

FREE
please take one

City Council News

A meeting with the county commissioner, Joe Neaton, Sheriff Jack Hendrickson, county fiscal manager, state auditor representative and officials from cities and townships throughout the county was held July 25th. In an attempt to reach agreement on the format of a new policing contract proposal. The proposed plan is to reduce the number of hours of purchased patrolling time and for the "lost" time to be provided under the Base Service concept. Base Service costs are those paid from taxes paid to the county. Therefore, the patrolling contract costs would be reduced. The sheriff indicated that the number of hours of patrolling would remain the same.

The cost of the patrolling contract would be based upon a cost of \$25.47 per hour, as determined by a formula using the actual costs of the Sheriff's office. This cost per hour is an increase of 17% from the cost of \$21.74 per hour currently used.

One concern raised at the meeting was whether or not the hours provided under the Base Service portion of the contract will actually be spent in the cities or if the cities would see a reduction in the hours of patrol time. There also an objection voiced to the 17% increase. The reason given was that if in the future, a city determined too few hours were spent in any given city the only remedy would be to purchase additional contract hours at the going rate. If that rate was too high to be affordable, the city would receive less service.

While this proposal contains some unknowns, it does represent an attempt on the county's part to reduce the cost to the cities. Another unknown is if the city of Chaska will sue the county if this proposal is adopted. Using county tax money to patrol in contracted areas was the basis of Chaska's original suit and is being proposed this time. Many representatives said they would recommend the plan. Some representatives had reservations.

County Board meeting on July 31st showed two commissioners supporting Sheriff Hendrickson's proposal. This proposal would decrease the rate based on a yearly contract by the size of the city and allows purchase of additional patrol time above a base minimum. The proposed plan would allow more basic service paid by all county taxpayers. The city of Chaska, according to their attorney, Luke Melchert, objects to the expanded basic service. Commissioner Trende questioned whether the approximate \$ 117,745. shift to greater county obligation will change the level of service. Commissioner Gnan felt the county would lose the upper hand to the contracting communities under the new system. He

stated that he would like to save the system but was not convinced that this proposal was the way. The Victoria Administrator felt the plan allowed for accountability of the sheriff's department by the cities.

Sheriff Hendrickson explained the new proposed contracted amounts to the Carver council. Under the new plan policing services would be sold at an hourly rate and set up a minimum level of service. Carver would be required to contract the minimum half hour. At a yearly cost of \$ 4,648. Present charges are based on per capita rate. The commissioners at that time were undecided whether or not to change the method of charging.

The city of Carver presently has no PATROLLING contract. However, this does not mean that we are without policing. Call your local police department if problems arise. They will respond. If they do not respond, contact Sheriff Hendrickson.

The mayor inquired about Steamboat Days and patrolling. The sheriff stated that presently without a contract the officers could not patrol, nor could the safety patrol unit be visible but the department would be available to respond to any calls;

Question was also put to the sheriff that is an agreement were to be reached with the sheriff's department and the city were to seek a contract for the remainder of 1984 and for 1985. Could the sheriff's department then be available for Steamboat Days. The answer was yes.

The Board of Commissioners met August 7th and were divided regarding the sheriff's proposal but united on a compromise. The conflict centered on the proper base level of service to be provided and the amount paid by the county. Sheriff Hendrickson with support from a state study, put the base level at 11.4 positions shifting additional monies onto the county's budget. The compromise reduces the base level to 10.1 positions and lessens the shift of monies. The decision appears to be a true compromise in that some critics claim the base level is too high and some too low. The City of Chaska's argument is that they will be paying for a large portion of 11.4 positions when Chaska doesn't require it. Commissioner Aretz felt that the base level should be shared by everyone.

Although the county board approved the contract formula, it is clear that there are concerns that the county contract system may be nearing the end. Commissioner Trende commented that none of the counties near Carver County and few throughout the state use the contract system. He thought that possibly cities should be providing their own policing. Commissioner Ess agreed and felt more responsibility should go

back to the cities. Commissioner Gnan predicted that the new proposal will work for approximately two years before inflation forces cost up and the conflict will arise again. Commissioner Neaton emphasized positiveness that the alternative would be a much higher cost to the taxpayer. He felt that this route was the cheapest.

Motion was made to contract with Carver County Sheriff's Department for September 1st through December 31st, 1984 and 1985 for one hour. Motion carried with four ayes, one absent.

Terry Maurer presented an updated discharge permit for signature. Motion was made and carried to increase the capacity of the ponds with four ayes and one nay.

The mayor discussed calls received concerning the sewer main being put in the middle of Skyview Lane. Some homeowners preferred the main be put behind the homes. Terry expressed concern of obtaining permission from homeowners. Also if the main were constructed behind the homes, no service could be obtained for any new construction. And it would increase cost, requiring permanent easements.

Councilman Swanson recommended that a thankyou be sent to Wm Mueller & Sons for the twenty one loads of gravel that were donated to the city for the dike built under the railroad tressle during the flooding of the river this summer.

Councilman Hanson questioned whether or not the city should be withholding taxes from the animal warden's wages. The mayor felt that a 1099 form be filed would be the only requirement.

The council requests a written report from the warden accounting for his activities and hours. Hanson expressed concern that the warden's phone number was still not available to the public with 411 directory. The mayor expressed that the phone company does not always comply with customer's requests immediately.

A citizen had called a councilmember regarding the warden's attitude towards an animal dispute. There was a brief discussion of the city's not having a cat ordinance and maybe should. An alleged threat about doing harm to her cats made by the warden intimidated the citizen causing her to fear for her animals. A passing remark was made about this person always giving homes to stray cats. Past complaints and warnings have been received by the council regarding the warden's attitude at times. In Questioning this behavior Councilman Hanson was accused by the mayor of having a personal grudge against the warden. Since there have been continual issues brought forward by Councilman Hanson.

be special arrangements when those properties were sold. Higher income people would not be affected.

The HRA Board was in favor of helping the city of Carver on a conditional basis. Once the needs were established the HRA Board would be able to give a more definite commitment to the city.

Stewart and Knudson will be working together to get issues underway. There was discussion of a public informational meeting after surveys were taken and the projects decided. Knudson commented on a downtown revitalization project. Knudson will charge the city for his services. If a grant is to be applied for, other financial arrangements are to be made.

Many citizens were opposed to sewer for the Lenzen and Skyview Additions but were in favor of sewer for only the core city. It was asked why a referendum as previously discussed was not taken on the sewer issue on the scope of the project. Fahey stated that a referendum is not required nor would it be binding on the council if one were held. Statement was made that many feel the sewer project is being pushed onto those who do not wish it and they will have to pay for it. The engineering costs for the core city are largely grant fundable. Comments were made that if the taxes were too high that no new homes would be constructed. It was asked how the project could be stopped. Councilmembers would need to be convinced that the scope of the project including additions was not to the city's best interests. It was felt that another informational meeting should be held.

The maintenance building roof was discussed as a portion of the roof had caved in. Quotes were given on the repair costs. Councilman Hanson felt the bids should be taken. Two other councilmembers felt that the job required immediate attention. Bids were to be solicited and decision to be made at a later meeting.

A referendum at either a special or general election would be required in order for the city to decide whether or not a Sunday Liquor license could be issued. The matter is to be discussed further.

At the September 17th meeting a motion was made and carried to put the Sunday Liquor referendum on the general election ballot.

Whether or not a building permit should be required to construct a deck was discussed. The Planning Commission felt that a permit was not required since the outside dimensions were not changed. Consensus of councilmember present was that technically a permit was not required but a minimum charge be enforced for the construction of the deck.

Lave Gilbert talked with the council about subdivision of his property. Property owners would share cost of road maintenance which would be a private road. The Planning Commission had approved the preliminary plans. The area is presently zoned agricultural. Fahey stated that rezoning and variance public hearings could be held at the same time. The area had been considered a good site for light industry. It was wondered what

effect it would have if residential use was begun. Suggestion was made to go look at the property.

The council had received complaints of vehicles driving on the dike area. Various solutions were discussed. Boulders are to be placed on the dike.

A citizen questioned the council about sewer permit forms that had been sent out by the city. Citizens were reluctant to signing blank permission and agreement to a scope of the sewer project that they did not agree to. Stewart explained that a signed permit did not necessarily mean that sewer would be installed in those areas. But that the permits were required if the city were to decide to install sewer. Stewart's reasoning for the permits were:

1. Interest in receiving the best possible bid with the permits. The scope of work would be better defined for hook ups.
2. Once this contract is awarded, the city has to be sure that contractors would have access onto properties.
3. Permission would be required for maintenance of the system once operational.

One citizen remarked that the permits were not necessary prior to the bidding and the city has to then assume that everyone would hook up. Stewart stated that bids could be taken on the whole city and get permission after the bids but the city then, may not receive the best price on materials and labor. Stewart warned that the less defined the project is, the more it would cost, and there could be bid protest and project rebid. The mayor recommended putting the project out on bids.

One citizen requested what the cost would be to his household. Stewart answered that he did not have those figures as the council had not acted on the formula for distribution of costs. The mayor stated that many rumors of numbers are circulating. The numbers discussed at the council were approximately \$1,800., core city and \$2,700 with additions included.

There was argument about 90 days notification of hook up from the city in the permit. Stewart stated that the city would order scope of project that could be afforded. Citizens were told that the proposed project was for the entire city to divide the cost of operating the system and the holding ponds cost.

Some citizens opposed the sewerage of Skyview Additions. Others would not oppose sewer if the lines went through the easements behind the homes. Stewart explained that cost was the issue. If the service ran behind the homes it would only serve one set of homes where put into the street, it would serve both sides of the street. Stewart is to look into alternative of running lines behind Skyview.

The mayor stated that after the project were completed, property values should increase, insurance rates decrease and because of new compaction rules, Skyview Lane should be better than before. The mayor also stated that if only the core city were done, then the mill levy would increase for everyone because the city would have to pick up more of the cost. Yet in the same breath he is also saying

that no one will have pay for a service not receiving.

Another citizen stated that the decision of sewer should be made by citizens with the council abiding by their decision. The referendum issue was brought up again. And again the mayor stated that a referendum was not required in this issue nor binding on the council. However, it should give the council direction on what the citizens want.

A public informational meeting for the sewer project was discussed. If the bids come in 20% over the estimates, the bids can be rejected and the city starts all over. The council needs to decide cost distribution formula and have accurate numbers to be able to discuss with the public. It was decided that a public informational meeting would be held after the bids are received for the sewer project.

Stewart wants a public informational meeting on the DEED application projects so that the council can decide what projects are to be included in this application. Stewart does not wish to discuss the sewer project at this informational meeting.

SteamBoat Jubilee had another successful event for the second year organized by the SteamBoat Committee despite uncooperative weather. Monica Giese and Bev Swanson were chairpeople. Chris and Donna Anderson organized the parade. Phyllis and Arlan Pauly organized the dance. Chips Lieverman took care of all the publicity. Debbie Lenzen is the secretary/treasurer. Ricki Schultz took care of dunking machine. They all have done a superb job and deserve a pat on the back. Job well done again, you guys and gals! Also a special thanks to our Sheriff and his deputies who patrolled above and beyond the call of duty.

A citizen requested mention of saving of the water tower before it's too late. It has been said that it is one of the few towers left in the state and the nation.

There has also been mention of taking a tree stump that is cut down and getting a group of chain saw sculptures to design that stump on the end of Broadway Street.

WANTED

Women of any age group, not necessarily a Lion's wife for one fun night a month. Women interested in helping others and serving your community. The Carver Lioness Club is newly established. They will be meeting the second Monday of every month. For more information call Cheryl Peterson at 448-4857.

Dear Editor,

To the people who make carnivals, like Steamboat Days, possible; my children and I would like to thank you.

