

The January 9, 2012 Wahkon Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Chip Frederickson, Dan Goplen, Katrina Chang, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein, as well as City Engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to fill 2012 appointments per Mayor's recommendations as follows: Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor & Wastewater Commissioner; Reichel, Weed Inspector; Weinreich, Assistant Weed Inspector; Frederickson, Street & Sidewalk Commissioner; Goplen, Municipal Buildings Commissioner; and Chang, Park Commissioner. The following shall officially represent the City of Wahkon in the year 2012: First National Bank of Milaca, Isle Branch, Depository; Mille Lacs Messenger Inc., Newspaper; Althoff & Nordquist LLC, Accountants; Kennedy & Graven Chartered and Mille Lacs County (MLC) Attorney, Attorneys; Short Elliot Hendrickson (S.E.H) Inc., Engineers and Zoning Consultants; and Ehlers & Associates Inc. and David Drown Associates, Financial Advisors. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: Wayne's Sanitation Opens in Wahkon? Jake Strecker was present looking for council blessing to relocate his business to pole barn property on South Main, previously owned by Paul Petty, currently owned by First National Bank. Property was granted conditional use permit (CUP) for commercial use years ago. No well and building isn't connected to sewer. Future plan includes recycling for citizens and businesses. No big scrap metal. Negotiating property price and nothing is definite. Dumpsters and trucks would sit outside, recycling inside. There will be a smell, especially on big weekends. Trucks are dumped every other day. This isn't a public hearing but Mayor asked audience for comments.

Dave Tyson lives in area and has concerns with floor drain and oils. Some cities don't want garage floor drains connected. Driveway from Hwy 27 used to serve this property until it was subdivided. MnDOT stated county permission required to access driveway from proposed business location as trucks would drive short distance on Soo Line Trail. Would lessen traffic on South Main. Kim Tyson noted South Main isn't equipped for heavy trucks, she has shallow well and smell could damage her quilting fabric. School buses and two garbage haulers use road currently.

Sewer easement was granted for sewer lateral to the wood kiln property abutting in the back, currently disconnected. Debate ensued whether this could be used to service both properties. Petty paid assessment to install sewer, so is it solely his? If city deems ownership in the right of way (ROW), wouldn't that set precedent for future lateral repairs? If disconnected, maybe not. This is legal question for attorney or MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA). At minimum should obtain permission and have maintenance agreement between parties. Sewer main located on east side of street.

Janet Schultz has lived across the street for 35 years and worries about property values. Per county values wouldn't be lowered unless indicated through sales. Would you buy property with dumpsters across the street? Property has always been used commercially even prior to CUP and is in our proposed commercial district. Dan Goplen lives in area and personally doesn't have issue with it. Erecting some fencing would help. He attended July wedding on at current location of Wayne's Sanitation and there wasn't a smell. As councilmember, sewer and drainage is major issue. Ronda Bjornson-Main lives directly across the street and is all for it. Recycling is great thing; fence would be

helpful to tidy it up. She isn't concerned about smell, property value or traffic. Two gift shops have closed on South Main. Every business should be connected to sewer. Milaca and Ogilvie has haulers in their downtown area and they don't rinse trucks. Paul Lind has worked on Wayne's garbage trucks and they take care of their equipment. Will likely install fencing to stop people from dumping off their appliances. Appliances would sit outside. No rats at their original site.

Would need serious reason to deny as property has approved CUP. Reichel understands concerns are fencing, sewer and water, which will be addressed. Strecker wasn't sure about time line as everything is tentative. Two councilmembers live in this neighborhood and don't have personal concerns. Reichel welcomes the chance to bring business to town and begin recycling. Positives outweigh negatives. Council agreed and wished him good luck.

Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation (MLAHF) Transfer Ambulance Fundraiser: Isle Skating Rink Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Chang to donate from Charitable Gambling Fund \$200 to MLAHF and \$100 for ice skating. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

League of MN Cities (LMC) Leadership Conference for Experienced Officials: Informational

REPORTS: Sewer: S.E.H Wetland Monitoring: Kimman explained how S.E.H originally quoted \$9,000 then reduced to \$7,500 as electronic equipment wasn't needed. One last report required this spring prior to Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) signing off. Cost thus far \$3,620.77, with final report estimated at \$2,000. Savings of at least \$1,500.

Electric Pole @ Ponds Continuation? Electric was installed for construction trailer during pond expansion. East Central Energy (ECE) policy is to remove service that hasn't been active in five years or we can pay \$16 monthly fee plus tax. Could also install street light for additional costs. Cost to bring in electric is currently \$706. Do we need it within next 3 – 5 years? Hardware on pole was given to us. Weinreich doesn't see the need and Council agreed to remove it.

Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) Annual Meeting Letter: Set meeting for 1:30 pm Wednesday 2/1 at Breezy Point Resort. Reichel, Bjornson-Main and Weinreich will attend. Weinreich will compile city flow numbers as requested by Mr. Spizzo.

Treasurer: December Report: Ending balance of \$729,713.08 including investments of \$244,503.23. Year End 2011 Unaudited Report: Beginning balance of \$672,889.69; receipts \$451,190.07; transfers in \$215,236.91; disbursements \$394,366.68; transfers out \$215,236.91 leaving \$729,713.08 as ending balance. Interim Financial Report Monthly Analysis: Costs were down due to more efficient street lights on Main Street.

Charitable Gambling: Received zero from Military Service Association (MSA) and \$100.56 from Onamia Lions Club (OLC) 11/2011. Just discovered that MSA's reports have been inaccurate. They were paying 10% of their expenses instead of profits, thus we always received money. Clerk and MSA are working together. State will have new form 1/2012.

League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Property/Casualty 2010 Dividend: Received \$1,351.

Ehlers Potential Refunding of Existing Debt: “Our latest estimate, as of 12/7/2011, is that a crossover refunding now will produce a present value savings of \$17,433 or, 1.780%. This is less than the minimum savings required by state law for an advanced refunding. We will continue to monitor this issue for a potential refunding at a future date.”

Zoning List: Halcomb @ 2390 Lake Shore Blvd installed new shed. Hiltunen travel trailer was removed from Beulah ROW, but doesn't meet 10' setback from Beulah or Hwy 27. Setbacks are applicable per DNR. Trailer borders the swamp. MLSWCD has no issue with it. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to contact attorney to move forward. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

City Employee & Councilmember Update: Weinreich is recovering well. Will do paperwork this week and can drive beginning Friday. If there is a lot of snow to plow he may still need Kevin Schultz. Roeschlein received jury notice from MLC and is requesting extension due to babysitting disabled grandson.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Partridge/Hansen Issues: Sent letter to contract for deed holders, Suzanne & George Partridge, actual property owners, explaining issues Mike Hansen has created. Extended sewer to garage renovated into residence without permit or inspection, constructed deck without permit, windows removed from original stucco house, and property not meeting duplex lot size. Windows were boarded up. House is for sale with buyer beware scenario. Aitkin doesn't pursue their zoning violations through the courts but requires resolution prior to issuing new permits, including new owner. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to contact attorney for proper steps in dealing with this. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Continue to place on monthly agenda.

NEW BUSINESS: Mille Lacs County (MLC) Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee: County Board expressed interest in appointing Roeschlein to steering committee. Not feasible at this time.

MN Dept. of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) “Why Minnesota: Ten Good Reasons” Published by MN Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED). Informational

Disbursements #21218 Dated 12/14/2011 Through #21248 Dated 1/9/2012 Total \$190,780.99; Total Less Transfers \$102,530.99: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to pay the bills. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

EMPLOYEE REVIEWS (Continued from 12/12) Closed to the public per employees' request: Council needed additional time to review information given to them the night of 12/12 meeting and scheduled review conclusion for tonight. Meeting was closed @ 7:26 pm. Council met with Roeschlein and Weinreich individually. Meeting was re-opened at 7:40 pm. Roeschlein will move to step 17 and Weinreich to step 12 of Wahkon's pay scale. Weinreich will go to hourly wage as extra comp hours will no longer be allowed. Approved overtime will be paid exceeding 40 hours a week. Weinreich to contact appropriate commissioner and/or Mayor for overtime authorization. Council thanked employees for their dedication and years of employment.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 13, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Katrina Chang, Chip Frederickson, and Dan Goplen. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: 12/12/2011 Council: Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to approve minutes as written. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: Initiative Foundation \$100 Donation Thank You. Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation (MLAHF) Transfer Ambulance \$200 Donation Thank You. There will be several Mille Lacs County (MLC) Comprehensive Planning Resident Community Meetings held, Wahkon 2/23 at 7 pm. Mille Lacs Equal Rights Foundation (MERF) Invite to CERA/CERF Annual Conference “Successful Challenges to Trust & Casinos” 3/18 – 3/19 & “Fee to Trust” Article By Kim Shea: Informational. MN Department of Natural Resource (DNR) Letter to Mille Lacs Fishery Input Group: Informational. Lakes & Pines Newsletter (Partial): Full newsletter available at city hall.

Reichel reviewed sample consent agenda and would like to try it. Agenda items placed under consent agenda could be approved with one motion unless noted in motion to remove an item. Then it can be debated on its own. This should help shorten meetings. Council agreed to try it next month.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Ordinance Regulating Animals Within The City of Wahkon: Holding a public hearing was previously mentioned. Council agreed this doesn't require one. Fenced in yard is required to have fowl. Should be able to have coop in unfenced yard. Schwinn property has more than five acres and can continue as is. Should kennels be allowed? Inquiries are from citizens with too many dogs. If not allowed and someone actually wanted a professional kennel it could be amended. Amend ordinance prohibiting kennels and remove fence requirement. Clerk has changes to discuss with attorney regarding days animal must be held and rabies issue. Bring back next month.

REPORTS: Sewer: Mayor Reichel and Weinreich met at Breezy Point with Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) representatives. She received thank you from Bob Spizzo. Went well, cleared the air of misconceptions. Came away feeling good about path we are heading. MLIR will create actual map of sewer lines. City offered assistance and equipment they could use. Weinreich will contact MN Rural Water Association (MRWA) to see how they can help.

Chang questioned what will be done about the wastewater utility not collecting enough revenues. Waiting to see if Winjum purchases Izatys and connects to our system. Need backup plan. Ordinance requires rates be increased 3% annually. Will investigate further at budget time. Fund has cash, but it would be depleted in a few years to cover bond payments according to financial advisor, Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Associates.

Treasurer: January Report & Tax Settlement Report: Ending balance of \$655,656.93 including investments of \$244,503.23. Received tax settlement payment of \$3,282.07 from MLC. Interim Financial Report Monthly Analysis: Clerk to email disbursement register to council depicting \$1,719.15 for government building expenditures, 11.1% of budgeted amount for January only. Charitable Gambling: Received \$52.72 from Military Service Association (MSA) and zero from Onamia Lions Club (OLC) for 12/2011.

Zoning List: Island View Resort will redo their boat house located on reserve property. Footprint will remain the same as structure is within 10 feet of lake. Eaves will be larger to ventilate stored gas.

City Employee & Councilmember Update: New resident Angela Groth sent card "I love this town" along with sewer payment. Isle Skating Rink Staff sent thank you for donation. Weinreich and Roeschlein plan to attend fire warden meeting 3/5 in Foley. Chang recommends setting goals for the City. Button reiterated that siren can't be heard on parts of Lake Shore Blvd. He has connection with grant writer; no fees unless we receive grant. Supposedly best location for siren is at City Park. Chang suggested taking fireworks funds to help pay for siren. She doesn't feel it benefits businesses.

