, 2009. Discussion followed.

**Councilor Gerald Boures** asked if the sewer outfall had been resurveyed. **Larry Harter** said no. Discussion followed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discuss Bids for Flood Damage Repairs – Approximately 30 Minutes**

- ❖ At 8:05 PM, **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to adjourn to Executive Session for approximately 30 (thirty) minutes to discuss bids for the flood damage repairs. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- ❖ At 8:35 PM, **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to close the Executive Session. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**REVIEW AND AWARD BID FOR FLOOD DAMAGE REPAIRS TO SOUTH PRAIRIE FIRE STATION/COMMUNITY CENTER:**

- ❖ **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to award bid for Flood Damage Repairs to South Prairie Fire Station/Community Center following discussion. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the motion. **Tony Caldwell** stated we received two bids to repair the flood damage to the Fire Station/Community Center as follows: 1) Nehemiah Construction Services - \$24,098.60; and 2) The Sterling Group, Inc. - \$17,384.66. He recommended awarding the bid to The Sterling Group, Inc. for \$17,384.66. He said these estimates have already been submitted to FEMA and the insurance (AWC). Discussion followed. **Councilor Karen Shell** moved to amend her motion to award the bid to The Sterling Group, Inc. to repair the flood damages at the South Prairie Fire Station/Community Center for \$17,384.66. **Councilor Gerald Boures** seconded the amended motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURN:**

- ❖ At 8:45 PM, **Mayor Pro-Tem Laura Heideman** moved to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of March 3, 2009. **Councilor Karen Shell** seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

  
Peggy Levesque, Mayor

  
Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer

  
Date Approved