

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
August 20, 2013

The August 20, 2013 meeting of the Lake Mills City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building Council Chambers by Council President Ed Grunden. Roll Call was answered by Steve Kurkiewicz, Ed Grunden, Steve Pett, Diann Fritsch and Rudy Schaar. Also present were City Manager Steve Wilke, City Attorney Vickie Schmidt, City Treasurer James Heilman and City Clerk Elizabeth Milbrath.

City Council Minutes. Motion Mr. Pett, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to approve the City Council Minutes of July 23, 2013. Motion passed 5-0.

Correspondence. Mr. Grunden received correspondence about the signs downtown and met with a number of business people. Mr. Schaar received a letter about a Lake Park Place driveway issue. Mrs. Fritsch received several correspondence regard sidewalk signs; hoping to find some way for businesses that are not on Main Street to get attention. She receive a call about street signs and a call from someone happy about the installation of a street light near the daycare on Owen St. and a call regarding the EMS. Mr. Kurkiewicz received general questions on EMS response time, sandwich boards and Pinnacle Drive. Mr. Pett received 2 calls about sandwich boards for business owners off Main Street.

Questions and Public Comment. Katie Otto, Main Street Program Director, 275 S. Main St., representing Main Street and the downtown businesses. She expressed the position of the businesses owners that signs are critical to business not on Main St. It affects their business success. She offered some solutions such as granting permits, placing them on Main St. & E. Lake St. corners. Rex Weston, 611 Fremont St., asked about sidewalks going to the new grocery store; encouraged the City to place them there. Also he stated that while walking in the City many cars are blocking driveways and tree limbs, flowers and landscaping across sidewalk. He is in favor of sandwich boards for advertising downtown businesses. Sidewalk café at Water House Foods is near the bike rack making it difficult to pass.

City Manager Report. City Manager Wilke reviewed his report.

Committee Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of Joint Rock Lake Committee July 2, 2013, were placed on file as presented.

Council Business:

- a. Board/Committee Appointments. None.
- b. Miscellaneous Licenses. None.
- c. Resolution 13-27, Recognition for City Service, Millicent Johnson. Motion Mrs. Fritsch, second Mr. Pett to table this item until Millicent Johnson is able to attend the meeting. Motion to table passed 5-0.
- d. Resolution 13-28, Recognition for City Service, Susan Dahle. Motion Mr. Pett, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to accept resolution 13-28. Motion passed 5-0. A Certificate of Appreciate was presented to Susan Dahle. Mrs. Dahle expressed her gratitude for the recognition.
- e. Resolution 13-29, Recognition for City Service, Victoria York. Motion Mr. Pett, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to accept resolution 13-29. Motion passed 5-0.

f. Resolution 13-30, Authorization to Borrow Funds. Motion Mr. Pett, second Mrs. Fritsch to authorize the borrowing of funds. Motion passed 5-0.

g. Discussion on General Directional Signs for Local Businesses. Mr. Grunden explained that he received a call complaining about signs placed in the park. He spoke to the City Manager. City Manager Wilke could not remove some signs without removing all illegal signs. City Attorney Schmidt discussed the code relating to sandwich board type signs. Discussion on the States position with signs. Mr. Pett felt it would have been better to advise the businesses owners before removing the signs. Discussion on business owners forming a committee and recommending solutions that can be brought to the Plan Commission. Clarification that the building inspector cannot be directed to not enforce the zoning code. Motion Mr. Kurkiewicz, second Mr. Pett to suspend the rules and allow Kate Anderson, Chamber of Commerce and Katie Otto, Main St. Program Director to address the council. Motion passed 5-0. Discussion on what these organization can do next to resolve. They will bring concerns to Plan Commission.

Recommendations for Future Agendas. Fire Study Report on September 16<sup>th</sup>. October meeting date may be changed.

Convene into Closed Session. Motion Mr. Pet, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to convene into closed session at 8:20 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

Reconvene. Motion Mr. Schaar, second Mr. Kurkiewicz to reconvene at 8:45 pm.

Adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Elizabeth J. Milbrath  
City Clerk