Walnut Grove, MN

September 12, 2011

The City Council met in a regular session on the 12th day of September, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Council Room.

Present: Greg Hansen, Todd Harrington, Leonard McLaughlin, Jeff Harnack and Xiong Yang.

Also Present: Tom Hansen, Mike Zeug, Bryan Kuebelbeck & Herb Krueger from PeopleService, Jeff Gladis from Western Community Action, Andy Kehren from Bolten & Menk, & Carol Swanson.

Mayor Hansen presided at the meeting

The Water/Wastewater report was presented by Herb Krueger & Bryan Kuebelbeck with PeopleService. Hydrants were flushed by Country View. Ten residential properties had water testing completed and all were within the normal limits for levels of copper and lead. No action is necessary. PeopleService will complete manhole inspections and hydrant flushing soon.

Andy Kehren from Bolten & Menk was present to discuss the Facility Plan project for the treatment plant and ask the council to approve the Preliminary Effluent Limit Review Request for the MN Pollution Control. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Jeff Harnack to pay the $1550 fee to the MPCA for the Effluent Limit Review. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Maintenance Report was given by Tom Hansen. The gate valve has been replaced. Tom has contacted Fuller Paving to repair & seal the basketball court for $2320 and they will repair and put a 2" overlay on the tennis court for $7704. The city budgeted $10,000 in 2011 for repairs and the council approved this.

Discussion was held on the removal of the asbestos and the building demo for the two Main Street buildings. One quote for the asbestos removal was around $30,000. The Council will wait for the second quote to come in before making a decision on the buildings. Tom has begun removing some of the garbage from the buildings and has filled and returned three large recycling containers with books and papers.

Jeff Gladis from Western Community Action was present to discuss the Lamberton/Walnut Grove Small Cities Housing project. It has been very successful and he would like to apply for a second grant because there is still a need. This second grant will be added to the first so the application is much easier. He believes it is very likely to be approved. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Xiong Yang to approve the $625 grant writing fee to WCA. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Bar & Grill report was reviewed by the council. Sales and profits are slightly higher than 2010. Greg will get a quote from Plum Creek Cabinets to build a shed next to the building.

Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Xiong Yang to approve the Local Government Application Resolution to proceed with the grant application for additional money to improve more houses in Walnut Grove. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Police Report was given by Chief Zeug. Mike and Isaac will be attending training in Redwood Falls for Civil Process procedures.

The City received a proposal from Banyon Data Systems for the direct deposit software for the payroll system. Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Xiong Yang to approve the proposal for $849.66. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on including the option for employees to open up Health Savings Accounts instead of putting their flex money into a medical flex account. The cost to the city would be a one time fee of $300 and then $5 per employee per month for those opting to go

with the HSA. No decision was made and the council will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

City-clerk Paula McGarvey presented the council with grant information for the 2012 Festival. She will be applying for an equipment grant from SMAHC and a Project Grant from SMAHC. She will also be applying for both a Festival Grant and a Folk Art Grant from the MN Arts Board. There is a 20% match required for the Art's Board Grants and a 25% match requirement from SMAHC. The match portions will be covered by the $3000 the City will contribute to the Festival and donations from other businesses and organizations. Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Todd Harrington to approve the applications for these grants. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on paying off the newest Fire Truck. Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Xiong Yang to make the final payment of $20993.31 from the General Fund. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The 2012 Budget was reviewed. The revenues for 2012 will be less than 2011 because the city will not be budgeting for the repayment of funds from Country View in 2012. The City is budgeting $15000 more in Street repairs than in 2010 and an additional $15000 for future sealcoating. Total budgeted expenses are $4000 less than 2010. Motion by Xiong Yang, second by Todd Harrington to approve the preliminary Budget Resolution with a total levy of $204,000. All voted in favor, motion carried. This is a 6% increase over 2010. There was no increase taken in 2010.

Motion by Jeff Harnack, second by Leonard McLaughlin to approve the Minutes for the August 15, 2011 regular meeting and the August 29, 2011 Budget Workshop/ Special Meeting. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Leonard McLaughlin, second by Todd Harrington to approve Claims #33523 through 33606. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Todd Harrington, second by Leonard McLaughlin to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey
Clerk-Treasurer