

**Calmar City Council
Regular Meeting
May 4, 2009**

Prior to the meeting Tom Ward, representing the Calmar Commercial Club told the council that the Commercial Club had met and decided not to hold a Calmar Farmer's Day Celebration this year. He stated this was due to "lack of interest". Corey Meyer stated he had the "Branching Out" application for the tree program. This program could be set up to split the cost of tree planting between the Branching Out program, property owner, Nursery owner and possibly the City. The committee will be developed and the application submitted by the fall deadline.

Mayor McCasland called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the Calmar Fire Station with Phillips, Meyer, Huinker and Zweibahmer present.

Added to the agenda for discussion was a request to file application to get the Calmar Railroad Depot on the National Historic Register. Mayor McCasland asked for clarification on the meter reading update in the water departments 5 year plan. Mr. Penrod stated that this consisted of upgrading our computer system which is somewhat dated. Various claims were discussed and questions answered regarding fund transfers. Motion by Zweibahmer, second by Meyer to approve the Consent Agenda which included the Agenda with the addition of the National Historic Register application for the Calmar Depot, minutes of the April 6, 2009 meeting, clerk/treasurer reports and claims for the month of April. Aye: Huinker, Meyer, Zweibahmer and Phillips.

Claims April 2009			Micromarketing	cd	298.14
Acco	drain covers	3420.59	Mid-American Special	supplies	110.28
Alliant	electricity	6005.08	Nancy Terpestra	books	96.00
ALA	flags	30.00	Napa	supplies	83.00
Aramark	uniform, markers	140.05	Norby's	supplies	360.08
Audio Editions	books	249.45	NE la Tree	ground stumps	40.00
Bankers Trust	bond payment	118711.25	Panscend	computer work	85.00
Bartlet Motors	fix door fire station	52.50	Postmaster	postage	331.00
Becker Hdwd	fix flashing lights	66.37	Presto	pest control	38.00
Black Hills Energy	gas	1273.63	Qwest	phone	463.98
Book Look	books	225.64	Richard Zahasky	fees	461.85
Calmar Courier	publish minutes	69.61	Rite Price Office Supp	printer cartridge	226.62
Carpenter Univorm	Dawn shirts	148.29	Sim's	face plate, cable	44.98
Carus Corp	chemicals	1231.43	Gazette	subscription	168.95
Center Pt. Lg. Pnt	book	38.94	Thompson Gale	books	116.85
City of Calmar	fuel Dawn graduation	36.74	Treas. St. IA	taxes	631.00
Croell Redi Mix	yard waste site concrete	267.88	US Cellular	phone	363.92
Dawn Wagner	fuel, mileage	476.86	Utility Equip	manholes	4600.00
Decorah Impl	oil etc	30.21	Walmart	supplies	265.98
Demco	supplies	260.20	Wellmark	premium	3674.11
Farmers Co-Op	service Explorer	441.20	Wiltgen	rock alley by HS	50.00
Grassmasters	dig holes yard waste site	538.80	Winn Landfill	landfill fees	69.62
Gunderson Clinic	testing, annual fee	175.90	Payroll	April	11883.21
Hach	chemicals	318.88	Total		168817.76
Heying Lbr	fix bb hoops	11.70	Claims by fund		
lamu	safety	317.61	General		25,467.29
Ingram	books	488.87	Road Use		2,876.36
IRS	taxes	3860.44	Benefits		2,353.14
Iowa Codification	code updates	105.00	Water		125,615.66
Iowa DOT	paint streets	786.52	Sewer		12,505.31
la Dept. Revenue	taxes FD tournament	84.54	Total		168817.76
Iowa RI. Water	ceu's	10.00	Revenue by fund		
lpers	ipers	1919.88	General		82393.54
Jacques Laramache	book	14.95	Road Use		6703.39
Junior Boyer	insurance	573.50	Benefits		14,601.46
Keystone Labs	testing	406.40	Emergency		1773.83
Klimesh Motors	F250	216.74	Lost		7563.27
Kwik Star	fuel	498.81	Tif		63484.43
Linda Crossland	postage	28.90	Water		9,270.04
Marv Smith Elec	repair water line depot	109.39	Sewer		25210.85
Michele Elsbernd	supplies, uniform, mileage	712.44	Total		211000.81

Motion by Phillips, second by Zweibahmer to open the public hearing on the 08-09 Budget Amendment at 7:15 P.M. There were no written or oral comments. Motion by Phillips, second by Zweibahmer to close the public hearing at 7:16 P.M. Motion by Phillips, second by Huinker to approve Resolution # 449 approving the Budget Amendment. Aye; Zweibahmer, Huinker, Phillips and Meyer.

The Fire Department report was accepted as presented. The department had responded to several area grass fires. It was noted that the Fireman’s Dance is scheduled for this weekend, that they had received a \$ 2,000 grant from the State Community Disaster program for radios, from Northeast Iowa Gaming for air packs and from Alliant Energy for wildfire gear.

The Police Department report was accepted as presented. Parking issues and the problem with people hitting the flashing light by Whiskey Grove was discussed.

The Street Department report was presented. Mr. Boyer reported that the frost boils had been repaired and they would be seal coated over. Summer seal coat projects were discussed and quotes were opened as follows:

CFI	1.75 SY single	3.35 SY double
Blacktop Services	1.58 SY single	3.10 SY double
Fahmer Asphalt Sealers	1.57 SY single	3.14 SY double

Bids were discussed, the bid from CFI and Blacktop services used the MC3000 oil and the Fahmer bid was Emulsion oil. All items were considered including patching before the seal coating with hot or cold mix and the cost to apply the patching materials.

