City of Bellewood

Minutes – Commissioners Meeting March 25, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:10PM by Commissioner Eric Gunderson. The meeting was held at 268 St. Matthews Avenue instead of 3911 Leland. The meeting was moved from the regular date of the third Tuesday of the month because of scheduling conflicts. Commissioners in attendance were Eric Gunderson, Megan Walz, Karen Koch and Wayne Rudloff. Mayor Kevin Orr was out of town but he suggested to move forward with the meeting.

The minutes from the meeting of February 19, 2013 were approved as submitted.

Old Business

Budget review – The budget for February and the fiscal year were reviewed. The city continues to be within budget. Year to date revenue is in a surplus position of $2,285, and expenses are under budget by $5,900. The 2 main reasons of expenses being under budget are Legal/Survey Fees (under budget by $2,096) and Snow Removal ($2,243 under budget). Expense for the month of February totaled $5,529.13.

Alley status and next steps-trees – due to weather there has not been any more trimming of shrubs and vines in the first phase of clearing the alley. Sang Company will be contacted in order to resume trimming as the weather improves. Perhaps 50% of the alley has been trimmed.

Ordinance enforcement-bushes – Karen contacted a security company that will be used when the contractor trims the bushes at 3910 Leland and 3950 Napanee. The security company had many good questions concerning the notification steps the city has taken to inform the residents that they are violating city ordinances, questions regarding the ordinances, questions regarding easement issues and questions regarding civil suits. Discussion turned to investigating the city’s position with an attorney. Eric volunteered to contact an attorney to seek legal direction.

Street repairs – there was nothing to report on this other than the repairs are on hold until improving weather conditions.

New Business

Spring newsletter – topics in the Spring newsletter will include the annual Bellewood yard sale, no solicitation in the city, a “featured Ordinance” which will be the ordinance regarding bushes, another request for resident email addresses. Eric asked everyone to email him by April 8th of anything else that would be put in the newsletter.

Other issues – Kevin polled the commissioners by email for a vote to extend the current Rumpke contract for 2 more years at the same rate of $33,210 per year. The current contract expired 4/30/13. The Rumpke representative was going to be at the commissioners meeting but that had to be postponed due to problems with the date of the meeting. The commissioners agreed that Bellewood wants to extend the contract for 2 more years but it was unsure if Rumpke had been officially notified.

There was talk of sending a letter about the Bellewood tree program to residents when they cut down trees in their yards. The ordinance needs to be reviewed in order to understand how the program works. Megan volunteered to draft a letter for this program.

With no other business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:00PM.