City Equipment & Employee Use For WAVE Projects: WAVE Chair Tony Button stated Veterans Park landscape design is in hand. Work will be done in phases. Requests verification that city equipment and staff can be utilized. City carries volunteer insurance for anyone under city direction. Need donation of field stones for bridge. Council agrees and is thankful WAVE is working on city parks. Chili cook off was successful. Parks, trails and music received most votes from citizens. Main street beautification too. Button wants to see diagonal parking, planters and such. City has looked into this before with MnDOT unsuccessfully.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Partridge/Hansen Letter & Memo From City Attorney: Mike Hansen contacted city attorney after receiving his letter. Per attorney, Hansen stated sewer existed in garage prior to his ownership; would allow inspection from anyone but Weinreich; deck was there already and moved to new location (requires permit); he was charged penalty permit already (no, sewer permit fee was added to sewer account); has hired an attorney; plans include bringing in dumpster this spring to remove old house, for sure by 7/1 deadline; and he believes all these issues stem from his running against the Mayor last election. Attorney said this could get expensive if brought to court and to focus on major issue of getting hazardous building removed, at which time he will need to pull new sewer permit to reconnect. Chang stated we should tackle the issues and not the personality. Need to be sure there aren't others that have been overlooked. Go after one go after all. Clerk will check zoning reports to verify outstanding issues and will keep them on the report until resolved. Don Ellis was supposed to call for inspection of tie downs. Clerk to send Ellis letter. Weinreich would like to require demolition permits, especially if they tie up Lake Shore Blvd.

Hiltunen Trailer Draft Letter: Council agreed to send letter drafted by attorney immediately. Trailer was removed from Beulah easement but doesn't meet setbacks from highway or Beulah. Frederickson is willing to donate time and equipment for removal. Bandow would take it as scrape. Land is only worth \$500. Button will send letter from WAVE offering removal at no cost to her if she would consider donating land.

NEW BUSINESS: City of Isle Fire Department Fire Contract & 2013 Proposed Budget: Clerk to attend annual meeting 2/28. Isle Clerk forwarded ample information, thank you. Mayor would like to know why Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe only pays \$1,000 for fire services on trust land. Wahkon's 2012 annual fee beginning 3/1 is \$9,375.04, which has been the same since 2009. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to enter into annual contract with Isle Fire Department. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mille Lacs Messenger 2012 Progress Edition: Previous four years we have done honor roll ad in Messenger only. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to place honor roll ad in Messenger only for \$29. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Morrison County Animal Humane Society (MCAHS) Annual Agreement: Two dogs have already been brought in this year. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to enter into this agreement. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Right of Entry Authorization for Watercraft Inspections Agreement: Tabled until next meeting for proper review as this was just handed to council tonight.

Disbursements #21249 Dated 1/10/2012 through #21285 Dated 2/13/2012 Total \$15,454.37: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to pay the bills. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 12, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Chip Frederickson, Katrina Chang, and Dan Goplen. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to approve the consent agenda. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A. 01-09-2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Approved
- B. Central MN Council on Aging Report: Informational
- C. League of MN Cities (LMC) Safety & Loss Control Workshops: Informational
- D. Lakes & Pines Financial Education Classes “Building a Good Credit Rating” April 5th @ Wahkon Community Center, 6 – 8 pm: Informational
- E. Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe “The Woodland Voice” Winter 2012: Informational
- F. East Central Energy (ECE) Rights-of-Way Maintenance Notice “Clearing to Begin” Informational
- G. MN Department of Health Sanitary Survey Report for Wahkon City Hall: Informational
- H. Treasurer February Report: Ending balance of \$660,308.50 including investments of \$245,180.20.
- I. Interim Financial Report Monthly Analysis: Informational
- J. Mille Lacs Messenger Progress Edition ½ Page Ad: Budgeted item. Last year’s ad was split between 15 businesses and/or organizations, cost \$75 each. Ad mentions July fourth fireworks. Continuation has been debated. Will definitely have them this year as funds have been budgeted. Donation letters will be sent as usual. Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) continues to raise funds through souvenir sales. WAVE will participate in ad.
- K. Checks #21286 Through #21320 Total \$13,875.88: Approved payment of the bills.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution 03122012 “Reestablishing Precincts and Polling Places” Formality due to redistricting at the State. Wahkon’s voting site continues to be the community hall. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adopt Resolution 03122012. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 03122012A “Accepting Onamia Lions Club (OLC) Donation Towards Park Improvements: Received \$480 for meat raffle workers, which was deposited into WAVE Fund. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adopt Resolution 03122012A. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Chang questioned if the same deal could be arranged with Military Service Assoc. (MSA) as they are conducting meat raffles at Wahkon Inn. Clerk will check with their gambling manager.

Ordinance No. _____ “Regulating Animals Within the City of Wahkon” Changes were made as directed with exception of two items due to state statutes; animals must be held for 5 business days and having rabies isn’t justification to euthanize. Will clarify holding days with Morrison County Animal Humane Society (MCAHS). Chang wants to allow chickens within fenced yards. Currently ordinance requires pen. Could allow both. Motion by Chang, second by Bjornson-Main to allow fowl to be kept in coops and/or totally contained within fenced yard. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Bring back next month with change.

Resolution No. _____ “Authorizing Publication of Ordinance No. _____ Regulating Animals Within The City of Wahkon by Title and Summary: Bring back next month.

REPORTS: Sewer: Weinreich stated MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) will be working with him and Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) to utilize GPS technology to properly map their sewer system.

Dump truck is having electrical problems. Gauges and warning lights don't always work. Will need them fixed prior to DOT inspection next season. Approximate cost for instrument panel is \$800. Also looking through Bandow for used one. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to authorize up to \$1,000 for electrical repair on plow truck. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning List & Future Ordinance Discussion: Romfo/Payne were sent letter regarding fish house being used as shed. Technically it is located on an empty lot owned by another family member. Primary structure must be built first prior to accessory structures. Romfo argued that fish houses don't need annual DNR license if they are removed each night. Council agreed our rules must be enforced. Send letter giving them deadline to show proof of DNR shelter license.

Don Ellis: Hasn't called city hall for inspection to verify tie downs are in place. He informed Reichel that Dupre helped him put in tie downs, but the three season porch still needs to be attached. Permit is expired does he need new? Chang will make contact and offer him financial assistance (her council pay) to complete. By next meeting council will be informed of plan of action through Chang.

Frederickson removed himself and spoke as a citizen/business owner. He wants to move 16'x24' garage from townhome property onto his personal property, attached to house on the west side. Willing to request variance as garage would extend beyond survey line approximately 9'. Considered putting it on east side, which would meet setbacks, but current landscaping would require installation of retaining wall. Concrete slab has been removed and this would be about the same impervious surface. Bjornson-Main stated that as realtor, encroachment is red flag. Suggest he move property line. City should try to clean up encroachments and not create them. Council agreed.

Clerk to draft new zoning ordinance including MLC enforcement section by next meeting. Will need to set up special meeting to fully review it.

Complaint List: Clerk needs clarification that current written policy will be upheld relative to requiring signed complaint. Council agreed. Person registering complaint must be kept confidential. Requiring signature alleviates neighbor battles. Clerk received call on a property and they didn't want to sign form. Believed Weinreich should flag properties. They called Chang as well. Chang and Clerk mentioned issue to actual property owner. Only time city flags properties is during street blacktop inspection in the spring by sending letter inviting them to use our annual cleanup at city hall.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Payroll will be biweekly instead of monthly due to the fact Council eliminated extra/bank hours. Overtime will be paid for hours over 40 per week if approved by commissioner and/or mayor. Weinreich and council agreed during annual review, one or two hours won't require approval. Clerk will look into electronic deposit for payroll.

Chang brought up time management. Knowing how long something takes is beneficial. Isn't that micromanaging? She would like Weinreich to have extra hours as buffer. Employees have been here for many years and do their jobs well. Not all tasks are done straight through due to interruptions by citizens, clerk, councilmembers, vendors, etc. Council agreed it has only been a month and to leave as is.

WAVE: Chair Tony Button stated 28 pavers have been sold. Pavers, MIA/POW bench and flag pole (approximate cost of \$1400) will be dedicated Memorial Day. Hope to have sunset service with Taps and 21 gun salute. At the Chili Cook Off, citizens voted that trails were important. Would like to survey portion of Field Street that accesses the lake. Obtain quote from S.E.H. Send letters to property owners along entire Field Street to gather opinions on implementing trail for walkers and possibly golf carts. Believe Del Freichels surveyed his property in this area. What if Berge property sells and they want to open Field Street for vehicular traffic? Being a trail wouldn't stop future council's ability to open as a real street. Chippewa Street, between 3rd and 4th Street, east of current walking trail has been surveyed. Will begin to incorporate this into trail system. Hope to have exercise stations for pull ups, sit ups, etc. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to authorize WAVE to purchase flag pole. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Right of Entry Authorization for Watercraft Inspections Agreement: Tabled at March meeting as it was just received and council didn't have time to review. Frederickson heard possibility that all lake access owners would need to attend DNR class for \$50 on how to prevent spreading aquatic invasive species. Preventative maintenance isn't going to stop it. Weinreich has seen DNR representatives at City Park regarding this. Why do we need to sign the agreement then? Probably legal reasons. Can terminate the agreement by giving 10 days written notice. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to table indefinitely. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Place Ad for Mowing Person: Council agreed position will be seasonal, approximately 10 hours per week at \$8.50 per hour. Need valid driver's license and be 18 years or older. Place ad for two weeks. Weinreich will review applications, do interviews and bring recommendation to next meeting.

Wahkon Clean Up Day: Fisher opener is 5/12. Schedule cleanup for Saturday 5/5 utilizing Jim's Mille Lacs Disposal. Coordinate computer recycling program PCs for People for same date and time. Council agreed with Bjornson-Main not to publish notice in Messenger as it is solely for our residents. Advertising may cause others to bring items to friends and relatives in Wahkon thus increasing disposal costs. Clerk to highlight note on 4/1 sewer bill giving date and will post notices too.

MRWA Membership & Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to renew membership through option B \$200 plus \$10 Lyle Trautman Scholarship Fund donation. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Wahkon Inn Liquor Store: Thomas Remer & Michael Gerrels "Off Sale Intoxicating Liquor License: Have one currently at the Inn but want to open larger off sale next door through a lease with Katrina Chang. Per State, need new license due to different address. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to approve off-sale intoxicating liquor license to Remer & Gerrels contingent upon state approval at 251 North Main. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Abstain: Chang. Motion carried. Council agreed not to prorate liquor licenses as they are already quite low and haven't been increased in years.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The April 9, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel. Councilmembers present were Dan Goplen, Katrina Chang, and Chip Frederickson. Councilmember Ronda Bjornson-Main was absent. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. City engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H was also present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to approve the consent agenda with exception of items A & C. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

B) CenterPoint Energy Community Partnership Grant Ap: Outdoor Warning Siren: Communities that have not previously received this grant are given priority. Grant is for safety and emergency equipment, not to exceed \$2,500. Would use funds to upgrade siren.

D) Carbonite Backup System: \$59 annually to back up city computer everyday all day long.

E) Tax Forfeited Land: Soo Line Trail Access From Beulah & Main Lift Station: Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) committee is willing to pay \$250 fee to MN Dept. of Revenue to obtain PID #25-041-0400. Process begins with approval from county board. If State denies application, \$150 is refunded.

F) Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's Fire Protection Fee: Per Co-Chief David Miller their \$1,000 fee is for a small portion of land that is in trust, about 12 properties. Difficult to come up with a fee as this land doesn't have a tax capacity. The rest of the property is located within Isle city limits.

G) MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) Engineering for Non-Engineers, 4/24 St Cloud \$100: Weinreich to attend.

H) Treasurer March Report: Ending balance of \$657,910.25 including investments of \$245,180.20.

I) Interim Financial Report Monthly Analysis: Informational

J) Checks #21321 Dated 03/12/2012 Through #21321 Dated 04/09/2012 Total \$20,400.18: Approve payment of the bills.

A) 02-13-2012 & 03-12-2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes: Mayor Reichel stated the word reservation should not be used on page 2 of February's minutes as the reservation was disestablished and the land is known as federal trust land. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to change reservation to trust land. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to accept 03-12-2012 minutes as written. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

C) Outdoor Siren Minutes & Granite Electronics Siren Control Module Replacement Quote: Submitted for CenterPoint Energy \$2,500 grant. Others should be available to upgrade siren. Budgeted \$2,000 towards future replacement of siren to new location as residents at the end of Lake Shore Blvd can't hear it. Siren is sounded by county and all emergencies services must switch to narrowband. Upgrade siren module quote is \$1946.82. Siren test on 4/4 wasn't fully sounded. That Friday Clerk manually ran it and power was lost at city hall. Power was brought back up, but Weinreich believes siren motor would need to be rewound, approximately \$1,500. Have confirmed our siren is fiberglass ACA Allertor 125 from late 1960's to early 70's weighing approximately 500 pounds.

