

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 3, 2007

The governing body met in regular session on January 3, 2007, at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Room in the City Hall, the following members being present and participating, to wit: Commissioners Strecker, Hosie, Johnson, and Gilliland.

Absent: Commissioner Jindra.

Other Officers: City Manager Paine, Deputy City Clerk Phil Deneault and City Attorney Uri.

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

Visitors: Jessica LeDuc, Toby Nosker, Danny Parker, Ron Deal, Larry Eubanks, John States, Larry Remmenga, Bruno Rehbein, Don & Cheryl Lanoue, Ted Collins, Marvin Copple and Ron Copple.

Pastor John States, First Christian Church, provided the invocation before the city commission meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Johnson made the motion to change the minutes to include the statement he made at the December 20, 2006 meeting: Commissioner Johnson asked Kirk Lowell to provide CloudCorp's financial records. Mr. Lowell responded, he would provide to the City Commission a monthly balance sheet. Commissioner Hosie seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Gilliland made the motion to approve the December 20, 2006 minutes, as amended. Commissioner Strecker seconded. Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 24A

APPROVED

Commissioner Strecker moved to approve Appropriation Ordinance No. 24A. Commissioner Hosie seconded. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR BUDGET AMENDMENT

January 17, 2006

Commissioner Gilliland moved to set the budget amendment public hearing date as January 17, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Strecker seconded. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 2006 – 2928
2007 CONTRACTOR LICENSING

TABLED

Bruno Rehbein, building inspector for the City of Concordia presented a brief overview of the new contractor licensing for the city. Bruno worked with the Board of Building Trades to develop a plan that would meet the new requirements of the state and at the same time meet the needs of the community. The new licensing would grandfather in the current licensed contractors but require them to have twelve hours of continuing education a year to keep their license in Concordia, New contractors wanting to get licensed in Concordia would have to serve as an apprentice for two years and complete testing to obtain a Journey certification. Once the journeyman certification has been completed then 2 more years would have to be served as an apprentice and testing completed to get their master certification. Commissioner Darrell Hosie asked what the cost was for a contractor to fulfill the requirement of twelve hours of continuing education. Not only would it cost the contractor for the schooling but they would be looking at mileage, meals and lodging. All of these costs would be passed on to the consumer. Mr. Hosie was also concerned that the new licensing might reduce or eliminate someone new trying to get into the business because they would have to meet the new requirements and those business' with current licenses would be grandfathered in and not have to become certified. Darrell said he understood why the contractors being grandfathered in might support this new licensing because it would make it tougher for someone new to get into the business. He felt it would restrict competition and he didn't feel there was over abundance of service people in the rural communities.

Bruno Rehbein stated the alternative is to continue on like we are now, but if the city decides to do that the city would have to get rid of electrical testing and just license anybody who is will to provide insurance and get a license.

Mr. Hosie felt like the city should take a little time, ask some questions, and look at some alternatives. Maybe we don't need to jump in and comply with the states new requirement. We don't want to reduce services to the community and increase the cost to the consumer. Continuing education is a good thing but it doesn't necessarily mean that someone will learn to improve their skills and them come home and implement what they learned. Furthermore could those contractors being grandfathered in get their master certification if they were forced to? It is going to take four years to get licensed if you are someone trying to get into the business. If you were a contractor you would have to think it is pretty good

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 3, 2007, cond't

deal since anybody new wanting to get into the business would have to work for them for four years before they could start their own business. Maybe we should look at what other communities are doing in regard to this?

Commissioner Johnson asked why city, county and state organizations would not have to comply with the new requirement. If we are going to make people qualified to work in the city, then the city, county, state and Federal government should have to comply. Commissioner Hosie also stated that if we are going to adopt the new licensing it should apply to everyone. Bruno Rehbein explained that the city does not compete with the private sector; the city does not do things for a profit. They are still required to meet code and have the work inspected. The difference is the city would not have to be licensed. City Manager Larry Paine commented that city's role is not much different than that of a home owner. A home owner is allowed to do the work on their own structures as long as it meets code and is inspected. The city would be doing the same thing, they would only be working on city buildings or structures and they would be inspected like anybody else.

Mayor Strecker felt that this new ordinance would increase knowledge in the field resulting in a better product and services to the consumer at little or minimal cost increase. Mayor Strecker suggested that a decision on the new licensing be tabled until the next meeting when all of the commissioners could be there to vote.

Thereupon, Commissioner Strecker moved that said Ordinance be tabled until the January 17, 2007 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson.

Yea: Commissioners Johnson, Gilliland, Strecker and Hosie.

Nay: None.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

There were no comments

STAFF COMMENTS

There were no comments

EXECUTIVE SESSION
NON ELECTED PERSONNEL

HELD

At this time, Commissioner Strecker moved that the commission recess into executive session for 15 minutes for non elected personnel matters. Commissioner Hosie seconded. Motion carried. Time: 6:18 p.m.

The commission reconvened at 6:33 p.m.

Mayor Strecker announced there was no action taken.

There being no further business, Commissioner Hosie moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Gilliland seconded. Motion carried.



Phil Deneault
Deputy City Clerk

(Seal)