Motion by Huinker, seconded by Zweibahmer to accept the low bid of Blacktop Services for seal coat projects. Aye: Phillips, Zweibahmer, Huinker and Meyer. Mr. Boyer stated he is in the process of installing anti-entrapment pool drain covers that comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act. The three covers cost \$ 3,400.00 and must be installed before the pool could open. The sidewalk inspection has been completed and some areas discussed. Letters will be sent to affected property owner regarding needed repairs. Mr. Boyer stated that Dan Timp made a request to install a 6” tile line in a wet area behind the home he owns on Lewis Street. Also discussed were the problem with cigarette butts on the streets and parking lots in the area of the bars. Council instructed a letter be sent requesting a receptacle be placed and the area cleaned up. A request to install a handicap ramp at the former hardware building. Council agreed to this but stated it needed to be installed according to state code. Junior Boyer reported on a milling project that had been done in Ossian. Junior observed this project, the machine milled up the surface, mixed it with oil and it is laid back down, bladed and rolled in. Junior has requested a bid from Reilly Construction to do this in Calmar. Junior stated that there is a water pump that hasn’t been used that the City of Spillville might be interested in purchasing. Council agreed to sell the unit.

Luther Anderson arrived at 7:50 P.M.

The water/wastewater report was accepted. It was noted that a pump at the NE lift station is in for repair. The annual water quality report has been published in the paper as required. The yard waste site was discussed and it was noted that the hydrant and manhole is outside the fence. This is different that was previously planned due to possible DNR issues. Mr. Penrod reported that the GIS needed to be put in the computer for the NW section of town and the NE section is left to complete.

Mayor McCasland reported he had attended another Housing meeting. He stated that the supervisors think there is too much overlap between Upper Explorerland and NEICAC. He will be attending future meetings of this Housing committee. He also attended a Commercial Club meeting regarding the bike trail. He stated that trees are scheduled to be planted on May 5th.

Discussed also were possible wiring to the gazebo and placement of the bricks and pavers. The proposed "Arch" over the trail was discussed. The mayor also stated that the ice cream stand might be replaced with a larger stand on skids. It was also noted that D & L Ceramics & Flowers has opened downtown and incentives need to be discussed. The zoning map was discussed. We will get copies of the map prepared to review these issues for the council to study. The City of Calmar will be requesting another 6 month extension on our REAP grant due to not being able to complete the kiosk and prairie planting project prior to the current deadline of June 30, 2009. The city had not budgeted any funds for this grant in the 09-10 budget because we assumed the project would be completed and the final funds received prior to June 30th.

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on April 22nd to consider adding multi-family dwellings to the allowed use in the I-1 district. The Planning & Zoning recommended to the Calmar City Council that the I-1 industrial district regulation be amended to allow multi-family dwellings. Motion by Phillips, seconded by Meyer to set the date of June 1, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. for a public hearing to amend the Calmar Zoning Ordinance to allow multi-family dwellings as a permitted use in the I-1 district. Aye: Zweibahmer, Huinker, Phillips, Anderson and Meyer.

Water rates were discussed. Council had the first reading of Ordinance # 340 to amend the provisions pertaining to water service rates. The proposed rate inside the city limits has a charge of \$ 15.00 for the first 1,000 gallons for a ¾ inch meter. Alternate meter sizes would be raised accordingly. The next 29,000 gallons would be at \$ 3.00 per thousand gallons and anything in excess of 30,000 would be at \$ 2.50 per thousand. Outside the city limits the first 1,000 gallons would be \$ 21.00 for a ¾ inch meter with alternate meter sizes raised accordingly. The next 29,000 gallons would be at \$ 5.00 per thousand and anything in excess of 30,000 gallons would be at \$ 3.00 per thousand. Most residents have a ¾ inch meter so the rates for alternate meter sizes would not affect any residential home. Proposed rates are available at the clerk's office. The last 22 months the cities revenue over expenses (excluding the Jefferson Street project which cost \$ 82,959.45) was only \$ 4016.15 or an average of \$ 182.55 per month. We have been notified of proposed electric rate increases of 18% part of which went into effect already this month. All costs including chemicals are increasing but there has been no change in water rates since 2003. Motion by Huinker, seconded by Zweibahmer to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 340 amending water service rates. Aye: Phillips, Meyer, Anderson, Huinker and Zweibahmer.

The council instructed the clerk to renew the cities CD at the best rate available.

The city clerk attended the Stimulus Conference held in Grimes on April 27th. This conference was put on by Governor Culver and Senator Harking. They told of all the money available and then there were break-out sessions where people from the State Revolving Loan and other government departments told how the money WAS spent. There may be a few opportunities available for funding but the amount allocated for Iowa projects was a "drop in the bucket". The city engineer and Upper Explorerland are looking for possible funding for Calmar projects.

An incentive program for NEW businesses to Calmar was discussed. Motion by Meyer, seconded by Phillips to approve free water and sewer fees for 6 months (up to \$ 100.00 per month) for a New Business in Calmar. Aye: Huinker, Meyer, Anderson, Phillips and Zweibahmer.

Motion by Anderson, second by Huinker to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 341 amending provisions pertaining to parking zones. Aye: Zweibahmer, Phillips, Meyer, Anderson and Huinker. Motion by Anderson, second by Huinker to waive the second and third reading of Ordinance # 341. Aye: Zweibahmer, Phillips, Meyer, Anderson and Huinker. This ordinance pertains to parking areas on Washington Street and South Street in the area of South Winneshiek High School.

Discussed in length was the proposal to attempt to get the Calmar Depot building on the State and National Registry of Historic Places. Many questions were unanswered and more information is necessary to make a decision. If the building is placed on the register it could affect future uses of this building. Decision tabled at this time.

Mayor McCasland declared the meeting adjourned at 8:42 P.M.

Michele Elsbernd
City Clerk

Joe McCasland
Mayor