

**CITY OF CUSTER CITY  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS- REGULAR SESSION  
JUNE 2, 2008**

Mayor Harold D. Stickney called to order the first regular meeting of the Common Council for the month of June, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. Present at roll call were Councilpersons Schleining, Murphey, Pischke, Starr, and Chris Beesley, City Attorney. The Pledge of Allegiance was stated.

**AGENDA**

Councilperson Murphey moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilperson Schleining, the motion unanimously carried.

**MINUTES**

Councilperson Starr moved, with a second by Councilperson Murphey, to approve the minutes from the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008 regular meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts were stated.

**DEPARTMENT HEAD DISCUSSION**

Bob Morrison, Public Works Director, discussed the crew starting to patch potholes by blowing the water out since it doesn't seem to be drying up; the pool is being worked on since it is suppose to open up next Monday; the final service lines with the Westside Annexation are scheduled for completion next week; the asphalt grinding has come to a halt due to the rain; mowing is increasing rapidly; Rural Water was down and found one leak in the Homestead area and they will be back when there is less rain; Fish Hawks which are on the extinct list have taken up residency at the Sewer Treatment Plant on the power pole; the Showmobile should be back in town; and the field seeding and fertilizing has been slowed due to the rain.

Rex Harris, Community Development Director, discussed talking with Joe Uhrich, from the School District, and he is talking to Cory Schmidt about using equipment to get going on the fields as soon as it dries out a little; the Annexation notices will be going out; there are several vehicles being looked at for clean up with notices going out; and still waiting on HVAC information for the Liquor Store bid.

**CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL REPORT**

Dave Ressler, Chamber Executive Director, discussed the Chamber's year for 2007 with it being great; the sales tax dollars were up; the Chamber's revenues were up and each year they are getting closer to breaking even; they are hiring more summer employees to meet the demands; Custer Cash has increased from \$1800 to \$19,125 which means more to our local economy; last year there were 36 events held; memberships are at 328 which is up from 178 two years ago; General Custer is meeting and greeting at tourism events; they have used the "direct mailings" which is working to promote the shoulder seasons; they assisted with the establishment of a BID District; and they received a Golden West Community Grant which upgraded their computer equipment and website which has 450,000 hits per month. Dave thanked the Mayor and Council for all of their great support and mentioned that the Chamber Board saw a need for additional support for the Long Term Recreation Committee which will be helped by sharing additional sales tax money. The Mayor thanked Dave for coming and for the great work.

**ORGANIZATIONS PRESENTATIONS FOR 2009 BUDGET**

Sandy Ackman, 1881 Museum Director, summarized the revenues, which is mostly from donations and subsidies. They are now doing free monthly youth activities all year and have been working with all three schools. Their major fundraiser is the Old Time Country Fair held over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July; they have new displays; they are digitizing their photos and documents; and the visits continually grow each year. They would like to request \$7500 for 2009 and she thanked the Council for all of their support.

Jill Kettle, Senior Center Director, gave an overview by stating there are new directors, over 400 members, they have applied for grants to replace the old elevator which will need matching funds, and they have still been battling sewer problems. Leon Edwards spoke about all the changes like the handicapped ramp and the new automated door. He thanked the Council for their support and requested \$4000 as previously requested so they can continue to upgrade and improve the Center.

Mike Chase, Custer Youth House, discussed the improvements with attendance which averages 25 kids per night; they are open two nights a week in the summer and three in winter; they have limited funding and request \$2000 continued support to provide the kids a place to gather which is well supervised and Christian based.

Mike, also for Custer Transportation, gave an overview of the ridership, the fares charged, school contract, donations, and revenue from advertising. Prairie Hills Transit manages the program but the subsidy stays in this Community to fund the additional dollars over the State and Federal support. He requested \$4000 for 2009 and thanked the Council for all of their support especially with the new Bus Barn which is a great addition.

Kim Canete, Custer Food Pantry stated they had 980 visits last year and through March they already had 302. They received 73% of their support from donations which they had over 4000 lbs of meat and food donated last year; they now have four freezers and looking at increasing to eight next year. She thanked the Council for their support, requested \$1500 as previous years, and mentioned that they are running out of room so if someone would know of any property they could use, that would greatly help also.

