

City Council Meeting
Regular Minutes
January 9, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Scott Morrow was sworn in as Mayor. Doug Reynolds and Danny Webster were sworn in as city councilmen.

The city council met in regular session at Martensdale City Hall, 380 Iowa Ave., Martensdale, IA at 7:00 p.m. on Jan. 9, 2011. Mayor Scott Morrow called the meeting to order.

On a roll call vote the following members were present: Doug Reynolds, Scott Henson, Danny Webster and Ryan Baker.

Members absent: Karen Bunch.

City Attorney, John Hoyman and Denny Bernholtz from Safe Building Compliance and Technology were present.

The city clerk had a letter of resignation from Karen Bunch effective January 9, 2012. The city council will have 40 days to appoint someone or have a special election to take Karen Bunch seat on the city council.

Mayor Morrow made the following appointments: Martensdale Fire Chief, Scott Henson; Mayor Pro Tem, Doug Reynolds; City Bank, Regions; City Paper, Indianola Record Herald; and City Attorney, John Hoyman. On a roll call vote: Henson, Aye; Reynolds, Aye; Webster, Aye; and Baker, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Dec. 5, 2011 minutes and the consent agenda were presented with an addition to the January payables. D. Reynolds made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote, Mayor Morrow declared the motion carried unanimously.

Kevin Conklin, 280 Center St., Martensdale, IA was present after receiving a letter from City Attorney, John Hoyman after a resident contacted Mayor Morrow if a gas line ran into his garage and whether someone was living in the garage. Mr. Conklin explained that his garage is heated so he ran a new gas line. He said he has a TV in the garage and his kids go out there to watch it periodically. He also said he has cleaned up his yard after receiving letters from the City and John Hoyman. He stated that he hoped after this meeting he doesn't have any more problems with the City. He said he was very frustrated with the City and almost feels like he's being harassed. He had a list of other residents who have vehicles sitting in their yard and also have junk lying around their homes.

Mayor Morrow asked Mr. Conklin if the gas line he placed in his garage was inspected and he replied that Mid American had inspected the gas line. Mayor Morrow told Mr. Conklin that the City wasn't accusing him of anything but wanted to be sure that the garage wasn't being used as a residence. Mr. Conklin stated that he knew Scott Henson was the one to make the complaint and told Scott Henson if he doesn't like him he should install a fence. Scott Henson said he didn't have any problems with Mr. Conklin.

Mayor Morrow thanked Mr. Conklin for taking the action to clean up his yard. D. Reynolds explained to him that it was a residential question and it was better to address it at a meeting. Mr. Conklin said he would like other residents to be asked to clean up their yards. Mayor Morrow told him if other vehicles are registered the City cannot do anything to get them removed. John Hoyman will look into the State of Iowa codes regarding vehicles just sitting in yards. Mr. Conklin said he feels since he lives close to the Martensdale Fire Station he is getting more attention than other residents.

Mike Trotter, Caleb Smith and Kurt Kampman were present to discuss the sewer system evaluation survey. They gave the Mayor and each City Council Member a copy of their report. The lagoon is over loaded which over loads the pump station and may cause basement flooding. The DNR does not have the City on a compliance record now but they will be doing that in the future. McClure has done flow monitoring and smoke testing to determine what needs to be done for the repairs to the sewer system and lagoon. Kurt Kampman from McClure presented the actual

evaluation and improvements. He said there are three areas (1) existing sewer (2) pump station and (3) treatment plant. He said a town of our size uses 45,000 to 50,000 gallons of water per day. A new 8" line could handle that volume but an older sewer system cannot. He discussed designing the existing flow for 209,000 gallons per day.

Mr. Kampman went over different plans for the City to consider. He stated that the current system is a controlled discharge treatment system, which is a low maintenance cost; the other option would be a continuous discharge aerated system. This system has more operating and maintenance charges because it runs 24 hrs. a day, 7 days a week. Current Robert Seymour only has to do a few samples per year, with the continuous discharge system he would have to send in more samples due to the system running continuously. The financial impact is significant for the City.

Mayor Morrow asked if the City did the lining would it help. McClure said the City would need to apply for a \$300,000.00 CDBG grant. The City would need to have their resident's incomes evaluated to see if we could apply for the grant first.

There was discussion about raising the current rates for the water and sewer utilities. McClure recommended having a rate study done which would cost around \$30,000.00.

After the city council discussed some of McClure's recommendations they would like to meet alone to discuss it further and then have McClure come back to another meeting to discuss it further. The city clerk will contact McClure to let them know.

Mayor Morrow said he would like to have a City Celebration which would be something like the Wick Picnic. This will be discussed further at another city council meeting.

A resident sent a letter asking for sidewalks to be installed especially around the school area. The city council said this has come up before and it is the home owner responsibility. There was discussion about the possibility of sending out letters to residents explaining that this is their responsibility.

R. Baker made a motion to adjourn, seconded by D. Webster. On a voice vote, Mayor Morrow declared the motion carried unanimously.

Scott Morrow, Mayor

Donna Bahun, City Clerk