

City of Wabasso  
City Council  
Monday, October 14, 2019  
6 pm

The meeting opened with recitation off the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Atkins called the meeting to order with Council Members Steve Burns, Wade McKittrick, Rachel Ingebretson and Carole Remiger present.

Also present were Nathan Jacobson, Jeni Rudenick, Matt Novak, Mike Remiger, Paul Plaetz and Mary Smith.

The agenda was approved after several additions on a motion by McKittrick, seconded by Burns.

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

Nathan Jacobson appeared before the council on behalf of the Wabasso area Commercial Club to obtain permission for a short fireworks display after the parade at Winterfest. A company will be hired that is experienced in putting on fireworks displays and have all of the insurance coverage. The city will clear a path if needed for the company to set up during the day. When the fireworks are set off they will be able to be viewed from the Community Center parking lot. The council was in favor of the fireworks as long as the commercial club makes all the issues are covered.

Carole Remiger gave an update on the EDA. The Southwest Minnesota Partnership gave a presentation and will be looking at ways to assist with a housing project here in town. There are no current applications for the Revolving Loan Funds.

The Street Report was presented by Mike Remiger. The sidewalk the city needed to repair due to the damage from the buildings being demolished has been finished. A second estimate on the fence at the athletic field is needed for the insurance adjuster. Wade McKittrick stated the person who is to provide the second estimate should be here this week.

The Water/Wastewater Report was presented by Paul Plaetz. The water tower was cleaned. There was some paint that flaked off the interior during the cleaning. Samples will be examined to try to determine why the paint failed. None of the paint or any other materials got into the water supply. The phosphorous levels are close to being too high for the year so ferric chloride is being added to try to bring the levels down. This is due to the sewer plant running at high levels most of the year. Paul will be flushing hydrants soon.

Safe Storage wants to attach an addition to the original building with water and sewer to it for storage of equipment. The equipment could drain off in the winter. The water would need to be bored under highway 6. The best solution for the sewer issue is to put in a holding tank and

periodically pump it to the sanitary sewer system for disposal. Paul will talk to the owners about the water/sewer issues.

Matt Novak brought a copy of the resolution relating to snow removal passed by the council last year. He reviewed this with the council. The resolution states that the removal of snow by the city that has been deposited on a cleared street will be charged to the property owner at a cost of \$150.00 per hour with a minimum of 1 hour charged.

Matt Novak has begun looking into setting up a Storm Water Utility to provide funds for expenses of maintenance, repair, or possibly expansion of the city's storm water system. It appears the easiest way will be to draw up an amendment to the current utility ordinance. He will need an idea of the funds needed for operation of the storm water system.

7:20 pm The Regular Meeting of the Wabasso City Council will now be closed pursuant to attorney-client privilege exception to the open meeting law. The council will now discuss threatened or pending litigation with their attorney. The council understands that balancing the purpose of the attorney client privilege against the purposes of the open meeting law demonstrates the need for absolute confidentiality.

7:35 pm The regular meeting resumed.

The Park & Rec Report was presented by Carole Remiger. The association is working on the bullpens and working to prepare for next year. The hours outside of normal working hours put in at the softball field should be charged to the softball field improvement project.

The following items on the consent agenda were approved on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Remiger:

1. Minutes of September 9 meeting
2. Land Use Permits
  - a. 1251 Oak Street patio
  - b. 792 Rose Street shed, sidewalk
  - c. 772 Main street replace deck, cement slab east side of garage and in front of house
3. Liquor License Kaufenberg Enterprises, LLC
4. Resolution 7-2019 Designating Annual Polling Place

Atkins=yes, Burns=yes, McKittrick=yes, Ingebretson=yes, Remiger=yes.

A question was raised about how to deal with yards cluttered with vehicles and other items. Matt Novak looked over the nuisance ordinance and stated it needs to be updated.

There were questions raised about a couple of permits that had previously been issued. The permits were discussed and no actions taken.

The city was able to prepay for propane at \$1.15.

The website is progressing. Details will still need to be worked out and a meeting with Nathan Jacobson, Wade McKittrick and Steve Burns will be held.

The items that still need to be addressed, the employee wages and assigning fund balance were discussed. The Clerk will bring the current budget to the November meeting and these items are tabled until then.

The November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12 at 6 pm due to Veteran's day on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup>.

The December meeting and Truth in Taxation meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm due to conflicts for council members on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

The City Office will be closed on Thursday Afternoon October 17 and Friday October 18 and Monday October 21.

Bills in the amount of \$167,733.44 were approved for payment on a motion by Ingebretson, seconded by Burns.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.