

Emergency Meeting February 27, 2014

Special meeting was called to order by Mayor Tammy Konz at 7:02pm

Members present: Joseph Krippner, Eric Loewen, Paula Capes and Sheryl Carlson

Others present: Chuck and Marilyn Sterling, Tim Hoefer and Ed Borman

Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Mayor Konz stated the reason for the special meeting was to address the problem with water pipes freezing up in town. Mayor Konz asked Ed Borman of Public Works to address the council on the issues he has seen so far. Ed stated there had been two homes freeze up Virginia Dahnke and Tony Kuechle and those were taken care of. Ed said that Styme Industries had been frozen since February 17th and they had Werner Well out to try and melt the water line with no success as they did not have long enough hose to get through all the piping after 160 feet. The Bernstein house on Main St. had just been sold when it was discovered they had frozen pipes also. The issue with the Bernstein property was the bend in the line close to the house this makes it impossible to use any kind of welder or steamer to get through. They were working on several possibilities to get water to the property but had concerns about hoses freezing up that would be exposed. Ed has been working with both parties involved and had hoped a representative from Styme Industries would have been in attendance. Mayor Konz told the Council that this was a statewide problem and on the Mayors list serve it was a topic of discussion with other cities. How most cities address the issue and was a past practice in the City of Kimball was to encourage all residents to run their water but they must let the clerk know so they will be billed with estimated usage. After much discussion the council thought this practice should continue and we need to help our citizens as much as possible as these are unusual circumstances.

Motion was made by Capes and second by Krippner to recommend citizens to run their water with a pencil stream and to notify the Clerk so they can have their monthly bills estimated.MC

Chuck and Marilyn Sterling asked how they would estimate by estimating the last months or last years at this time estimates? Nicole would be estimating this months because he is not able to get to the meters for reading. Nicole can decide how to estimate with the previous months.

Tim Hoefer was in attendance to tell about his company that has been working in the area with much success getting water pipes open. He stated that he has extra hose which is an advantage to some other companies. He was interested in the Styme property as he could go in to jet out the lines with the additional hose. Ed would talk to somebody from Styme's and see what they wanted to do. Ed had an appointment so Tim was to contact the mayor to get the needed tools from city hall if they were to proceed.

Discussion took place as to how we would get this information to citizens immediately. Nicole has had information on the web-site for a couple weeks and the Tri-County news was also informing citizens but we need to reach those people that do not have computers or receive the paper. It was decided that we would get postcards out the next day in the mail, contact churches, put it on the billboard and the newsletter would help to get the word out. Mayor Konz would let Nicole know and help get it in the mail by Friday afternoon. It was suggested by Council member Krippner to take it directly to the postmaster to reach local delivery the next day.

Mayor Konz told the council she had attended the Kimball Days committee meeting and they were requesting barricade from the city.

Mayor Konz had a phone call from Tom Schmidt the former owner of Schmidty's Station regarding the billboard he had an agreement with which is located on Casey's building. Casey's would like the billboard removed and wanted to know if he could place it on city property north of Casey's. The council was not interested in having that on our property and felt the Lion's Club which donated the property would not approve. Mayor Konz would contact Tom Schmidt and let him know we were not interested.

The personnel Committee talked about interest in having the Deputy Clerk position opened up again. With Nicole having vacation time and bad weather this year there are and will be days when there is nobody in the office. Is this fair to the public? Council member Loewen stated the personnel committee and Nicole should come up with their thoughts and a job description as to where we want to go with such a position. Member Loewen also stated he did not want to see it exceed 20 hours per week.

Ed and Tammy will be in contact with Anna Lipenga with the Conservation Corp regarding work in Willow Creek park this summer.

Council member Capes made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 second by Council member Carlson. MC

Submitted by Mayor Konz