Donna Talley, WEAVE Director, submitted a letter regarding her request for \$5,000 for 2009 which will go towards shelter repairs and camera upgrades. This funding is helping to meet a need in the Community that is greatly needed and requests this funding from the Liquor Fund.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE #651 – BBB TAX**

The Mayor stated that Dave Ressler and he discussed the Chamber wanting to provide some additional funding for the LTR Committee which is where the 20% of additional sales tax over \$130,000 came about. Councilperson Schleining moved to approve Ordinance #651. Seconded by Councilperson Pischke, the motion unanimously carried with Councilperson Starr, Pischke, Murphey, and Schleining voting yes.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCE #652 – UTILITY RATES**

The Finance Officer gave an overview of the basic figures for a 5% increase in the water rates; no other increases are needed at this time. Councilperson Murphey moved, with a second by Councilperson Starr, to approve the Ordinance #652. The motion carried with Councilperson Pischke, Murphey, Schleining, and Starr voting yes.

**CHAMBER STREET CLOSURE REQUEST**

The Chamber submitted a request for Street closure of 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Mt. Rushmore Road to the intersection of 6<sup>th</sup> and Crook Street for the Classic Car Show by Black Hills Overdrive. This would be June 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 11 pm. Bob mentioned that the alleyway will need to be kept open but other than that, it's fine. Councilperson Murphey moved to approve this event. Seconded by Councilperson Pischke, the motion unanimously carried.

**TONYA FLORA – OLD WEST – BULLWHIPPER**

Discussion was held on the issue of having things like the bullwhip demonstration and the safety issues involved, insurance and liability coverage as well as the other businesses being concerned. Since Tonya did not attend the Council took no action. There were Lakota Dancers on Main Street which had a very nice attendance and this was previously approved.

**JOINT USE AGREEMENT – RECREATION FIELDS**

Attorney Beesley stated the Agreement is ready to go with concurrence of the School District Attorney. The agreement protects both parties, addresses everything that is needed to be addressed, and yet it can be modified in the future from time to time. Councilperson Schleining moved to approve the agreement and authorize the Mayor's signature. Seconded by Councilperson Pischke, the motion unanimously carried.

**GO TO BID APPROVAL – LOADER & JETTER**

Bob requested approval to go to bid for a new loader, which needs to be sized up, and a new jetter. The bid options will include cash purchase, possible trade-in, and lease purchase. Councilperson Starr moved to approved going to bid on equipment purchases. Seconded by Councilperson Murphey, the motion unanimously carried.

**RESIGNATION, PROMOTION, & NEW HIRES**

Councilperson Starr moved to accept the resignation of Randy Schumacher effective May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. Seconded by Councilperson Murphey, the motion unanimously carried.

Councilperson Murphey moved to approve the promotion of Tim Wollaston to Assistant Liquor Store Manager & Parks Supervisor effective May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 to \$12.82. Seconded by Councilperson Pischke, the motion unanimously carried.

Seasonal Temporary positions have been advertised and Bob has a couple of people to interview for the four to five positions needed this year. Councilperson Schleining moved to approve the seasonal hires at \$9 per hour effective with Bob's approval after interviewing. Seconded by Councilperson Starr, the motion unanimously carried.

**2009 BUDGET PROCESS**

The Council received, reviewed, and acknowledged the expense and revenue report through May in preparation of working on 2009 budgets. Discussion was held on having portions of the budget at each meeting and one public hearing prior to the adoption of the budget in September.

**PROPERTY CONDEMNATION**

Rex discussed the Auto Parts Store possibly needing condemned since it has filled up with water and there's a great possibility of mold. Previously an engineer's inspection showed there were many problems. The Council requested Rex to contact the owner, see what the intentions are, have the solution in writing, and proceed accordingly.

**LIQUOR STORE SIGN ESTIMATES**

The estimates for a new Liquor Store sign were presented and the Council decided to wait and see; discussion should be held by the Council to determine a sign policy.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The Council received a letter from Golden West Companies regarding the request to be brought into the Coop which it basically lacked substantive progress. They will be requesting a meeting with Golden West and would like to see more effort and progress.

Pamida is coming along and the front is not what will be in the end; there will be a the façade that is superficial.