Could have two sirens covering the city. Would need to run three phase to new location. New siren system quote is \$15,000. Paper undeveloped Homer Street may be feasible if surveyed. Imperative we have functioning siren during tornado season. Safety is number one priority and everyone needs to hear it. Frederickson suggested purchasing used siren and then look at rewinding broken siren for second location. Weinreich estimates \$1,500 for used siren, \$1,500 to rent crane, do

electric, etc., plus siren control module for \$2,000. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to spend up to \$5,000 to have a working siren. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Keep council updated.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution 04092012 “Accepting 2011 Donations Towards Veterans Park Renovation Project” Donators in order of receipt: VFW Post 955; Vets Club Inc/American Legion Post 395/VFW 955; Apple Valley Post 1776; American Legion Auxiliary Unit 613; Maxson Legion 368; Sons of American Legion 395; VFW Post 1558; VFW Post 6692; and American Legion Oscar Peterson Post 193. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to adopt Resolution 04092012 accepting donations towards Veterans Park. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2012-1 “Regulating Animals Within the City of Wahkon” Motion by Goplen, second by Frederickson to adopt Ordinance No. 2012-1. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Fowl Permit fee will be \$20 for Weinreich’s time to inspect.

Resolution No. 04092012A “Authorizing Publication of Ordinance No. 2012-2 Regulating Animals Within The City of Wahkon by Title and Summary: Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen authorizing summary publication. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Sewer: Kevin Schultz may close his sewer installation business and has manhole rings. If good price, we should purchase to have on hand. Weinreich purchased pocket colorimeter to test for phosphorus. MPCA recognizes the results. Will purchase appropriate cleaners to keep it calibrated.

Zoning List: Frederickson Marina cancelled their permit. Hiltunen trailer deadline is 5/25. Received survey and site plan from Emon; resolved. Partridge/Hansen deadline is 7/1. Payne forwarded picture of current DNR shelter license for their fish house; resolved.

Ellis: Chang stated Beau Dupre installed trailer tie downs. His plan was to help attach Ellis’ three season porch as work trade off. She doesn’t see it getting done. Ellis informed Chang that he believed both needed to be done prior to calling for an inspection. She believes we should contact him to solve this issue. Per last letter he was to contact the city. Clerk nor Weinreich made the call. Clerk to mail another letter to set up inspection for trailer tie downs. At inspection, Weinreich will request time frame for attaching three season porch.

Poshusta, PID #25-561-0140 at 2255 Lake Shore Blvd: Non-conforming structure and lot. Authorized to replace structure including upper story 32.5’x38’. Entry 8’x16’ allowed if structure is placed so as to increase the current 3.5’ setback on east line. Will maintain existing elevation. Property was recently surveyed.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Need to mark areas for blacktop. 2nd Street near city hall is bad and has drainage issue. Dupre has cleaned pier but needs warmer temps to apply varnish. Chang requested alley behind her business be blacktopped as it is the only street not blacktopped. She is referencing an alley and there are open dirt streets; Maple Lane & Radisson. She wants to blacktop parking area she was required to build. Clerk will attend PERA workshop in June along with cities of Isle & Onamia. Chang would like to have list of goals, siren being #1. Our budget is in essence a goal list. WAVE tracks citizen priorities and informs council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Survey Field Street Estimate: Kimman of S.E.H quoted \$950 to survey section of Field Street accessing lake. Full day as they need to establish width of Lake Shore Blvd. Price would be about the same to continue surveying south to Hwy 27. Do lake access only at this time. May need survey funds for Homer Street as possible second siren location. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to survey Field Street accessing lake not to exceed \$950. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, and Reichel. Opposed: Chang. Motion carried.

Hire Seasonal Employee: Weinreich Recommendation: Had six applicants; Weinreich interviewed three. Need self-starter that can be left on their own. Ron Doty has ample experience and is flexible with hours. Mowing should begin 5/1. Motion by Goplen, second by Frederickson to hire Doty based on Weinreich recommendation. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, and Reichel. Abstain: Chang as she doesn't know him. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Regional Safety Group: Wahkon isn't required to have a safety committee based on number of employees. Regional safety group could be combination of cities sharing cost of safety training. LMCIT would cover \$600 of \$1200 cost per meeting. Cost would be split based on number of attendees. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) has minimum safety requirements with which employees must comply; a written accident & injury reduction (AWAIR) program, bloodborne pathogens, emergency & fire prevention plans, hearing conservation, personal protective equipment, etc. Weinreich has implemented some and is very safety conscience. Funds weren't budgeted for this. Contact LMCIT person to come on site for evaluation. Bring back next month.

Open Forum: WAVE Chair Tony Button received bid to sandblast Veterans Park wall for \$1,000, previous quote was \$1,600. Weinreich was quoted \$10-\$12,000 to rock the wall. Not sure it would hold due to age and moisture. Will leave in natural state. Florence Buege memorial bench and tree were relocated. Need additional light for new flag pole, \$450. City should consider replacing sidewalk next year. May consider angle parking. Walk of Honor pavers were ordered and flag pole is here. Thank you Tony and all volunteers for working on this project. Will place ad before Memorial Day dedication thanking volunteers, donators and Walk of Honor purchasers.

Any plan in the future to install streets and sewer in order to sell properties for future growth and development? That would be very expensive. Weinreich noted street encroachments have been documented as a means to ensure streets are recognized. Dale Gieski had the same comment after paying his sewer bill. Current policy is developer installs street to specifications.

Button accepted Chang's donation of 15' swooper flags advertising Navy, Army, etc. Won't be permanently displayed, but used during events. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to release \$1,500 to WAVE for park improvements. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Chang reiterated her desire to pave alley behind her business all the way through. She can't pave her lot until alley is done. Will get quote.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Goplen, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Chang, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The May 14, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Chip Frederickson, Dan Goplen and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein as well as Engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to approve the consent agenda. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) 02-13-2012 Amended & 04-09-2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- B) Lakes & Pines First Quarter 2012 Newsletter: Informational
- C) Veterans of Foreign Wars Buddy Poppies Proclamation: Informational
- D) 2011 Financial Statements & Independent Auditor's Report: No journal entries required; full report available at city hall.
- E) Treasurer Report: Ending balance \$665,128.25 including investments of \$245,180.20.
- F) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report: Informational
- G) League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) \$688 Dividend: Received 4/16 relative to worker's compensation insurance policy.
- H) Savage Communications 2011 Franchise Report & \$1,927.70 Franchise Fee
- I) CD #211908 Reinvestment Memo: Matures 5/17 and will be reinvested for one year with APY of .70% through First National Bank of Milaca, Isle Branch.
- J) Proper Economic Resource Management (PERM): Informational
- K) MN Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) Homeowner's Guide to Creating a Healthy Yard & Arbor Day 4/27 State Proclamation: Informational
- L) Resolution 05142012A "Approving 2012 Election Judges For Both The State Primary & General Elections" Judges will be Christine Childs, Elaine Freichels, Jeanette Liegman (alternate), Cynthia Maciazka, Kathleen Perkins, Barb Stone, April Weinreich, and Karrie Roeschlein as head judge. Hourly rate will be \$7.50 and meals will be provided.
- M) LMCIT Liability Coverage Waiver Form: City accepts liability coverage limits of \$500,000/\$1,000,000 from LMCIT. City does not waive monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04 as recommended by our agent.
- N) Checks #21361 Dated 04/10/2012 Through #21411 Dated 05/14/2012 Total \$32,658.24

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution 05142012 "Accepting Resignation and Declaring a Vacancy" Councilmember Katrina Chang submitted resignation letter effective 5/7/2012. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to accept Chang's resignation by adopting Resolution 05142012. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Council expressed their appreciation of her time. Letters of intent from citizens interested in filling the position through 2012 will be reviewed at next meeting. Clerk to write "letter to the editor." Remaining two years of Chang's term will be a special election along with general election in November, two year term for Mayor and four year term for two councilmembers.

REPORTS: Kimman spoke to Todd Kavitz, engineer representing Roy Winjum and the Izatys project; most likely Winjum will not be purchasing Izatys. Is council interested in voiding contract? All costs agreed by both parties were paid by Winjum. Council agreed new developer would require new negotiations and contract. Send letter to Winjum stating agreement was exclusive to him and if deal is dead, agreement will be voided. Also thank him for his efforts.

Zoning List: Ellis' home phone is disconnected and he never contacted us. Council directed Weinreich to go on site and report back at next meeting. Hiltunen deadline is 5/25 and Partridge/Hansen is 7/1. Approved permit to erect storage shed to Mark & Jane Lonsky @ 170 Duluth Ave. S.

Complaint List: Haack/Sand blight. Spoke to Sand and took pictures. Property has numerous items piled here and there, including wood to heat the house. Sand was present and stated he moved wood pile, and installed chain link fence for dogs. One mower has been pulled out. Riders and 4 push mowers run. Plan to have garage sale this summer. Some items went to his parent's barn. Scrap metal pile will go to St. Cloud soon. Weinreich will take pictures just before June meeting.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Messenger is soliciting ads in Bargain Hunter for holidays; not at this time. Clean-up day cost was \$2,774.24 with donations of \$285 compared to \$3,799.12 with \$517 in donations for 2011. Clerk is on call for jury duty from 6/1 through 8/1. Was denied being excused.

Onamia Lions Club holds meat raffle at Mugg's weekly with Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) volunteers. No other organization is helping at this time so more volunteers are needed. WAVE Chair Tony Button stated Veterans Park renovation is on schedule with over 250 volunteer hours. Have blank pavers left over for second installation later this fall. Midway Garden Club will plant tomorrow. Flag pole is in and VFW Post 2816/Military Service Assoc. (MSA) may donate flag. We are very proud of our community. Minor complaint about pier sign will be corrected soon. Sunset dedication will be at 8:52 pm on Memorial Day. VFW Post 2816 will give 21 gun salute and play Taps. Next project will be the Stone Bridge.

Used Thunderbeam (early 1980's) siren was installed with help from ECE and their boom trucks. Received siren at no cost from metro area community. Outdoor warning sirens are meant to warn citizens outside and not necessarily to be heard inside. Roeschlein and Button didn't get either informational computer generated messages from Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Dept. regarding siren.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Field Street Lake Access Survey & Discussion: Surveyed Field Street from Lake Shore Blvd north to the lake. Encroachments were noted, shed and part of mobile home. Clerk read note from John Streeter (encroaching property owner) received today, "This property next to Field Street has been in our family for 61 years. We truly enjoy the solitude we have had and appreciate to have it remain as it now is. Thank you for your kind consideration." Previous email from city attorney "As such, to the extent the City wants to push to require an owner to remove items from a ROW that order must be based on a finding that the items interfere with the use, safety, or maintenance of the ROW." Could be used as walking trail and cross country skiing. Bring people to town by having an Iron Man contest, Onamia, Isle and Wahkon, bike, canoe, bicycle, etc. For now leave as is. Discuss again when remaining Field Street has been surveyed, possibly 2013.

Bjornson-Main questioned if anyone knew who had the back hoe in or around Meshigun Avenue this past weekend. No one knew.

NEW BUSINESS: Blacktopping Quotes: Received three, North Central Paving \$22,255.50, Rocon Paving \$26,291.75, and Anderson Brothers \$35,989.44. Look at the total price and run with that. Don't pick and choose as they quote reduced price based on full project. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to accept North Central Paving's quote. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

City Credit Card: Current purchasing policy allows this. Clerk has had to use her own for past city purchases, most recent Carbonite computer backup. Onamia has \$2,500 limit through First National Bank of Milaca. At minimum Roeschlein and Weinreich should have one, should Mayor? Council agreed Mayor doesn't need one. Have employees sign acknowledgement form. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to obtain city credit cards with \$2,500 limit authorizing Roeschlein and Weinreich as users. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Onamia Depot Library & Onamia Area Friends of the Library Donation Request: They provide internet computer access for employment purposes. Charitable Gambling Fund has balance of \$852.11. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to donate \$100 from CG Fund. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

MN Assoc. of Small Cities (MAOSC) Membership: Haven't been member in the past.