This past Steamboat Days was for us a huge success and many "somebodies" put a lot of time and energy to create just that effect.

Please accept our thanks for a job well done.

Ann Freeman & Family

Councilman Swanson felt that the land the city was interested in was not the best for city purposes. He wondered if land outside the city limits could be bought. The answer was yes. The mayor also stated that the city has jurisdiction outside the city limits within one mile on various types of controls.

Councilman Low and Hanson expressed that a solution must be reached. When the softball games have to be played outside of Carver because of flooded fields, it hurts the city and the team morale, as well as loss of hometown support.

Spring Creek Improvements: Rip rap would be put along the dike area where erosion has begun again, south of 4th Street. The mayor asked what the council wished to do about improvements to be done in the creek area. It was the general consensus of the council to repair the problem areas, leaving 4th through 6th streets alone. It was concluded that the city has no responsibility to maintain the stream except the erosion problems and the bridges.

The mayor felt that the creek should be repaired but saw no sense in beginning from 6th Street and working down to 4th Street. Swanson felt that if the creek were not straightened it did not pay to do anything.

Bill Hartley appeared at the council meeting to discuss his erosion problem. He stated that he was told after purchasing his home that the city would be fixing the creek. The mayor said that the city would attempt fixing the creek.

Neighbors to the north of Hartley want the city to proceed and have given permission to cross their properties to access the creek. Neighbors to the south request that no corrections be made. Councilman Swanson felt that if the city repaired Hartley's, changing the creek course could result later in problems from residents downstream. Hartley questioned putting the creek bed in its original banks. The mayor felt that work done from 6th Street up would effect the 4th Street bridge.

Motion was made to form a committee to clean up debris, with Hartley's being responsible for their own repairs. There were two in favor and two opposed. Motion was requested to be brought up at the September 4th meeting.

Mary Ann Johnson from the Doghouse Bar requested a Sunday liquor license. Mike Fahey, city attorney, thought that the issue might have to be put to a referendum vote and made available to other liquor establishments in Carver. Topic to be researched further and discussion pursued at the September meeting.

WANTED

Women of any age group, not necessarily a Lion's wife for one fun night a month (including dinner - for a small fee.) Women interested in helping others and serving your community. The Carver Lioness Club is newly established. They will be meeting the second Monday of every month. Join us September 10th, Monday at 7:00 P.M. at J's Restaurant in Chaska. For more information call Cheryl Peterson at 448-4857.

NOTICE

Any local crafter interested in selling their crafts during Steamboat Days, contact Kitty Hanson at 448-5013 for details. Hurry it's approaching faster than you think.

APOLOGY

One of the sponsors in the last issue had requested correct spelling. The final draft was already at the printer's before message was received. I apologize for being unable to comply with their request at that time. Correction: Wittkraft or WKP, Inc.

November Elections

September Primary

Filing Dates - September 25 thru Oct 9

City Positions Expiring:

Mayor - Robert Jordan
Council - Ralph Hanson
Council - Ricki Y Schultz

New Resident to Carver:

Daughter, Zoe Alexandria Thiel, born to proud parents, Brad and Susan on July 28th, 1984. Welcome 'lil' one!

Guess Who's Married?

Word has it that our eligible mayor is no longer eligible. He heard the wedding bells ring on August 25th, 1984. Congratulations to the Bride and Groom!

Preview of some to be Dunked during SteamBoat Days:

Carver County Sheriff - Jack Hendrickson
City of Carver Mayor - Robert Jordan
Carver Attorney - Mike Fahey
Carver Councilmember - Ricki Y Schultz
Lenzen Auto Service - Tim

Meetings:

August 29 Planning Commission
September 4 Carver Council
September 8 & 9 SteamBoat Days
September 22 Tree Cutting Project

Sponsors:

Carver Nursery, Inc
Rich Olson Construction
Swanson Construction & Car Wash

Staff:

Monica Giese
Lucie Hartley
Ricki Y Schultz
John W Schultz & Company

