

The Palo City Council met in open session Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at the Temporary City Hall located at the FS Building. Mayor John Harris called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following council present: Alan Mengler, Paula Gunter, Tom Sanders and Jeannie Blumer. Absent: Jeff Beauregard. Others present: City Attorney; Scott Peterson, Infrastructure Commander; Tom Watson, City Administrator/Clerk; Stacy Dix.

Mayor John Harris asked everyone to stand and say the pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Mengler to approve the agenda with deleting agenda item #18 Ordinance Amending C-1 Zoning, and item # 29 closed session, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (4-0).

Motion by Gunter to approve the consent agenda including bills and November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Council meeting minutes, seconded by Blumer motion carried (4-0). Claims Report:

Bockenstedt Excavating, Inc.	Final Pymnt Sewer Project	\$28,423.22
Summer's Enterprise Inc.	Final Pymnt Sewer Project	42,200.09
L.L. Pelling Co.	Street Repair	40,121.79
D.W. Zinser Company	Demolitions	137,890.00
Linn County Planning & Dev.	Building Inspections	552.37

Palo Chamber of Commerce Report by Dan Diehm; Native grass seeding along hwy 94 is still in progress. Ordered new banners for chili soup supper and train ride. Would like the council to consider having permanent sign holders. Sewer lagoon entry has been identified as the location for the new Welcome to Palo sign, Council agreed. The Chamber has also been given a map of the proposed trail from Anderson-Bogert if anyone would like to review.

Rebuild Palo Fund Report by Tom Watson; stated he is continuing to approve residential applications, there are still quite a few residents in Palo that have not applied. Businesses who received damage the application deadline to be submitted are Monday November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009. If the business is solely based out of their home and they received assistance from RPF for their home they will not be eligible.

SWMC (Storm Water Management Committee) report by Tom Watson; Stated Dave Schottmer and Tom attended a meeting last week regarding grant funding for the Dry Creek Watershed. Continually working with Benton County, Linn County and University of Iowa on making Bear Creek protected water shed.

#### Audience Comments:

Sandy Woods stated she will be handing out the boxes from the Mission of hope until 7:00pm  
Bill Zeller questioned the status of the Police car? Mayor Harris stated it is on tonight agenda. Bill also questioned about planting native grasses in Zeller Park. The visioning group has a future plan in place for that area.

---

Linn County Treasurer Michael Stevenson was present to discuss briefly the amount of the tax abatement the has been applied to City of Palo. There were 126 applications which total approximately \$32,690.00. Linn County is requesting the City of Palo abate this amount in one year rather than the five taxing periods that was originally decided. Resolution #112309A to approve the tax abatement for flood effected properties be abated by the City of Palo in one year, motion by Mengler, seconded by Gunter, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Leaf pickup discussion, Rudd Sanitation is the City of Palo's solid waste disposal contractor. Gunter informed everyone that the City of Palo had contacted Rudd to extend their leaf pickup on a week by week basis when the original contract date expired on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Rudd picked up leaves on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and that week their vacuum truck experienced mechanical failure. Motion by Mengler to have Tony pick up leaves that are too large to be

placed in the yard bags, owners to place leaves on the side of the street, staff to establish odd/even side of the street weekly pickup. This shall commence until the first major snowfall, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (4-0).

Discussion on Snow Removal bid, Tony recommended the Council approve the lowest bid. Gunter stated the lowest bid although per hour is slightly higher would be Watson Services due to City Wide charging a 4 hour minimum and not actual time worked, City Wide also neglected to fill out a salt/sand price on their quote. Motion made by Mengler to approve the snow removal bid for Watson services, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (4-0).

Boundary Surveyor bid for HMGP buyout grant, Motion by Mengler to approve Anderson-Bogert for the Boundary Surveyor contract, seconded by Gunter, Sanders nay, motion carried (3-1).

Resolution# 112309B to approve the Annual Financial Report for FY 08/09, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, Sanders abstained, motion carried (3-0).

Discussion on john boat that was used at the lagoons, Tony received quotes that the value would be around \$150-\$200. Sanders questioned what size and equipment went with the boat. Tony stated it is 16 foot monarch with a pair of oars and a jib boom. Motion by Blumer to put out to accept sealed bids, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution#112309C to appoint Kevin Matt to the Board of Adjustment term ending May 2014, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution#112309D to appoint Micah Mogle to the Board of Adjustment term ending May 2014, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Scott Peterson discussed the Site Plan agreement for Cannon Property located at 4638 Shellsburg road, stated the City had a meeting with Darrell to address all the issues and everyone had come to an agreement regarding the Auction facility site plan, motion by Blumer to approve the Site Plan Agreement for Cannon property, seconded by Mengler, motion carried (4-0).

Council discussed the driveway width for residential properties. The former Metro Area Design standards allowed a maximum width of 24 feet, however the 2006 version allows for 36 feet maximum width to accommodate a third stall garage. Council would like to continue to follow the current version of the Metro Area Design Standards.

Resolution #112309E to approve the drainage easement between Darren and Delores Adams and the City of Palo, motion by Mengler, seconded by Gunter, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Mayor Harris read the recommendation from Beauregard to hire Dana Pfab for the Communication Coordinator position. Blumer stated her concern with having too many employees. Sanders questioned if it's more a lack of staff or work assignments. Blumer and Sanders concerned with this being a permanent position. Smetzer stated all candidates were aware of the reason for the hiring and the creation of this position due to staff working on flood recovery projects. Harris stated this is only a resolution for hiring an employee the need for the position was previously identified. Resolution #112309F to hire Dana Pfab as Communication Coordinator, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution# 112309G to approve Mayor John Harris as the authorized representative for the HMGP grant, motion by Mengler, seconded by Gunter, roll call, motion carried, (4-0).

Motion by Mengler to approve the donation of \$50 per Fire Department member for their end of the year dinner, seconded by Gunter, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution #112309H to approve the final acceptance for Division III Summer's Enterprise Inc. for the 2007 Wastewater treatment project, Watson stated Summer's have one small project to

fix the ditch in front of Kindred's property, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried (4-0).

Resolution #112309I to approve the final acceptance Division 1 Bockenstedt Excavating Inc. for the 2007 Wastewater Treatment project, motion by Gunter, seconded by Mengler, roll call, motion carried, (4-0).

Discussion regarding the police car, Mayor Harris would like the Council to confirm whether they would like to see the police car go out for sale. Council agreed, and would like to see the car sold with all of the equipment intact.

**Department Reports:**

Hite stated they have been cleaning out ditches on Vinton Street, manholes have been delivered will be installed next week. Sanders requested Tony or Doug remove the logs on Covington Road ditch, also remove the remnants of a tree from the corner of Main and 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Sanders also stated there is a washer/dryer with the door removed on Third Street and would like Tony to look into.

**Old Business**

Mengler requested the welcome sign located on the corner of Blairs ferry Road and 1<sup>st</sup> Street have the electricity connected by REC.

Motion by Gunter to adjourn at 8:29pm, seconded by Mengler, motion carried (4-0).

Respectfully submitted by,

Trisca Smetzer, City Clerk