Hubert Rodrigue Street Ditch Concerns: Rodrigue was present. MnDOT engineer has been on site and will shoot elevations. He would pay to clear ditch himself if necessary. Awhile back Larson's work was verified with transit. There is one foot wide channel where grass won't grow due to water flowing. In 25 years Weinreich has been able to cut hay but can't this year. Council agreed to wait until MnDOT does their work. Rodrigue has low spots on his property and everything is wet. Marsh marigolds are growing. Four wheeler ruts have seeded, MnDOT will dig it out. Not a groomed ditch that can be mowed, but it functions. If Rodrigue wants to do the work, have contractor contact us. Put on next meeting.

Spirit Lake Steaks LLC New Liquor Licenses: BeLa's will be sold soon and we don't want to hinder a business from opening. New owners Charles Frank & Marilyn Ruth Appeldoorn and Paul Colin Waldowski, Director of Operations are requesting On Sale Intoxicating, Sunday Liquor, and Off Sale Intoxicating effective 6/1/2012. Also Catering Permit, which is paid to the State once On Sale has been authorized. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to approve new liquor licenses dependent upon clearing background check. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Council agreed to prorate fees.

CERF/CERA Report Article "A Paul Revere Moment in 2012" by Elaine Willman: Read the article about a citizen group from Shawano County, Wisconsin warning their elected officials "that their primary duty is to the residents they serve, and not to a separate (tribal) government for whom they have no duty." Basically a Tribal Affairs Committee went into closed session and unanimously approved a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Stockbridge-Munsee (S/M) Community that was to go to the County Board within days. MOA would (1) allow S/M Community to consider their entire former reservation as "Indian Country" again, even after the State of Wisconsin spent nearly a million dollars over 12 years fighting this jurisdictional over-reaching and won, (2) County Board promised not to object to land being put in trust and (3) promise not to challenge eligibility for federal trust land under Carcieri rule for duration of the MOA (10 years). "In exchange the County would receive \$80 thousand per year for 10 years; two school districts and two townships would receive \$15 thousand each." "The devastating "deal" was blocked, and sent back to the Tribal Affairs Committee for further "review". Shawano County citizens just dodged a deal that would have incrementally removed property tax from the County's revenue stream, forcing remaining taxpayers to pick up the burden on their property tax bills each year in the future." Another example why Wahkon has been diligent in their stance that the old reservation was disestablished.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 11, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Council Members present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Dan Goplen, and Chip Frederickson. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present as well as city engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to accept consent agenda as written. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Sacred Heart Church (SHC) LG220 Exempt Permit Application 8/12 Bazaar: Acknowledged by Clerk with no waiting period as standard policy.

B) One Day On-Sale 3.2 Licenses: SHC 8/12 Bazaar & Isle Baseball Assoc. 8/18 Wahkon Days. Approved.

C) MN Dept. of Transportation (MnDOT) Traffic Count on Lake Shore Blvd: MnDOT supplied counter from 5/16 – 5/22 giving count for each hour between 5 am and 8 pm; total vehicles 308, 282, 478, 480, 270, 300, and 283 respectively.

D) Lakes & Pines “Making Ends Meet” FREE Financial Literacy Class “Building a Good Credit Rating” on 6/21 from 6 – 8 pm @ Wahkon Community Center

E) Onamia Area Friends of the Library Donation Thank You

F) Treasurer’s May Report: Ending balance \$647,764.84 including investments of \$245,843.39.

G) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

H) Checks #21412 Dated 05/16/2012 Through #21453 Dated 06/09/2012 Total \$29,532.12. Checks approved.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution #06112012 “Accepting Community Partnership Grant Check Towards Emergency Outdoor Warning Siren” Larry Stark of CenterPoint Energy presented Mayor with \$2,500 check as an opportunity to partnership together for safety equipment and projects. Council thanked CenterPoint Energy for helping our community. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adopt Resolution #06112012. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Zoning List: Clerk responded to Hiltunen’s attorney public data request. Encroaching camper doesn’t have sewer, water, electric, current tabs, nor does it meet setbacks. Deadline was 5/25. Her attorney asked about vacating Beulah and/or entering into an encroachment agreement. Clerk explained City is opening Beulah as entrance/exit from Soo Line Trail as well as petitioning State for tax forfeited land in immediate area. Abandoned structure? City has offered their help to get it out of there. City attorney to send one last letter asking Hiltunen’s attorney what his clients intentions are and whether we need to proceed legally in court. Deadline of 7/9 meeting.

Ellis: Council reviewed pictures taken by Weinreich. Some tie downs at each end have been installed but not in the middle. Ones in place need to be tightened more but they are secure. No mention of when the others would be installed. Three season porch isn't attached and the subject wasn't discussed. Taxes haven't been paid since 2008. Few sections of skirting are missing. Clerk to send one last letter detailing what needs to be done by 7/9 meeting, also include Lakes & Pines loan information.

Approved deck permit to Radunz @ 325 North Main. They were about to start without permit. Office was closed with posted notice. Citizens need to realize permits could take up to a week.

Complaint List: Haack/Sand Blight: Some action has been accomplished but there are burn piles that need to be taken care of. View from church side has leafed out. It is an organized mess. Don't let it get worse. Clerk to send letter.

Old School Apartments: Mille Lacs County received complaint that they are in bad repair, birds flying into roof hole, and well dries up weekly. Wahkon hasn't adopted building code so technically nothing can be done. Owner responded and stated water is functioning, soffit has been secured, and he is trying to figure how to remove the overhang so the birds move on. Clerk had recently emailed him low interest loan information. Mayor spoke with owner's nephew who has moved in to be caretaker and suggested they strive to keep heat on and water running. Maybe we will see some improvements.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Danner has major concerns about drainage through his property. City replaced culvert near 1000 Lake Shore Blvd. With all the rain this is the worse it has ever been, even with new culvert. This area drains Hwy 27 via Schubert and Lake Shore Blvd, with many twists and turns. Marcia Banks is adamant to keep natural vegetation. Weinreich believes it is time to budget funds and get engineers involved. Will need MLC Soil & Water Conservation District permits.

Mayor has called for special meeting next Monday 6/18 at 6 pm. Weinreich has job opportunity and she would like to discuss how to retain him. Benefit program has been started with insurance stipend. Roeschlein will also need benefits soon. Dedicated employees could leave for benefits. What can we best offer? Weinreich will make decision after special meeting. Our employees do a lot to save the City money, example the emergency siren. Cost is high to hire and train. Those employees could also leave because of lack of health insurance benefits. Both employees are very valuable and we owe it to them to look into this; will review budget figures and insurance info.

WAVE: Chair Tony Button asked for permission to have an electronic map of Veterans Park renovation plan as grant organizations require this. S.E.H. estimated \$500. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to approve approximately \$500 to do this. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor thanked WAVE for a beautiful dedication on Memorial Day. Wonderful way to end the weekend and everyone was touched. Thank you to all the volunteers, city staff and Button. Look forward to what unfolds. Deanna & Doug Nordstrom are redoing the fundraising thermometer to be placed at the Ellen Ruth Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Council Vacancy: Wrote letter to the editor to see if anyone was interested. Received only one from Anthony (Tony) Button along with resume. Button is also WAVE Chair. Checked with League of MN Cities (LMC) about conflict of interest. Technically he doesn't have one as he personally isn't financially benefitting however he will abstain from voting on WAVE matters. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to accept Tony Button to fill council vacancy. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Have resolution ready for upcoming special meeting where Button will be sworn in. Welcome to our team.

MN Dept. Of Natural Resources (DNR) Right of Entry Authorization for Watercraft Inspections: The have powers through statute for inspections why do we need to sign the agreement? There are better things to spend tax dollars on. What have they already been doing at the parks? Clerk to ask them to come to a meeting to explain.

NEW BUSINESS: BeLa's Liquor License Refund Request: Kathie Unger received refund when she sold Wahkon Inn. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to refund BeLa's unused liquor license fees. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum: Button asked how we begin opening Beulah Avenue. Clerk will have resolution ready for next council meeting. MnDOT has been informed we want to open it. Safe access to come into town from Soo Line Trail. Council seat Button will fill is also Park Commissioner; he will get right on this.

Bjornson-Main questioned if we don't receive enough firework donations will we still have them? Yes, as they have been ordered and 50% has been paid for. We have never received enough to cover full cost. Paul & Sue Petty's land will be used again and Isle Fire Department is ready to roll. Clerk prepped letter to send after Memorial Day weekend but forgot until Mayor stated she hadn't received one. Clerk will promptly mail them. Fireworks will be on 7/4.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 18, 2012 special meeting of the Wahkon City Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Chip Frederickson, and Dan Goplen. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Mayor Reichel called this special meeting to fill the council vacancy and to discuss employee health insurance benefits due to the fact long time employee Chris Weinreich has been offered a job elsewhere. This meeting was properly posted and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESOLUTION NO. 06182012 FILLING COUNCIL VACANCY: Due to the resignation of Councilmember Katrina Chang effective May 7 there is a council vacancy, which shall be filled by Anthony (Tony) Button effective today and ending December 31, 2012. As Button is the Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee Chair he shall abstain from voting on matters directly related to WAVE. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 06182012 Filling Council Vacancy. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Button will now be the Park Commissioner.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO COUNCILMEMBER TONY BUTTON: Clerk administered oath and Button took his place at the council table.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS: Eighteen people were in the audience. Reichel explained how she thought our city was too small to provide health insurance, but after working with both employees these past 10 years her view has changed. Both employees have opportunities to go elsewhere with their wealth of knowledge and experience. Very proud of our staff. Providing health insurance based on preliminary quotes would be \$2.85 per hour for Weinreich and \$2.58 for Roeschlein. Received quote from People services to provide Wastewater staff. They are a good company but the customer service would be missing. Digs, excavation, sewer backups would be \$50 per hour including mileage. Budget has been managed very well over the years and taxes haven't been raised in two years. Bjornson-Main is for doing whatever we can but wants to hear from the citizens.

Dick & Bernie Wettersten endorses concept to provide medical insurance for both employees. Both do something special for our town.

Ron Doty, newly hired seasonal employee has been educated as to what a small town deals with. Roeschlein is professional and Weinreich informed him to "do the best job you can and always care". Both have many years of dedication and knowledge they bring is irreplaceable. They are like Batman & Robin.

Dale Matte: Every time I go by Weinreich is doing something unlike some state employees that lean on a shovel. Both are incredible.

Pete Olson: Took a lot for granted when I lived in Wahkon, these two included; sewer, snowplowing, and zoning. Now I have to do it myself. I second all the fine comments.

Dale Peterson: I have had the dis-privilege of negotiating contracts. Survey of concerns back in 1965 no one cared about insurance. The last survey (3 months ago) 75% are concerned about insurance. Takes a lot of money out of household budget. Insurance pooling is a big thing. Both are great employees and if city can't pay all of it, do your best to keep them.

Judy Cassady: Experience and longevity; if you had to hire, it would take years to get that training. It wouldn't be the same and it would cost.

No audience member voiced opposition.

Council discussed issue. Have been and will be frugal with budget. Currently pay \$100 insurance stipend per month per employee, total \$2400 annually. Utilize city insurance agent David Oberfeld. Haven't spent anything for zoning professional fees and won't purchase \$8,000 plow wing. Button suggested freezing wages next couple years. No one is irreplaceable, but there is a cost and you lose customer service. Bjornson-Main questioned a cap. State and county workers haven't had raises as their cost of living increase went towards insurance coverage increases. Frederickson said it was a no brainer. They (employees) are excellent and why go through stress and agony to replace them. Goplen agreed it would cost too much to replace them and was very glad to hear from the audience. He was all for it but worried about a fire storm. Current insurance stipend would stop. Several monthly estimates were supplied to council ranging from \$371 to \$773.77 dependent on employees age. Nothing is definite until employees submit insurance applications. Oberfeld will investigate insurance pools too, which require minimum of two employees. Council agreed to set limit per month so insurance can be obtained promptly for both employees thus keeping Weinreich as an employee. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to set insurance parameters of \$1200 per month. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Employees can decide on a plan effective 7/1. Bring actual figures to next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The July 9, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Dan Goplen, Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, and Chip Frederickson. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, City Engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: Reichel requested items B & C be pulled. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to approve consent agenda with exception of items B & C. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) League of MN Cities Dues Increase: 3.5 percent effective 9/1/2012.
- B) Resolution No. 07092012 "Opening Beulah Avenue between the Soo Line Trail & State Hwy 27 Located between Blocks 10 & 11 within Plat of Pottstown": Pulled from consent agenda.
- C) Resolution No. 07092012A "Approving Plan for Public Use of Tax Forfeited Lands PID #25-041-0400": Pulled from consent agenda.
- D) Treasurer's May Report: Ending balance of \$635,591.26 including investments of \$245,843.39
- E) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- F) Checks #21454 Dated 06/12/2012 Through #21497 Dated 07/09/2012 Total \$47,841.50
- G) 06/11/2012 & 05/14/2012 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

REPORTS: Sewer: Per Weinreich it has been rough few weeks with heavy rains affecting lift stations. Jason, Izatys Wastewater Operator, showed interest in working with Wahkon as back up operator through mutual aid agreement. He has Class C license, which Weinreich would need to upgrade from his Class D. Both Frederickson & Bjornson-Main know Jason and thinks it is a great idea. Both entities would need to discuss specifics. Should Izatys ever be connected to our system this would be beneficial information to have. MnWARN had alerts out due to bad weather and seem to be very organized. Cities of Isle and Onamia aren't members. Council agreed Weinreich should upgrade his license to Class C.

