

**City of Martensdale
Special Council Meeting
March 6, 2017**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Ralls.

Members present: Scott Henson, Ryan Baker, Nathan Wheeldon, Robert Wetzler and Adam Vandekamp.

Members absent: None.

Attorney Robert Stuyvesant was present.

The consent agenda and February 2017 minutes were presented, including the disbursement and revenue reports were approved on a motion by R. Wetzler; seconded by S. Henson. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk discussed the January minutes and stated the council had to make a decision which copy to approve. N. Wheeldon stated that he abstained from voting for the fire chief at the January meeting and that needed to be changed. R. Wetzler made a motion to approved the revised copy of the January minutes with the changes; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

The city clerk asked the city council for their permission to open a water account. The state auditor suggested that a water fund be established when they were here for the audit, just like the sewer account. The city clerk stated that the Warren Water debt. was paid off in November and she would like to place that payment of \$850.00 that was being paid for that debt plus whatever any surplus from water charges after expenses. She would like to start the account with \$8,000.00. S. Henson made a motion to approve the \$8,000.00 plus the \$850.00 and any water surplus into a water account; seconded by N. Wheeldon. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

Robert Seymour told the city council the cost to take down the tree and remove the stump to complete the sidewalk project would be \$450.00. He also said he needed to purchase rock.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Scott Henson reported a total of 8 fire calls and 13 EMS calls for a total of 21, 16 of those calls were responded to; the fire dept. is working on an equipment list of items they need and have done monthly training with the State of Iowa. He said since March 1st there have been 12 calls.

George Meincke from City State Bank in Norwalk, IA was present to discuss the interim financing for the sewer project. He stated the prime rate is 3.75 now but said a tax-free bond could be around 2.5%. He stated that the monthly payment of interest payments to City State Bank should be around \$2,000.00, borrowing 3 million dollars until the USDA financing is available.

McClure Engineering was present discussed the USDA grant, the USDA is suggesting adding the treatment plant to the project, with the total cost being around \$3 million dollars. Kurt Kampman said the council could reduce the amount of the project, but said as they reduce the scope of the project, the USDA will reduce the total amount given to the City. They said the council could expect to see bids this year for the project.

The city council asked the city clerk to contact our bond attorney, Ahlers & Cooney and see how much they would charge us to do the issuance of a bond including attorney fees.

There was discussion regarding the income survey. It was discussed whether to do a special census and income survey, if that is what the City would like to do, they would have to hire someone and whatever number they came up with, the City would have to use. Or the City could do their own survey as discussed at previous meetings. The city council decided that they would do the income survey.

Curt Kaupmann present to discuss two items regarding the sewer project to the city council; one was to conduct soils boring for the Iowa Ave. Trunk Sewer before the project. McClure Engineering sent out 4 bids that they had for the city council. R. Wetzler made a motion to accept the bid from GSI for \$3,050.00 for the soil boring; seconded by N. Wheeldon. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

The other item was to discuss the proposal from the State Engineer at USDA-RD of expanding the scope of the financing package currently being pursued. This would include the lift station into the sewer project at the USDA's recommendation. N. Wheeldon said he originally thought it was an I & I problem, but felt a 4-cell would be okay and we did not a 5-cell. A. Vandekamp made a motion to include the 4-cell and the lift station into the sewer project; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

Gary from McClure Engineering discussed the financing of the sewer project and final figures.

Andrew Collings from MPO was present. He said the Easement Assessment was almost completed and he is working on the application. He will work with Donna to get some other information completed. He stated that Mayor Ralls and the city clerk would need to be able to sign all paperwork.

The public hearing for the 2017-2018 budget was opened, Mayor Ralls asked if there had been any objections received by phone calls, letters, or E-mails regarding the budget, and the city clerk said she has not received any objections. R. Wetzler made a motion to close the public hearing; seconded by R. Baker. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

A. Vandekamp made a motion to accept the 2017-2018 budget; seconded by N. Wheeldon. Question was called for and on a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

The first reading of Ordinance 03.02.2017 An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Martensdale, Iowa by Amending Provisions Pertaining to Water Service Rates was presented. A. Vandekamp made a motion to approved Ordinance 03.02.2017; seconded by S. Henson. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously. The second reading of Ordinance 03.02.2017 will be at the April meeting.

A. Vandekamp made a motion to adjourn; seconded by S. Henson. On a voice vote: Wetzler, Aye; Henson, Aye; Baker, Aye; Wheeldon, Aye; Vandekamp, Aye. On a voice vote Mayor Ralls declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor John Ralls

Donna Bahun, City Clerk