

Washburn City Commission Meeting
Monday, October 16, 2017
City Hall, 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Members Present: Jacobson, Boehm, Baumann, Kroll and Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas called the meeting to order.

Mark Lelm requested reduction in special assessments to his property as a city road goes through the property. Mr. Lelm purchased the property in July 2017. Commissioner Thomas asked why Mr. Lelm would purchase a property knowing that a large part of the property was a roadway. Lelm stated it was adjacent to property he owns. He did not protest at the special assessment hearing as he is a member of the special assessment committee.

Motion to reduce the assessment by 40% to parcel number 81160100054000 and with the legal description of Lots 1,2,3,4,5,6 Block 13 in Park Addition, Washburn, ND, Thomas and seconded by Baumann. Discussion: none. Roll call: all in favor, motion carried.

Pauline Slovarp, protesting the assessment of two sewer connections to her home on Second Avenue.

The city engineer was asked why two sewers were connected. Klein responded that two sewers were found to be coming out of the home and both were wet. In this type of situation both are connected if there is no concrete evidence that one is not active. Commissioner Thomas shared that he went through Mrs. Slovarp's house, garage, and shop, and found no evidence of a second sewer in use.

Commissioner Jacobson reminded the Commission on the importance of being consistent when assessing and that there have been similar situations in the past, but had had different outcomes.

Motion to remove one sewer assessment for Pauline Slovarp with a total assessment cost to her property being \$11,272.66, Thomas and seconded by Kroll. Discussion: Thomas added that if there was room for an additional house on the property it would be a different situation, but there is not. Baumann stated that the city should absorb the additional cost as opposed to passing it on to the other properties in the district.

Dennis VanHoorn asked why the City Engineering firm doesn't pick up the additional cost. Klein responds that it is not the AE2S that decides how to assess special assessments and if it was assessed differently, there would be one user fee and an additional contractor fee which would have been only \$2250.00 rather than the additional full user fee. Roll call: All in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Boehm excuses himself and leaves the meeting.

Motion for the city to absorb \$11,272.66, and to pay it from the Sewer Fund, Baumann and seconded by Kroll. Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Lowell Rader discussed with the City Commission the poor job that the landscapers and clean-up company did after the sidewalk project. He also referred to a water shut off to his property that was damaged during construction, but city public works fixed.

Laren Holznagel requesting a reduction in special assessments to property he previously owned in the project. The amount he was charged was different than the estimate he received via letter from the city. He also said the original design and scope of work done to the property was excessive and changed, adding substantial costs.

Motion to reduce the assessment to 316 Main Avenue by \$710.00, which is the 9 x 4 area that was added to the project, Jacobson and seconded by Baumann. Discussion: Thomas added it would be taken from the sidewalk project account. Roll call: Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the interest rate for the 2016 Street & Utility Project and the 2016 Sidewalk Project at 4.2 %, Thomas and seconded by Kroll. Discussion: Thomas asked if anyone thinks this is too much. Zimmerman explained it covers above what the interest rate the city bonded for and covers legal, administrative and slow assessment revenue. Roll call: Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Motion to accept and approve the resolution for approval of confirmation of the assessment list for the 2016 Sidewalk Project, Thomas and seconded by Baumann. Discussion: one. Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Motion to accept and approve the resolution for approval of confirmation of the assessment list for the 2016 Sanitary Service Improvement District with changes, Kroll and seconded by Jacobson. Discussion: one. Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Motion to accept and approve the resolution for approval of confirmation of the assessment list for the 2016 Water Improvement District, Baumann and seconded by Thomas. Discussion: one. Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

Motion to accept and approve the resolution for approval of confirmation of the assessment list for the 2016 Street Improvement District with changes, Jacobson and seconded by Kroll. Discussion: one. Roll call: Aye, Thomas, Kroll, Baumann, Jacobson and nay none. Absent: Boehm. Motion carried.

The Auditor informed that the office would accept payments in full on assessments until Thursday, October 26th at City Hall and prior to being certified to the County for collection.

Joan Zimmerman, Auditor
City of Washburn