Lots of clean up around town due to storms. Pier boardwalk is out of place. Weinreich, Scepaniak & Melville met with Cade Steffenson of Mille Lacs County Soil & Water Conservation District (MLCSWCD) regarding drain tile in Hill street easement and extra drainage. Steffenson will review 2002 Radunz permit to install mound system on edge of swamp and driveway.

Council agreed to allow Weinreich until end of July to use vacation time instead of anniversary date.

Zoning List: Three unresolved issues; Hiltunen, Hansen/Partridge & Ellis. Council agreed special meeting is warranted with city attorney; tentative date is 7/30 at 6:00 pm. Clerk to provide council with information for review ahead of time.

Robinson Subdivision Request Memo: In 2006 subdivision was approved to Karl & Anne Schmitz but was never recorded. Today property is owned by Midge & Joe Robinson and they want the same subdivision with an additional one. Zoning permits expire after one year. Original approved subdivision was to Schmitz and would need to be redone. Clerk believes two fees are due but Robinson is requesting only one fee. Midge Robinson was present and property was surveyed. Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to approve two subdivisions as written for PID #25-040-1370 & -1371, creating three buildable lots with requirement of two subdivision fees. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved permit for 10' x36' garage addition to Dean Peterson, PID #25-561-0630 located at 315 Bennett Street. Reichel wants citizens aware that construction can't begin until permit is in hand. Office being closed isn't valid reason. City is very accommodating in reviewing permits and lack of preparedness doesn't constitute an emergency on our part.

Complaint List: Signed complaint that Sheila Haack-Berg & Paul Sand have 8 dogs (including 5 puppies) and 12 cats, which use neighbor's sand box. Clerk contacted MLC Public Health and they will drive by. Unless it is an immediate danger to public health they really can't do much as people have the right to live as they see fit. Letter from City will be mailed soon and will include previous history. New animal ordinance section allowing only one litter was implemented specifically because of them.

Mark Lonsky was present and stated a pit bull came into his yard and growled at him. Not sure whose dog it is.

Clerk read Danner's water drainage complaint that wasn't included on list. This has to do with Highway 27, Lake Shore Blvd and Schubert drainage meandering through private property to the lake. There is some existing drainage, but not a straight shot. Will need S.E.H's help to draft drainage plan and MLC SWCD will likely need to approve it. Discuss at 2013 budget meeting.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Hiltunen: Additional survey cost to prove trailer doesn't meet setbacks shouldn't exceed \$400. Council will await special meeting with attorney to decide if necessary.

Consent Items B&C: Resolutions to open Beulah and approve plan. No money for the plan has been budgeted. These are part of the process to obtain tax forfeited land in the area. Will discuss at another time.

Veterans Park Renovation Map: S.E.H provided electronic detailed map to provide organization when requesting grants. Many only take electronic grant applications. Stone Bridge work will begin this fall; separate from Vets Park. About 20 pavers sold, which should be installed yet this year. Hope to paint a thermometer indicating fundraising efforts. Bjornson-Main believes launch users would appreciate knowing their money would go towards permanent dock. Discuss this at budget meeting. Would like to begin trail system. Will discuss after Beulah Hiltunen issue has been resolved.

Split Rail Fence @ Ellen Ruth Park on Hwy 27 Side: Button suggests installing split rail fence to distinguish park property from highway right of way. Cost is \$160 and there are survey stakes. During Wahkon Days the military museum will set up camp here and butterfly release is held here too. Charitable Gambling funds can be used for parks. Motion by Button, second by Frederickson to put up barrier fence between Ellen Ruth Park and Hwy 27 for safety concerns. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Weinreich and Doty will install.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Employee Health Insurance Memo: David Oberfeld was present to discuss insurance quotes. It is his opinion to go with Resource Training & Solutions-CCOGA Pool. Mille Lacs & Aitkin Counties and Isle School District are members. Rates are lower overall and dependent on entire pool's medical costs are set within a percentage range, example 2.5%-16%. If our costs were high, rates could be increased by 16%. However, not being in a pool could mean much higher rate increases. There is an annual fee to join, approximately \$110, which includes many services, such as a purchasing pool, safety classes, etc. Rate they quoted for Blue Cross Blue Shield is \$460 for single coverage and \$1,150 for family coverage (spouse only and/or dependents), which is valid for 18 months through 12/31/2013. Previous motion authorized up to \$600 per employee. Council reiterated this is for employees only and the cap was to ensure they could choose what plan they wanted up to that amount. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to set cost for insurance as quoted to cover employees only. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. City will pay single coverage of \$460 per month towards family coverage should that be warranted.

City of Isle has been utilizing Robin Straka Accounting in Onamia to do their payroll. Cost is \$150 per month to do payroll, quarterly and year end reports. Beginning in February we went from monthly to biweekly payrolls. Council agreed it would lighten clerk's load. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to hire Robin Straka to do payroll. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Charitable Gambling Ordinance & Form: Clerk has been working with Military Service Association (MSA) trying to make a form that is simple and concise. MSA believes they should be able to deduct allowable expenses including mileage from their profits before paying the required 10%. State has changed the form and will likely change it again and doesn't necessarily allow all expenses. Council agreed and is thankful for these organizations and their contributions. Button would like to be involved in the discussion as he has been involved in charitable gambling before.

East Central Energy (ECE) Line Maintenance Letter: Sent to all affected account holders regarding upcoming project to bury electric on Lake Shore Blvd. Property owners would save ECE fee if they bury their private line in coordination with this project. Only cost would be electrician fee.

Open Forum: Anyone addressing council should limit discussion to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place the issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision: Lonsky requests ability to install "Lonsky Drive" street sign on alley leading to his residence at 170 Duluth. Pete Dordan gave Lonsky his approval. Currently no street sign exists. Old School Apartments use Duluth as their entrance. Alley from 1st St. W is used to access Dordan's & Lonsky's. Some addresses in town are difficult. Example, city hall is 151 2nd St E but the entrance is from the alley. Apartments have Chippewa address which used to be the old school entrance. Weinreich to investigate and council will decide at next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, City Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The July 30, 2012 special meeting of the Wahkon City Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Chip Frederickson, Dan Goplen, and Tony Button. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, City Attorney Troy Gilchrist. This special meeting was called by the Mayor and was properly posted.

RESOLUTIONS: Resolution No. 07302012 “Opening Beulah Avenue Between the Soo Line Trail & State Hwy 27 Located Between Blocks 10 & 11 Within Plan of Pottstown”: Using Beulah to bring Soo Line Trail users into town would be safer than South Main at the highway curve. Hiltunen’s trailer was removed from Beulah easement but still doesn’t meet setbacks. This resolution will help in City’s efforts, along with support from Mille Lacs County (MLC) Board, to obtain tax forfeited lots. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to adopt Resolution No. 07302012. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. This portion of Beulah will be open for use by pedestrians, bicyclists and recreational vehicles. The City shall begin clearing and grubbing trees in the spring of 2013 after funds have been budgeted and may post such signs as it determines appropriate to inform the public of the allowed use and of any restrictions.

Resolution No. 07302012A “Approving Plan for Public Use of Tax Forfeited Lands PID #25-041-0400”: “City intends to utilize the Property for the following authorized public uses: as part of the access being established to the Trail; as a reasonable amount of land surrounding the access and the Trail to be maintained in its natural state; to maintain a natural drainage area in support of the adjacent public right-of-ways, the City’s sewer lift station, and the Trail; and to maintain a safety zone around the City’s sewer lift station, which is located on State Highway 27.” Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 07302012A. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSS ZONING VIOLATIONS WITH CITY ATTORNEY TROY GILCHRIST: Hiltunen: Modified pop up trailer was removed from Beulah easement but doesn’t meet applicable 10’ setback from Hwy 27 or Beulah. Adam Ripple, Hiltunen’s attorney informed Gilchrist his client believes trailer meets setbacks. We have her consent to enter property to survey but thinks we are being unfair and not accurately depicting where it is. Beulah easement was recently surveyed. It is our burden to prove non-compliance. Survey could show placement of trailer, identify proper setbacks, and note lack of high land. This has been ongoing for almost four years. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to pursue a survey to define 10' setbacks and topography. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Attorney will send letter along with survey giving reasonable time frame to comply, 30 days. If deadline passes, council will need to decide if more money is warranted to bring in compliance.

Hansen/Partridge: Hansen has a contract for deed through Partridge. Gilchrist suggested focusing on hazardous building action; deck being built without permit and installing sewer without permit to garage converted into a residence may complicate things. Sewer would need to be addressed at time of demolition. Need professional inspection to prove hazardous conditions exist. Windows are boarded up. Currently there are two residences on property not meeting duplex size requirements. Gilchrist is fairly confident we could legally run with zoning issue too. Need permission to inspect or go through legal process for administrative order. We’ll ask Hansen for permission first then Partridge, third option legal process. Some costs can be assessed to property owner. Council agreed to utilize Gilchrist’s colleague, Mary Titjen, who has hazardous building legal experience. Motion by

Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to authorize Kennedy & Graven to initiate hazardous building legal action to raze the building and correct the sewer with stipulation that as many of the costs be assessed to the property owner. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Ellis: Manufactured home isn't secured properly and there is an unattached three season porch. Some tie downs have been fastened but not tightly, while others are missing. Reichel was informed Randy Hansen and DelRoy were going over to finish securing the tie downs. She believes Ellis' plan is to haul away the porch. Ellis never contacted City. Charitable agencies can't be petitioned as he is behind in taxes. MN Dept. of Labor & Industry, construction code and licensing division, enforce manufactured home rules even if the city doesn't formally adopt them, similar to electric inspections. As of 1/1/2009 professional installers and home owners must have installation plans approved by the State. This agency would require owner's permission for structural inspection, which could run up to \$800. Ellis installed in 2007. Council agrees City has done everything it can to work with Ellis and the next step is for attorney to write letter. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to authorize city attorney to start the process. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen John Miklethun expressed concern regarding opening of Beulah. He has property nearby and hopes Soo Line Trail patrons won't trespass.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The August 13, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Councilmembers Chip Frederickson & Dan Goplen was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as City Engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) MN Rural Water Assoc. Thank You
- B) Resolution #08132012 Accepting Donations Towards 2012 July Fourth Celebration: \$2,246.67
- C) Filing for City Offices Begins 7/31 & Ends @ 5 pm 8/14
- D) City Hall Closed Labor Day 9/3
- E) Lakes & Pines April, May & June 2012 Newsletter (Partial)
- F) Treasurer's Report: Ending balance \$725,038.00 includes investments of \$245,843.39
- G) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- H) Tax Settlement Report: Received \$112,263.44
- I) Checks #21498 Dated 07/12/2012 Through #21546 Dated 08/13/2012 Total \$32,060.04

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Culvert Variance Hearing: Chris & Nancy Turnbull: They were unable to attend but are available by phone. Plan includes relocating driveway and replacing existing 28' culvert with 36'. Ordinance limits length to 24'. Contractor suggested Maple Lane's ditch be cleaned as it is filling with dirt and becoming shallow. Turnbull is requesting city financial assistance relative to this; \$40 permit fee, 2-3 hours of contractor's time at \$75 per hour, and culvert \$350. Received Fran Bachman note in favor. Button noted there are drainage issues upstream from this area. Rudkin has retired from truck driving. Discuss further at budget meeting. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to approve variance to Turnbull authorizing 36' culvert at 195 Maple Lane, PID #25-561-0170. Ayes: Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Work can be done in Maple Lane ditch but city will not offer any financial support.

REPORTS: Sewer: Jerry Brandt did great job mowing street ditches, wastewater ponds and berm. PLM sprayed both secondary ponds for weeds before we add alum to treat phosphate. Hopefully we can keep weeds down on berm in order to easily ascertain its condition and integrity. Ordering alum and will discharge ponds in September.

Due to recent wastewater force main breaks, Kimman compiled preliminary figures estimating replacement from SDR 35 to at minimum schedule 40 pipe to be \$620,000. Pipe is 6" but last poly pig able to flow through was 4". Pipe could deflecting and/or building up solids. Based on connections we could get up to 60% grant. Rural Development grants range from 30%.-50% and there are other agencies that may help. Our approximate cost after grants would be \$200,000. Weinreich stated he discussed replacing force main at time we built new ponds. Main lift station pumps should be pushing more than they are. MPCA hasn't said anything. Force main breaks happened six weeks apart. Coupler at pressure line at old ponds broke, which should never had been used under pressure. Most current break was a crack and hole caused by rocks and poor bedding. Best scenario would be open the ditch to replace pipe and add proper bedding. Something to consider and possibly begin budgeting for. Weinreich will have air release valves serviced soon. 2014 projects require preliminary report to Rural Development for eligibility analysis; cost \$15,000 - \$25,000.

Weinreich: Still a little blacktop to be done, which will be within budget. Air conditioner needs service.

Zoning List: Legal process pending on several issues. Received letter from Mike Hansen to Wahkon Dictatorship, which was ridiculous and insulting. Hiltunen survey will be done this week. Meshigun Point Properties duplex townhome permit will be verified by Weinreich. Approved permits: Turnbull, 30'x40' pole building garage with sewer for fish cleaning sink at 195 Maple Lane and O'Neil, 7'x12' deck for RV at Walleye Dundee's 550 North Main.

Complaint List & Haack/Sand Animal Letter: Paul Sand was present. All three adult dogs and cats will be fixed 9/25.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: WAVE Chair Button and volunteers will begin picking rock for bridge at City Park and install foundation with wing dams on each side. Estimate needing 1,500-2,000 stones. Left over stones will be used for rip rap.

Bjornson-Main has heard need for permanent dock. Some believe WAVE has too many irons in the fires. Button suggested launch fees be earmarked for permanent dock. Clerk to check on insurance liability issue. Businesses need to support this. Put on next month's agenda when full council is present. Reichel and Button would abstain

Wahkon Days Issue: Received letter from Clare Fitz asking why Mille Lacs Grand Casino gift certificates are being used as prizes considering City stance on reservation issue. A few verbal disapprovals have been heard also. Bjornson-Main explained we need to be good neighbors and are thankful for all donations. Accepting their donation doesn't change her personal view or that of the City's on how we stand on political side of things. Reichel can see both sides. Grand Casino has been donating for years and it was the button flyer advertising that flagged comments. We work very hard on very limited budget and gladly accept any and all donations.

Reichel spoke to DNR about agreement they want city to sign granting them authority. Assured we wouldn't need to install cleaning stations at launch, unfounded rumor. According to them a previous agreement was signed years back and this is an update for boat inspections and cleaning boat hulls if we want them to. No businesses or private properties would be forced to do it. Put on next agenda when council is all present. Ask for copy of original letter.

Old Drain Tile: Scepaniak & Melville: Council agreed to discuss item B under new business promptly. There is an old 6" drain tile within undeveloped Hill Street likely installed by previous land owners, both deceased. Land was sold off years ago into separate parcels. What was drainage for a resort property is now adversely affecting private properties. Weinreich discussed with Cade of Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD). Radunz wetland permit (approximately in 2002) to install driveway and septic system was reviewed and found in compliance. Project has affected this area. Weinreich is recommending tile be closed eliminating violation of private installation on city right of way (ROW). Drainage would then flow along street and into wetland. Will verify other culverts in area on open. Budget has funds for ditch work. Inform Scepaniak if this doesn't work he will need to do his own tile. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button authorizing work to close off drain tile within Hill Street ROW, up to \$400. Ayes: Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Revised Employee Health Insurance: Previous quote was lower as April Weinreich was included in our pool. Difference between single and family coverage is too high and she can find lower rate elsewhere. Monthly premium for two full time employees will be \$520.50 each through 12/31/2013.

Alley Street Sign & Sample Policy: Mark Lonsky requested at last meeting ability to erect “Lonsky Drive” street sign upon the alley within Block 18. Cities contacted by Clerk do not allow anything within ROW. Included sample policy for naming and renaming city streets, parks, facilities, etc... People can erect signs on their property but we shouldn't allow it within ROW. Lonsky and Doran “Duluth” addressing is confusing as they access property from alley. Old School Apartments have their driveway on Duluth but it isn't fully developed and their address is Summit. This is a metes & bounds property. School district must have also owned entire Block 18 to the east. Weinreich will order and install Duluth street sign at 1st Street. Duluth is 35' wide and there are survey stakes on easterly side. Jim Lancrain was using Duluth to walk to town, which is safer than highway. Weinreich will keep it open.

NEW BUSINESS: Helping Hands Clothing Closet Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to donate \$100 out of Charitable Gambling Fund to Helping Hands Clothing Closet. Ayes: Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Set Special Budget Meeting: Tuesday 9/11 at 8:00 am.

Reschedule November Regular Council Meeting Due to Veterans Day Holiday 11/12: Tuesday 11/13 at 6:00 pm. Place on next month's agenda to inform Frederickson and Goplen.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 10, 2012 Wahkon Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, Chip Frederickson, and Dan Goplen. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Minutes: 6/18/2012 Special Meeting
- B) LG220 Gambling Exempt Permit: Isle Sportsman's Club 9/22
- C) LG220 Gambling Exempt Permit: Sacred Heart Church 9/23
- D) Constitution Week Proclamation 9/17 – 9/23
- E) League of MN Cities Insurance Trust 2012-2013 Liability Premium Rating Changes
- F) Special Council Budget Meeting, Tuesday 9/11 @ 8 am
- G) Treasurer's Report: Wasn't available due to outsourced payroll not being entered yet.
- H) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- I) Checks #21547 Dated 8/14/2012 through #21591 Dated 9/10/2012 Total \$47,903.73

REPORTS: Sewer: None. Zoning List: City Attorney sent Don Ellis letter giving 9/28 deadline to properly secure foundation tie downs and attach the porch.

Boat House Renovation Expansion Memo: Today's larger recreational pontoons don't fit in old boathouses that were built for a smaller fishing boat. Water oriented structures are allowed up to 400 square feet. Variance is required for anything larger. Recreational use of the lake has increased substantially. Should we allow larger boathouses with this in mind? Holy O'Neil was present and wants to enlarge her current 364 square foot boathouse to 452.4 square feet to accommodate her pontoon. Structure is within shoreland impact zone and the proposed addition would be off the back. Motion by Button, second by Frederickson to increase water oriented structure size up to 500 square feet if it meets setbacks and doesn't adversely affect drainage. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Height limitation is twelve feet. Clerk to use this directive when amending current zoning ordinance in the near future.

Approved permits: Danner to build 30'x40' attached garage with living quarters at 985 Lake Shore Blvd; Romfo, 24'x30 garage at 2080 Lake Shore Blvd; and Packer received one year extension to erect 14'x16' porch at 435 North Main.

Roberts: Weinreich wanted to inform council on this pending permit. Impervious is currently 26% and with 30'x24'x16' detached garage it will be close to 30%. Council has authorized Weinreich up to 30% as a bargaining measure. Roberts is willing to install pavers at which time he would be approximately 27%. All setbacks will be met. Any future permits will be subject to variance. Owner will sign permit agreeing to these requirements.

City Employee, Committee & Councilmember Update: Clerk has found having payroll outsourced is more of a burden. Previously computer program generated all reports for data entry and now it requires time consuming journal entries. August bank statement wasn't reconciled as the two payrolls have yet to be entered into the computer. Council agreed to keep payroll in house from now on.

Button along with volunteers plans to pick rocks from Weinreich's field for bridge project. Hope to establish Facebook page for Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) to reach younger generation. Also working on fundraising efforts thermometer.

NEW BUSINESS: Open Forum: Anyone addressing the council should limit discussion to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place the issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Paul Sand informed council his dogs and cats are scheduled to be fixed. Paperwork will be provided October meeting. Sheila is very upset that five cats have disappeared and Goldie had round welts they believe are from a BB gun. If anymore are shot they will contact the sheriff's department. Keeping animals contained to their property would help. He understands that but it isn't humane to shot them either.

Sand has lumber to build a shed to help organize their small backyard. Would like to place it next to church where there is an undeveloped paper street. Variance would be required if setbacks aren't met. At minimum a permit is required.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 11, 2012 special Wahkon City Council budget meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 8:00 am. Council Members present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, and Chip Frederickson. Council Member Dan Goplen was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. This special meeting was called by the Mayor and was properly posted. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW GENERAL & SEWER 2013 BUDGETS: Items discussed were as follows:

1. No plans to improve boat launch ramp due to low water levels.
2. When cable franchise agreement is ready to renegotiate request free cable phone service with same phone number.
3. Check with attorney about placing lien on Hansen's property regarding unresolved zoning issues to forewarn buyers.
4. Send letter to Wahkon Civic Association regarding their use of hall closet. With their dissolution closet could be used to store hall tables and chairs. Thank them for all their years of service.
5. Acoustic panels are too costly to install in the hall. Supposedly carpeting the walls is against fire code. Apple Valley VFW did this about two years ago.
6. Larger street signs are being mandated but deadline has been postponed due to recession. Will also need heavier poles.
7. Purchase LED lights for holiday wreaths.
8. Main Street sidewalks will soon need repairs. Precedent has been to split 50/50 with property owner. Sidewalk in front of Veterans Park will need to be redone properly as run off comes from highway to lake. At this time budget will include \$2,000 to repair bad sections.
9. Investigate cost of new information bulletin board at Ellen Ruth Park. Maybe Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) could build one or use Charitable Gambling Funds.
10. Investigate cost for irrigation watering system at Veterans Park.
11. Pier boardwalk gets pushed around by waves during storms requiring Weinreich's time to reset. Check with Dept. of Natural Resources to see how we could anchor this. *Bjornson-Main had to leave the meeting @ 9:45 am.*
12. East Central Energy's is burying electric lines on Lake Shore Blvd and some poles may be removed and/or replaced. Should this be required at our lift stations, cost could be \$5,000 along with rewiring electric panel for Omni.
13. Sewer financial projections provided by David Drown & Associates with 2% inflation rate and 4% usage fee annual increase indicates cash on hand would decrease annually. Council agreed to leave increase at 3% as currently regulated through ordinance until financial figures are fully understood. Original projections from Ehlers Associates indicated 3% would leave a substantial amount of cash for future councils to work with after bonds were paid. Why the difference? Best to change ordinance only once.

Motion by Frederickson, second by Button to amend proposed 2013 budgets as detailed below. Amended General Budget receipts of \$232,364 and disbursements of \$234,025. Amended Sewer Budget receipts of \$190,224 and disbursements of \$106,550. Ayes: Frederickson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously

General Fund (100)

	31000	General Property Taxes	210,220.
Zoning	41910-300	Professional Services	1,000.
Buildings	41940-530	Improvements-Capital Outlay	0.
Streets	43100-255	Landscaping Supplies	200.
	43100-300	Professional Services	3,000.
	43100-400	R/M-Contract-Blacktop	30,000.
		R/M-Contract-Sidewalks	2,000.
Parks	45200-230	Street Signs	200.
	45200-400	Repair & Maint-Contract	600.

Sewer Fund (602)

	37200	Sewer Usage Fees	181,074.
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RESOLUTION NO. 09112012 APPROVING FINAL 2012 TAX LEVY COLLECTIBLE IN 2013:
Motion by Frederickson, second by Button to adopt Resolution No. 09112012 Approving Final 2012 Tax Levy Collectible in 2013 in the amount of \$210,220. Ayes: Frederickson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Levy increased 5% over last year.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Frederickson, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:14 am.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The October 8, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Dan Goplen. Councilmember Chip Frederickson was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, City Engineer Greg Kimman of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to approve the consent agenda as written. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Lakes & Pines Financial Class “Tools Today for a Better Tomorrow” 6-8 pm Thursday 10/11. Must register to attend, #800-832-6082: Cancelled due to lack of participants.
- B) City Hall Closed Monday November 12 for Veterans Day “Observed” Holiday
- C) Special Rescheduled Regular Council Meeting, Tuesday 11/13 @ 6 pm: Veterans Day “Observed” Holiday falls on regular council meeting night and no city business can be conducted.
- D) League of MN Cities (LMC) “Entering Private Property for Public Works Purposes – Knock Three Times” Memo
- E) Resolution #10082012 Accepting Donations towards 2012 Wahkon Days Festivities: Received \$1,595 in donations plus items & certificates too numerous in quantity to be listed.
- F) Treasurer’s Report: Ending balance as of 9/30 was \$677,223.09 including investments of \$246,275.97.
- G) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- H) Checks #21592 Dated 9/12/2012 Through #21628 Dated 10/5/2012 Total \$25,559.90

REPORTS: Sewer: Weinreich stated discharging is completed; 8 million gallons. Berm looks great. If anyone wants tour of the ponds just let him know. Bought \$5,000 in alum, which should be enough for rest of the year.

Kimman invited everyone to October Fest 10/18 at S.E.H. Per clerk’s request he checked with MN Dept. of Transportation (MnDOT) for sidewalk improvement grants; nothing at this time. Wahkon is scheduled for mil & overlay in 2016. Think about doing ours at same time as they would upgrade sidewalk corner ramps. Place on 2014 budget to begin setting funds aside. Should also begin researching what we can do to beautify Main Street. Per Weinreich there was MnDOT representative doing an audit of highway/Main streets.

MnDOT still plans on addressing ditching concerns near Rodrigue & Weinreich area but are behind schedule due to late spring flood damage repairs.

Zoning List & Backup Information: Ellis: Charitable organizations would likely not expend their funds to help as he is behind on taxes and doesn't have insurance. No other complaints at this time relative to blight. Will continue requesting work be accomplished; tighten existing tie downs, add missing tie downs, enclose skirting, and remove or attach properly three season porch.

Approved permits: Groth brought in shed at 945 Hwy 27 W; Albertson garage addition @ 250 Bennett Street; Berg erected shed @ 180 1st Street E; Bridgestone/Halcomb built deck @ 2390 Lake Shore Blvd. Meshigun Point Revised LLC permit #2 was approved for duplex @ 507 Meshigun Point Drive units 2 & 3. Permit letter was revised as originally the condition of Lake Shore Blvd was to be reviewed when it should have been Bennett Street. Roberts was authorized to build detached garage with agreed upon stipulations due to impervious coverage increase from 26% to 29%. “Owner agrees to install no more impervious driveway, instead at least 500 square feet will be replaced with pervious pavers. Any future permits would require variance.”

Weinreich informed Turnbull of his concerns regarding Maple Lane ditch work. Some of the work has been done regarding this permit, but due to unforeseen health issues, work won't be completed until spring 2013. Button questioned if in the future we should require escrow to ensure work is completed satisfactorily. Reichel prefers stipulations be listed on permit in order not to inhibit growth. Could require letter of credit per Kimman. Check to see if this could be written into zoning permit.

Hiltunen: After attorney letter was sent with survey indicating trailer doesn't meet setbacks she is requesting until 8/31/2013 in order to obtain permits to fill in wetland. Council agreed not to grant an extension. Deadline for trailer to meet setbacks was 10/1.

Hansen: Inspection was conducted 9/24 by Inspection Services of Central Minnesota. There is some water damage but no immediate threats to life, safety and welfare of the owners or the residents of Wahkon. City attorney will need to fully review zoning ordinance to see how best to proceed.

Complaint List: Sterilization certificates were provided 9/26 for Gomez, Rex and six cats. Zoe couldn't be fixed until she loses 6.2 pounds. All puppies were adopted awhile back.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Per Weinreich large plow truck needs repair promptly. City Hall entryway roof leaks and will be replaced with tin. Clerk to attend LMC/Metro Cities Regional meeting 11/14 with Isle Clerk. Button and volunteers plan on pouring bridge footings before winter. Jeff & Debbie Roeschlein donated approximately nine yards of mixed rock for the "Stone" bridge. Community paver will be installed for their generous donation.

Community Events Fund/Wahkon Days (WD) 2012 Report & 2013 Discussion: City & volunteers have taken on organizing WD for three years now. 2012 made approximately \$2,650. Fund balance is \$6,522.35. Have lost some volunteers due to limited number of volunteers working that entire weekend. Should we continue? People look forward to this event and make reservations for the next year. Council agreed to continue hosting Wahkon Days. Bjornson-Main will continue to help organize. Reichel can't attend meetings but tell her what needs to be done. Having Facebook page would help. Based on Council's decision to continue and per WD committee decision, clerk will book Bob & the Beachcombers for music entertainment on 8/17/2013. They are more expensive than the "Canoise" band this year, but they were unavailable for 2013. Hopefully having Bob & the Beachcombers back will generate more attendance and funds.

WAVE 2nd Annual Chili Cook Off: Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) will host this on Saturday 1/26/2013 and in conjunction will solicit public opinion on what is important for our community. Was suggested this be held at a liquor establishment of which all of them are interested. Button had audience members draw business names. 2013 it will be held at Mugg's, 2014 Spirit Lake Steakhouse and 2015 at the Wahkon Inn. Izatys chef will supply sour cream and cheese.

Wahkon Senior Dining DVD: Senior volunteer Howard Anderson took Ollie Saumer's scrapbook pictures and made a DVD. Clerk played a few minutes of it and everyone thought it was wonderful. Copies are available.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FEMA Floodplain Management Ordinance Requirement Discussion: Wahkon was just recently mapped in 2011. There are several flood prone areas along the lake and one spot encompasses both sides of Lake Shore Blvd. MN Dept. of Natural Resources letter strongly encourages us to contact Tim Crocker to initiate process to adopt required minimum floodplain regulations in order to establish eligibility in National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). We have until 3/4/2014 to comply. To be removed from a floodplain, property owners must prove FEMA wrong through a survey. Clerk emailed Crocker and awaits reply.

NEW BUSINESS: WebConsulting Quotes: \$1500 & \$3000. Kelly LaBrosse is our website coordinator and was present to answer questions. WebConsulting is someone she knows that does web design. Wahkon's website was designed about seven years ago and needs updating in order to display properly on newest technology and software programs. Higher quote is more than we need and is for all levels of social media. Facebook page may work well for getting information out. Some work she can do herself. People go to internet for information. In order to post Wahkon commercial real estate listings a contract would be required. Button sent letters to all businesses for a meeting to discuss their ideas and concerns. Two attended and several others spoke to him personally. Main concern is the need to advertise and promote our town. Reichel is comfortable with LaBrosse's recommendation. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to contract with WebConsulting to upgrade city website for cost of \$1500. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Initiative Foundation 2013 Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to donate \$150 to Initiative Foundation from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Blandin Foundation Broadband Initiative Grant & MLC Committee Leaders Wanted: No one was interested at this time and clerk is spread thin already.

Wahkon Civic Association (WCA) Storage Closet Issue: Clerk mailed letter asking when the closet would be empty but no reply was received. WCA informed council three years ago they would be dissolving and could no longer do Wahkon Days. Clerk to email President Katy Radunz. Clerk would be used to store hall tables and chairs.

Open Forum: Anyone addressing the council should limit discussion to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place the issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Button suggested using Celebration Funds to help with future firework costs not covered by donations. Will wait to see figures after 2013 event due to higher music entertainment expenses. Reichel offered use of her property at Dundee's should a committee want to host a 7/4 fundraising event.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The monthly Wahkon Council meeting, rescheduled as a special meeting on November 13, 2012, was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Dan Goplen and Tony Button. Councilmembers absent were Chip Frederickson and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. Regular monthly meeting couldn't be held the second Monday due to Veterans Day observed holiday. This special meeting was called by the Mayor and properly posted.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Minutes: 10/08/2012 council; 09/11/2012 special council; 09/10/2012 council; 08/13/2012 council; 07/30/2012 special council; and 07/09/2012 council.

B) Proposed Sign Retroreflectivity Rules Become Final: League of MN Cities (LMC) 5/16/2012 Article: Cities must have policy enacted by 6/13/2014. "The elimination of the compliance dates for sign retroreflectivity in the MUTCD does not eliminate the regulatory requirement for cities to comply with the minimum sign retroreflectivity standard. The standard remains in the MUTCD and applies to any new sign installations, but the compliance date for replacing noncompliant signs that exist in the field has been eliminated."

C) Resolution No. 11132012 "Adopting Special Assessments for Delinquent Utility Fees"

D) The Woodland Voice Fall 2012

E) 2013 Annual Liquor License Renewals: Mugg's Main Street Saloon, Morning Star Market, Wahkon Inn Bar & Restaurant, and Spirit Lake Steakhouse.

F) Treasurer's Report: Ending balance of \$677,531.17 includes investments of \$246,275.97

G) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report: Mayor thanked clerk for adding explanations.

H) Checks #21629 Dated 10/8/2012 Through #21684 Dated 11/13/2012 Total \$26,288.40

REPORTS: Sewer: Status of Wetland Mitigation @ WW Ponds 11/5/12 Letter: Cade Steffenson of Mille Lacs County (MLC) Land Services "No further annual monitoring reports are necessary as the goals for the replacement plan have been met as of the date of this letter." Maintenance is still required and he noted reed canary grass encroaching small mitigation pond adjacent to berm.

Weinreich used televising camera to investigate sewer problem at Poshusta, who just built his home. Line was damaged upon electric installation. Verified Bachman and Poshusta sewer lines are connected and run out to Maple Lane. Budgeted \$25,000 for last phase of inflow & infiltration (I&I) repairs from Wahkon Presbyterian Church to end of town. Infratech never scheduled these few repairs and with winter approaching it won't be accomplished. Camera purchased in 1999 for approximately \$5,000; great investment, however technology is outdated. Sonde equipment locates lines easier, which is beneficial for future lateral inspections, the next phase of I&I. Currently we record to VHS and new system would be zip drive or USB. With new camera we wouldn't have to subcontract lateral inspections. Look into increasing fee for camera use, currently \$20. Possible to sell old camera through LMC, MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) or maybe Isle will want it. Council directed Weinreich to obtain three quotes and verify how much our camera is currently worth. Place on next month's agenda.

Zoning List: Hiltunen's trailer was moved to Tom Dahlheimer's property with help from Weinreich. It will be converted into fish house and sold. Non-compliant setback issue resolved. Approved permits: Matte #25-561-0760 @ 1980 Lake Shore Blvd will move in 24'x32' garage; Country Caboose Quilts #25-017-0011 @ 108 South Main received one year permit extension for 5'x30' deck with overhang. Weinreich stated Danner's addition is underway and he will ensure building doesn't exceed height restriction of 25'.

Complaint List: Continuous barking of little dogs at 260 2nd Street E. Letter sent 11/9.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Roeschlein: Flex plan will be free through Resource training & Solutions to have spouse premiums deducted pretax through payroll. City only covers employees; this is a payroll option benefiting employees & employers. Website examples are available if council wants to give input. Work will begin soon. Weinreich: Plow should be fixed by Friday. Reichel: Thanked Button & Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) for Veterans Day dedication of new pavers. Button: Provided diagram of six-sided monolith for Veterans Park, once funds have been raised, honoring all branches of armed forces during WW II. He reviewed WAVE project list and thanked all volunteers and contributors. Jake Shetka will allow Welcome to Wahkon type of sign on his island. It may say “fish, play, stay, wine, and dine.” Read excerpt from City of Ottertail newsletter stating recreational trails are an economic boost. Community input ranked parks & trails as important. Need to focus on utilizing undeveloped paper streets for trails.