Councilperson Pischke wondered about estimated costs to cover the pool to reduce heating expense; Bob will get those together for the LTRC. Councilperson-elect, Terry Reetz, wondered about enclosing the pool but everyone agreed that indoor pool facilities run in the red; how much does the City want to invest? Councilperson Schleining stated, that in the past, they had researched sharing the costs with the City, School, YMCA, and Hospital but to no avail.

Councilperson Starr wondered about Way Park which Rex stated most of the work is scheduled this fall so there would not be a conflict with summer events and fall is a better planting time.

### **CLAIMS**

Councilperson Schleining moved, with a seconded by Councilperson Pischke, to approve the claims. Councilperson Schleining questioned the repair of a city vehicle which had been hit by another vehicle; there will be an insurance payment settlement to cover the costs. The motion unanimously carried.

Mayor & Council, Wages, \$4250  
Community Development, Wages, \$3667  
Finance Dept., Wages, \$8904.91  
Public Works Dept., Wages, \$5917.27  
Street Dept., Wages, \$5243.53  
Parks Dept., Wages, \$5044.17  
Liquor Fund, Wages, \$3164.74  
Water Fund, Wages, \$4369.14  
Wastewater Fund, Wages, \$5215.72  
First Western Bank, Auto Fees, \$29.40  
Element, Credit Card Fees, \$261.07  
State of SD, Sales Tax, Malt Bev. Licenses, \$4731.56  
SFR Water & Sewer Loans, \$7037.08  
USDA Rural Development Water Loans, \$10009.90  
AFLAC, Insurance, \$388.08  
Alltel, Utilities, \$392.58  
Beesley Law Office, Professional Fees, \$190  
BH Power, Utilities, \$1611.17  
Border States Electric, Supplies, \$327.36  
Couch's Waterproofing, Repair & Maint., \$906.22  
Custer Chronicle, Publishing, \$675.39  
Custer Do It Best, Supplies, \$803.66  
David Hlavinka, Repairs, \$339.20  
Fastenal, Supplies, \$60.30  
First Western Bank, TIF Payment, \$6132.78  
Golden West Companies, Utilities, \$727.86  
Golden West Technologies, Supplies, Repair & Maint., \$2362.50  
HD Supply, Supplies, \$3700.63  
Hespen Excavating, Repair & Maint., \$892.87  
Hills Material, Gravel, \$1127.36  
Jenner Equipment, Supplies, \$195.53  
Jeri Hewitt, Reimbursement, \$84.67  
Scott Kellogg, Reimbursement, \$146  
Kimball Midwest, Supplies, \$467.31  
Lynn Moran, Professional Services, \$150  
Moss Rock Landscaping, Ball Field Prep, \$1625  
Nelson's Oil & Gas, Supplies, Utilities, \$7232.42  
North American Directory, Advertising, \$250  
Petty Cash, Licenses, Supplies, Travel, \$298.65  
Quality Auto Body, Repair & Maint., \$934.20  
Rapid City YMCA, Pool Contract, \$12075  
Republic National Distributing, Supplies, \$6634.71  
Sander Sanitation Service, Clean Up Day, \$2965  
SD Dept. of Transportation, Supplies, \$3055  
Harold Stickney, Travel, \$53.28  
Geney Ziolkowski, Animal Contract, \$701  
Child Support Payment Center, \$314.54  
Delta Dental, \$465

Federal Withholding, \$4176.36  
FICA, \$5538.69  
Medicare, \$1295.34  
SD Retirement, \$5119.34  
Dan & Merri Moore, Deposit Refund, \$50  
David & Joyce Hazeltine, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Christina Swenson, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Joe Trana, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Jason Hiermeier, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Warren Graham, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Dacotah Bank, Deposit Refund, \$100  
Dan Bublitz, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Marty Mechaley, Deposit Refund, \$50  
Castle Cleaning, Professional Services, \$650  
Cheryl Hadlock, Cemetery Contract, \$3583.33  
Edward Jones, Investment, \$1,000,000  
Total Claims \$1,146,993.82

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Mayor Stickney adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

ATTEST:

CITY OF CUSTER CITY

Christine Redden  
Finance Officer

Harold D. Stickney  
Mayor