

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Monday, August 10, 2020  
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Mayor Carol Atkins with Council Members Rachel Ingebretson, Carole Remiger, and Wade McKittrick present. Steve Burns was unable to attend.

Also present were Pat Dolan, Pat Eichten, Matt Novak, Larry Thompson, Mike Remiger and Mary Smith. Paul Plaetz was unable to attend.

The agenda was approved on a motion by Remiger, seconded by Ingebretson.  
Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Pat Eichten provided an update on the EDA. One additional forbearance agreement has been signed. There had been some discussion about Union Kitchen coming to the EDA for funding, but a program through Southwest Regional Development Commission was one that they qualified for and they are applying there first. The option for Serenity Suites is being drawn up and presented to their board. The covenants for May Street were tabled until the next meeting so all board members can be there if possible. The EDA is looking into possible other methods of financing to try to avoid the income restrictions for the building of the new duplex.

Curt Wieneke appeared before the board to request he be allowed to use the white rabbit as a template for aluminum casting. The City would receive two aluminum white rabbits in place of the current one. There are some property rights issues to be dealt with before everything can be settled. Matt Novak will deal with this. A motion was made by McKittrick, seconded by Remiger to approve the request from Curt Wienke to use the rabbit for a template and replace it with two aluminum rabbits painted the same as the original pending appropriate resolution of the property issues.

Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

A Resolution Designating City of Wabasso Official Signers removing Mary Smith from City accounts and adding Larry Thompson as the new Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator was approved on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Ingebretson.

Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator Larry Thompson brought up the purchase of a laptop for his use for City work. The budget is up to \$1,000.00. Carole Remiger recommended Ryan's Computer in Marshall. He asked about contracting with the current city clerk at a fee of \$30.00 per hour for consulting services. He also requested the Truth in Taxation meeting be set. The Truth in Taxation meeting will be held at 6 pm on Monday, December 14, 2020.

Mike Remiger presented the Street Report for the month. In the process of working on the senior room air conditioner, it was discovered there was work that was not finished up when Barga worked on the roof. Mike will contact them. Mike brought up potentially charging a group that has rented the big room and the bar but wants to keep things outside if the weather cooperates, for bring extra picnic tables to the community center and returning them to the park. The decision was made to cover the cost with Cares act funds as it would not be necessary except for the groups desire to maintain social distancing as recommended under the COVID-19 precautions. Mike asked if the Fire Department could hold their pork chop feed on September 12. The consensus was they need to provide their COVID-19 plan to The Administrator. Mike will be taking some time off in the next few months. Cross walks across Redwood County Highway 6 at North, Rose and Hope Streets were discussed. Wade McKittrick explained the in-town bus pickups will not be done this school year as in the past and there are a number of children that live on these streets east of County Highway 6. A letter should be drawn up and sent to the Redwood County Engineer requesting these and signage to alert drivers to the cross walks.

Carole Remiger brought up items in Park & Rec. The Softball League wants to start a softball season this fall. This is not the school softball. Legion Baseball may also wish to hold a season beginning this fall. There is a family that is trying to put together a family event and has asked about the use of the baseball field by the family. The baseball association needs to be involved in this and specify if there should be costs they may incur that the family would need to cover. Pat Dolan appeared before the council to ask if it would be possible to borrow the city's 6 aluminum bleachers for the Minnesota Amateur Baseball Association State Tournament for 3 weekends beginning on August 21 and ending on Labor Day Weekend. The city okayed it with a signed agreement. He also requested the use of the ball fields as practice fields through the 3 weekends. The city approved the request pending the Baseball Association setting any fees for the upkeep of the field on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Ingebretson. Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The Cares Act Funding was discussed. Larry Thompson brought to the council an estimate of \$26,000.00 roughly for city use and about \$26,000.00 that could be used for business grants. It was suggested that bars, restaurants, and salons were some of those effected the most. Carol Atkins told Larry she would work with him on a grant program.

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Ingebretson with a correction to the July 13 minutes, the televising of storm sewer lines is to be done when the company is here,:

1. Minutes of the July 13, July 9 emergency meeting and the July 23 Special meeting
2. Land Use Permits
  - a. 579 South Street expand driveway

Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

The cell phone reimbursement for city employees was set at \$50.00 per month per person on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Ingebretson.

Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-abstain.

The addition of minutes to the current website and future web site was discussed. They have not been consistently kept up to date. This needs to be a priority. The approved minutes should be posted.

Bills in the amount of \$134,821.17 were approved for payment on a motion by Remiger, seconded by McKittrick.

Atkins-yes, McKittrick-yes, Ingebretson-yes, Remiger-yes.

Wade McKittrick would like to have the shed that was discussed last month be a storage shed for the school. The school could purchase it from the city for that use. He also asked the council to think about turning the tennis and basketball courts into parking space.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm.