

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Monday, May 10, 2021  
6pm

The meeting opened with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Atkins called the meeting to order with Council members Steve Burns, Roger Baumann, Jeff Olson, and Brad Salfer present.

Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator Larry Thompson, Street Maintenance Supervisor Jim Jenniges, Water and Sewer Superintendent Paul Plaetz, EDC President Pat Eichten and Nels, Bobby and Robin Christensen were also present.

Motion by Olson, second by Baumann to approve the agenda with the following changes:

- Add resignation of Street Maintenance Supervisor Mike Remiger.
- Add building permit for Nels Christensen – 1460 Elm St. - Fence
- Delete purchase of a tractor.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

EDA President presented the EDA reports:

- Duplex – EDA discussed contract with APX Construction, financing and is going to tour a duplex in Blue Earth. Cost of construction is of concern.
- Strategic Plan – EDA contracted with Achieve to provide consulting work for \$4,900 and is asking for cost sharing with the Council.
- EDA is updating its rental policy and lease agreement.

**Building Permit – Nels Christensen – 1460 Elm St. – Fence.** Mr. Thompson noted that the fence had been installed without a permit, and Mr. Christensen felt that since he felt it was it was actually a temporary kennel for cats he would not need a permit. Mr. Thompson noted that since the fencing was erected with fence posts in the ground, it was considered a structure under the ordinance. Also, it appeared the fence encroached into the city right of way. Mr. Thompson distributed a copy of the ordinance. A lengthy discussion followed regarding setbacks, definition of permanent structure and the lack of an area on the site to construct a kennel and meet setbacks. It was the consensus of the Council that the kennel would be allowed if the posts were not secured to the ground and did not encroach into the city right of way. Mr. Jenniges noted he would set flags on the property line. It was also the consensus that the \$350 surcharge be waived provided the permanent fencing is removed.

**Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator report:**

- Mr. Thompson noted that he was looking at setting up ACH deposits for payroll but had not determined if it was allowed under state law.

- League of Minnesota Cities virtual conference June 22-23. Information to follow.
- He would be out of the office on Friday and that Julie Rothmeier may be staffing the office.

**Street Report** - Street repair bids – M&R Paving - \$78,822.50; Duninck Construction - \$195,280.68. Mr. Thompson indicated that the street repair budget only had \$60,000 but that the budget had been underspent by \$17,000 in 2020. Mr. Thompson recommended the Council award the bid to M&R Paving and that he would present a budget adjustment taking the overaged from the general fund balance at the next meeting. Motion by Burns, second by Salfer to award the 2021 street repair bid from M&R Paving for \$78,822.50.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

#### **Water/Wastewater Report:**

- Hydrant flushing will continue for the next couple of weeks.
- Nothing new to report with the sewer project.

**Consent Agenda.** Motion by Burns, second by Olson to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approve minutes of the April 12, 2021 Regular meeting
- Approve minutes of the April 21, 2021 Board of Adjustment meeting
- Approve building permit – Amanda Guetter – 345 June St.
- Approve building permit – Cole and Tiffany Guetter – 798 Rose St. -
- Approve building permit – Tyler Maertens – 773 Main St. – Concrete drive
- Approve building permit – Pat Eichten – 601 Hope St. – Privacy Fence
- Approve building permit – Mike Kaufenberg – 214 Co. Hwy 6 – Solar panels
- Allow Chris Frank to use city hall water for Veteran Memorial plants until the Council changes its policy.
- City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator vacation on May 28, 2021
- Approve proposed lease with Marco for color copier.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

**Animal Control Ordinance.** The Council reviewed the recommendations from the City Attorney. Mr. Olson stated that the ordinance should require a permit for chickens so the city could track, consent from neighbors and that the City Attorney review the Redwood Falls ordinance relating to chickens before drafting the final ordinance. It was the consensus of the Council that the City Attorney should draft the revisions to the animal control ordinance with the suggestions by Mr. Olson for Council consideration.

#### **Correspondence:**

- March and April 2021 Sheriff's report
- Library Board minutes – April and May 2021

**Remiger resignation.** Motion by Burns, second by Salfer to accept the resignation of Street Maintenance Supervisor Mike Remiger effective May 31, 2021.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

**Bills.** Motion by Burns, Second by Olson to approve the bills as submitted.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

Motion by Olson, second by Salfer to adjourn at 7:20 pm.

Atkins-yes; Burns-yes; Baumann-yes; Olson-yes; Salfer-yes.

Larry Thompson

City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator