

MILACA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 20, 2015 MEETING

The regular meeting of the Milaca City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Harold Pedersen. Upon roll call the following Council members were present: Dillan and Gahm. Council members Johnson and Muller were absent.

Staff present: Lerud, Gann-Olehy, and Toven

Others present: Tim Truebenbach, Jen Amundson, Ashley Haynes, Andrea Mack, Ross Chambers, John Herman, Patrick Herson.

Motion by Gahm, second by Dillan to approve the consent agenda:

1. Minutes of the July 16 regular council meeting
2. General bills, 815167E-815172E, 815192-815194E, #41486-41487, #41548-41578, #41583-41636, totaling \$238,012.94; Liquor bills, 915026E-915029E, #23360-23373, #23391, #23409-23420, totaling \$171,984.34.
3. RESOLUTION NO. 15 – 16 ASSESSING UNPAID FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE CHARGE (entire text appears in Resolution book.)
4. RESOLUTION NO. 15 – 17 ASSESSING UNPAID FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE CHARGE (entire text appears in Resolution book.)
5. City Treasurer's report

All present voted in favor.

Mayor Pedersen invited anyone to speak to an item not on the agenda during citizen's forum. No one came forward.

City attorney Toven said that the police chief issued trespass notices to three individuals for damage to park property. He said city code allows the council to consider a trespass period for up to three years, however these three notices were for a period of one year. Toven said the trespass notice is a tool that can be used, along with criminal charges, to try and prevent damage to city facilities. He referred to sections 90.04g, and 90.04a of the city code as the basis for these actions. He said if the council upholds the trespass notice the individuals involved could face criminal charges for entering parks within the trespass period.

Toven said there are two incidents and three individuals. He said the first incident was in Riverview Park occurred on June 1 and involved a person riding a lawn tractor through a low area causing damage. The person in question admitted causing the damage. The second incident occurred on June 11 in Rec Park and involved two juveniles, one who carved on a picnic table, and another who turned a security camera

so the first person could not be seen carving. Toven said both individuals admitted their part in the second incident.

After consideration of the damage, and hearing from the parties involved, a motion was made by Dillan, second by Gahm to approve the one year ban from all city parks for the individual involved in the June 1 incident in Riverview Park, all present voted in favor.

Motion by Dillan, second by Gahm to approve a six month ban from all city parks for both individuals involved in the June 11 incident in Rec Park, all present voted in favor.

Toven said these notices would be effective the date of the original notice from the Chief, dated August 10.

Ordinance No. 415 was offered for a first reading, but a motion by Dillan to hold the first reading died for lack of a second.

Mayor Pedersen said he would like to go to unfinished business at this time. He said that a couple of months ago when he brought up the concerns about the Fairview clinic, he wanted people to understand that while they were his concerns as well, he had heard from many people that they were concerned about the future of the clinic with three providers leaving over the past couple of years.

Fairview Northland President John Herman said he understood the community's concern, but he wants to make clear that Fairview is not going anywhere and is very committed to Milaca and the surrounding area. Patrick Herson, president of Fairview medical group, said they too are committed to Milaca. He said that they struggle to find doctors to serve in rural areas, but they are working on different incentives to attract doctors to a rural setting. Dr. Ross Chamber said recruiting doctors is something he does on an ongoing basis, and it took him five years to recruit Dr. Beth Wheatly. He went through the reasons the last three providers left the clinic. He said two remained within Fairview and one went back to CentraCare.

There was a discussion about services provided at the clinic. Mayor Pedersen said one of the issues is that the website for the clinic is outdated, and people just don't know what services are available here. The council urged Fairview to be effective in communicating services to residents in the area. The council thanked them for coming to the meeting tonight and the city will be happy to work with Fairview in their recruitment efforts.

There was no planning commission meeting in August.

Lerud said the minutes of last month's economic development commission were in the agenda packet, and the commission meets tomorrow morning.

Mayor Pedersen said the parks commission met and Rec Fest was reviewed and planning has started for next year.

Council member Dillan said that the farmer's market has been very well attended, and the music is a good addition. He said the pocket park is a work in progress, and a game table has been put there.

Motion by Gahm, second by Dillan to approve a temporary liquor license for Jigger's Grill and Bar for the First National Bank street dance, all present voted in favor.

Mayor Pedersen called for council comments.

Council member Gahm asked how Rec Fest is operated and where it is in the budget. Gann-Olehy explained how it is accounted for. Mayor Pedersen said that the event has been self-supporting and no tax dollars have been used to hold the event.

Gahm commented that the fly-in was a very nice event.

With no other business a motion to adjourn was made by Gahm, second by Dillan, all present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Harold Pedersen

ATTEST

Greg Lerud, City Manager