NEW BUSINESS: Canvass 11/6/2012 Wahkon General Election Results: Clerk never realized canvassing board required an oath, i.e. council, prior to review. Oath was given. Motion by Goplen, second by Button to accept election results. Ayes: Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor: Sandy Reichel 105 votes; Councilmember (four year term): Anthony M (Tony) Button 99 votes, Ronda Bjornson-Main 87 votes; and Councilmember (two year term): Dale A Matte 114 votes. Registered voters 166, new registrants 17, total votes cast in person 125, absentee votes 18 for 78% voter turnout.

Newly Elected Officials 2013 Leadership Conference: Mayor strongly recommends attending. Matte & Button can hopefully attend together.

Stranded by Disposables: Public Works 10/2012 Article: With on slot of “flushable” wipes, this is a problem for all cities. Manufacturers claim they are flushable and biodegradable, but they aren’t dispersible (dissolvable in water) and get tangled in sewer pumps. Dependent on size of city, this can cost a lot of man hours and money. New public campaign to inform citizens to flush only the “three Ps” pee, poo and toilet paper.

Premier Pyrotechnics Pay Early Discount Option: Council agreed to go with option 2 so bill is paid within budget year. Will receive 10% additional product if paid by 3/1.

MN Council on Foundation: Tips & Tools for Grant seeking Success: 11/29/12 @ St Paul \$95: WAVE approved Button attending. Council agreed.

Wastewater Bond Refunding Options & Select Financial Advisor: City named two financial advisors in January. Ehlers & Associates did 2005 sewer pond construction bonding and recently David Drown Associates (DDA) revised sewer financial projections. City of Onamia gives DDA high praise. Clerk prefers them as they better fit our small town. With historically low interest rates, it may be beneficial to refinance our current bonds. Agenda included pages of information from both advisors. Professional fees quoted: Ehlers \$13,400 and DDA \$12,250. Negative arbitrage is difficult subject to understand; overall savings could be \$57,000. Clerk suggests after selecting one financial advisor to set special workshop meeting for further review. Mayor’s recommendation is DDA. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to hire David Drown Associates as our financial advisor. Ayes: Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Set meeting before year end.

Open Forum: Anyone addressing the council should limit discussion to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place the issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Clerk passed along Spirit Lake Steakhouse Chef Alex's request to install street light on 2nd St. W. Parking area and alley aren't lit and there was an attempted break in from the alley. Cost to install \$106.88 to existing pole and approximately \$8.65 per month for electric. Good use of liquor license fees. Motion by Goplen, second by Button to install street security light. Ayes: Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Goplen second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The November 26, 2012 special meeting of the Wahkon Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 5:30 pm. Councilmembers present were Chip Frederickson, Tony Button, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Dan Goplen. Incoming councilmember Dale Matte was present as an audience member. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. This special meeting was called by the Mayor to meet with financial advisor Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Associates (DDA) to discuss and make decisions relative to refinancing general obligation sewer revenue bonds, Series 2005A. This meeting was properly posted and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REFINANCING GENERAL OBLIGATION SEWER REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2005A: Just over one million in debt remains from 2005 bonds used to construct an additional wastewater pond to lift moratorium placed by MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). With interest rates at a historical low we could do advanced refunding by obtaining bonds today, investing those funds and on call date in 2015 pay off old debt. This would be structured so only one payment is required. Negative arbitrage is estimated at \$35,000. Waiting to refinance closer to call date would lessen this amount. Rates could go up offsetting the reduction. Today rates are 1% lower than a year ago. Previous range held for 7-8 years; no way to speculate what rates will do. Net interest cost for new bonds would be 2.13% versus current 4.6%. Overall net savings conservatively estimated at \$78,382. It is suggested city obtain credit rating at cost of \$8,000 in order to obtain lowest rate, approximately .75% less. Minimal risk is rates go up while we are being rated. This would be the only cost should council decide not to refinance after looking at all the data. If city proceeds with a sale DDA's fee would be \$12,250.

It is suggested we utilize \$200,000 of cash on hand to prepay principal reducing average payments from \$113,000 to \$85,000. General recommendation for cash on hand per utility is \$200,000 to do projects and handle emergency repairs. Including investments, wastewater funds amount to \$512,967.98. Anything more is detrimentally when applying for grants and low interest funding. Lower payments and 3% annual sewer usage increase may be sufficient if expenses are kept about the same. Clerk to investigate penalty for cashing in certificate of deposit. Cash would be needed in early February, CD matures 5/2013. Discussed how budgeting for depreciation isn't viable or fair to today's user as they would be paying for the new pond built in 2005 and future pond replacement. Motion by Button, second by Frederickson to direct David Drown Associates to initiate a competitive sale to refinance 2005 A bonds. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Sweeney will provide competitive sale information at 1/14/2013 council meeting unless factors dictate the need for special meeting sooner.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The December 10, 2012 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Chip Frederickson, Dan Goplen, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Tony Button. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Frederickson, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 11/26 Special & 11/13 Rescheduled Monthly Special
- B) City Hall Closed Thursday 12/20, Monday & Tuesday 12/24 & 12/25
- C) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Comprehensive Planning Resident Community Meetings: 1/10 @ 7 pm Isle City Hall; 1/12 @ 9 am MLC Historic Courthouse; 1/14 @ 7 pm Princeton City Hall
- D) Resolution #12102012 Accepting 2012 Donations towards Veterans Park Renovation Project: Cash donations of \$2,196.
- E) Resolution #12102012A Accepting Donations towards Park Improvements: \$130 & \$1,000 cash donations.
- F) Treasurer's Report: Ending balance \$ 670,520.55 including investments of \$246,709.31.
- G) MLC Tax Settlement Check \$115,326.26
- H) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- I) Checks #21685 Dated 11/14/2012 through #21725 Dated 12/10/2012 Total \$16,377.65

REPORTS: Sewer: Sonde Televising Camera Bids: Eight quotes listed on memo and one just received for total of nine. Last month Weinreich was quoted \$7,500. However, that didn't include receiver, which we would need. Quotes range from \$7,544 to \$13,000. Trojan was cheapest but no one knows much about them. Want capability to get parts and have repairs done quickly. Infratech's quote \$9,263, includes one year warranty and training. MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) uses Infratech camera for their training. Value of our camera if sold outright is \$1,000 on MRWA or League of MN Cities (LMC) websites. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Frederickson to authorize purchase of sonde camera system at not more than \$10,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Wastewater Operator "Class C" Upgrade & Izatys Operator Backup Discussion: Weinreich now has a Class C license, which was first step towards possible backup operator scenario between Wahkon and Izatys. Jason Nieken, Izatys operator is receptive. Need to contact Zappa Management to discuss details. Great resource to use when Weinreich is on vacation or sick. Would work compensation be an issue? Check with LMC or MRWA for sample agreements. Send letter to Zappa requesting meeting with Jason, Chris, and possibly Sewer Commissioner Bjornson-Main. Report back to council after meeting.

MRWA MIDI Loan: Refund 2005 Sewer Bonds: At the 11/26 special meeting council authorized refunding bond sale. This morning Financial Advisor Shannon Sweeney of David Drown Associates (DDA) called stating Wahkon qualifies for MRWA MIDI loan at 2.35% interest. Utilizing MRWA won't require credit rating, savings of \$8,000m whereas selling bonds out on the market would. Overall net savings were previously estimated at \$78,382 and increased to \$99,621. Previously \$200,000 cash was to be applied to principal, now plan is \$160,000 with \$40,000 to cover new bond interest payments until old bond call date 2/2/2015 and \$95,000 held as security in debt service reserve fund. After call date, payments will be less, thus 3% annual usage fee increase should float the payments if expenses remain about the same.

Resolution 12102012B “Approving the Issuance of \$835,000 G.O. Refunding Bonds, Series 2013A”: Adopting this resolution will lock MRWA MIDI loan 2.35% interest rate. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution 12102012B. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Complete resolution containing all necessary bond legal language will be adopted at 1/14/2013 council meeting.

Zoning List: Approved permits include installation of new driveway by Ronda Bjornson-Main, PID #25-017-0017 and one year permit extension to Kim Tyson of Country Caboose Quilts, PID #25-017-0011 to erect deck with overhang. Parking complaint received relative to quilt shop, see below.

Complaint List: Letter was sent after receiving complaint “Vehicles are still having to park ½ on the street at the Quilt Shop. They do not pull in far enough and have almost backed into several vehicles while backing out. If they do not realize its ok to park on the grass, vehicles are parking all over the area...streets, Soo Line Trail and by stop sign.” At time variance was approved parking was addressed by requiring their fence to be pushed back to have 8’ setback. Clerk received response “We removed the fence as requested and to date have not replaced it. We will probably replace it in the future according to the agreement we made per our variance.” “We are currently checking into signage that will hopefully encourage people to park properly.” Signage likely to be installed in spring. Tyson mentioned to Clerk about killing the grass so people will pull in further. City wants defined parking area. This is busy area with highway curve, Soo line trail crossing, South Main. Caboose located on their property also blocks view. Weinreich will look at relocating “no parking” sign from near Joan Straw's property closer to trail and stop sign. Put this back on April’s agenda.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich questioned ability of property owners to bring in permanent electricity for temporary living quarters, such as RV’s. Nothing prohibiting it at this time. Property in question has sewer stub ready for connection they aren’t using. City has required RV’s not connected to sewer to forward proof their holding tank is being pumped. Living in a structure for 14 consecutive days requires sewer connection. What does council want to allow on vacant lots? Clerk to make it a priority to revamp zoning ordinance.

Civic closet will be vacant at year end where hall tables and chairs can be stored instead of leaning against paneling. Need table and chair carts for easy setup by hall renters. Weinreich is checking prices for carts with big wheels to protect floor. Budgeted \$500, but two table carts and one chair cart would exceed this amount. If purchased all at once shipping would be less. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen authorizing purchase of three carts. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Cost beyond \$500 will be paid using Charitable Gambling funds as this will benefit senior dining.

Sent letter to Great American Resorts to set up annual Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) meeting in February and to inquire if resort mapping was completed. Response stated they are committed to completing resort map and will confirm February meeting date closer to end of January. New sonde camera could be used to locate inflow & infiltration (I&I) at MLIR.

City Hall may or may not be closed on 12/20 for Clerk’s grandson’s surgery, tentative upon upcoming doctor appointment, closed Christmas and New Year’s Days. Clerk has grandson’s birth forthcoming and may take vacation day; will post notice accordingly.

Button attended grant writing class where all but two were professional grant writers. Looking for contact with Opus employee as they can request grant funds for projects up to three years. Bremer Bank will take open solicitation. Button will attempt to write grant of which one of his classmates offered to review it. State statute doesn’t specifically prohibit or allow cities to do fundraising, so

according to LMC no resources or staff should be used to fundraise. Clerk's role is liaison to Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) committee. WAVE began with grant from Initiative Foundation, which required funds flow through the city. Button thanked volunteers and Messenger for supporting the Veterans Park Renovation project.

Bjornson-Main thanked Frederickson for his four years on council. Frederickson stated his tenure was eye opening but a good experience and thanked council and staff. He wished incoming councilmember Dale Matte good luck.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Wahkon Website Logo: City website is in process of being upgraded. Three different logos were designed of which #3 is the best fit. "Small town that does it big" was an old civic slogan that seems out of date. Isle's website logo is "small town on a big lake." Don't want to be similar. Suggestions included "Wahkon welcomes" on a log, watermark, and oval or log border around entire logo. Border depends how logo will be displayed and what is behind it. Logo will be finalized soon in order to get website up and running promptly.

NEW BUSINESS: 2013 Wastewater (WW) Operating Budget Amendment: Clerk noticed error wherein she correctly budgeted her salary and Wastewater Administration Fee Transfer within General Fund but forgot to reduce Wastewater wages by \$10,000 and add \$10,000 Wastewater Administration Fee Transfer. Overall budget totals will remain the same. In the past there was such a transfer, but for past few years portion of clerk's wage was directly paid through WW up to \$10,000. Decided to revert back to one time transfer as the other way required extensive bookkeeping. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to amend WW Operating Budget as follows: 602-43250-100 Wages \$23,000 and 602-49360-720 WW Administration Fee Transfer \$10,000. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Frederickson, second by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Frederickson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor