

Mar
City Council
Monday, February 13, 2023
5 pm

The meeting was opened with the recitation of the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Atkins called the meeting to order with Council members Roger Baumann, Jeff Olson, Amanda Guetter and Chad Altermatt present.

Also present were Clerk Treasurer Larry Thompson, City Attorney Matt Novak, Public Works Director Jim Jenniges and EDA President Pat Eichten

It was the consensus of the council to approve the agenda as submitted.

EDA Update – Mr. Eichten presented the EDA Update:

1. EDA was planning to visit Franklin, MN to tour their daycare center and housing project.
2. The planning committee met and is currently drafting a zoning ordinance and land use plan.
3. Business spotlights continue to be published.
4. All RLF loans are current.

Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator – Motion by Olson, second by Baumann to approve the Clerk/Treas./Admin vacation request March 10-20, 2023.

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

Street Report – Motion by Olson, second by Guetter to approve the purchase of a grappling bucket from Kibble Equipment for \$8,500.

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

Sewer and Water Report:

1. **Water meters** – Mr. Thompson informed the council that approximately 300 of the 350 meters had been installed. There were a few glitches to work out with the data transmission. Mr. Thompson noted that during the utility account change over from the old meters to the new a number of flow numbers were not accurate and had to manually adjust some of the accounts.
2. **Water quality** – Mr. Olson informed the council that the city engineer had sampled the media and discovered that sand was being pumped into the media from holes in the well casings and screens. The wells are 50+ years old and at the end of their useful life. Therefore, it was the engineer's recommendation that two new wells should be included with the water grant application. The wells would be deeper to reach a second aquifer with better quality water. Mr. Olson added that the filter media would need to be replaced before the city would see a marked improvement in the water quality. It was his recommendation that the City wait until the legislature passes a bonding bill and the status of the city grant application is known. If the city does not receive the grant the council should plan to finance and make the improvements with utility funds. Mr. Jenniges added that he would continue to hammer flush services and flush hydrants. It was the consensus of the council that they proceed with the recommended actions.

3. **Sanitary Sewer Rehab Project** – The city was working with owners to obtain the necessary easements.
4. **Garbage Collection** – Mr. Thompson noted that the City and Southwest Sanitation had audited the individual utility accounts and discovered there were several discrepancies between the container size and what was being billed. A letter was going to be mailed this week informing customers of the discrepancies and the level of service they wished to have.

Parks – No report at this time.

Consent Agenda - Motion by Baumann, second by Olson to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approve Council Minutes – January 9, 2023 & January 30, 2023 Special
2. Adopt Resolution No. 3-2023 Amending Ambulance Rates Effective January 1, 2023.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 4-2023 Establishing the City Council as the Local Board of Appeal

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

Golf Cart/ATV Ordinance – After much consideration and deliberation, it was the consensus of the Council that the current ordinance not be changed, and no action would be taken at this time.

Community Center Improvements – Mr. Olson and Mr. Thompson were working with the subcontractors to schedule the bathroom improvements that would fit into the subcontractors' schedules and scheduled events.

Library Land Lease – Mr. Thompson submitted a copy of the current land lease, noting that it was the previous Council's desire to have the lease bid this year. It was the consensus of the Council that members review the current list and the item be placed on the next agenda for consideration.

Special Meeting – Motion by Guetter, second by Olson to set a special meeting for Monday, January 20, 2023 to consider extending the Hwy 68 Corridor building moratorium.

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

Library Board Appointment – Motion by Olson, Second by Bauman to appoint Barb Wendt to the Library Board.

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

Ambulance Service – Wabasso Rehabilitation and Wellness Center – Mr. Novak reported that due to the increase in the number of Ambulance runs to the Wabasso Rehabilitation and Wellness Center and current Ambulance staffing level, he was planning to meet with the Ambulance Director, the Redwood County Sheriff, Rehab and Wellness Center staff and other stakeholders to discuss options for transporting residents. It was the consensus of the Council that the meeting was a good plan.

Employee Review - Mayor Atkins adjourned the meeting to a closed session to conduct an employee review.

Employee Termination -Mayor Atkins reopened the regular council meeting. Motion By Baumann, second by Guetter to terminate Kyle Salfer as a city employee.

Atkins – yes; Guetter – yes; Altermatt – yes; Baumann – yes; Olson – yes.

The Council directed Mr. Thompson to advertise for the position.

Bills - Mayor Atkins asked why the repairs to the city pickup trucks were so high. Mr. Olson clarified that one of the bills for approximately \$4,990 was miscoded and should have been listed for repairs to the snow plow. Motion by Olson, second by Baumann to approve the bills as follows:

General Checking	
101 General Fund	\$ 34,099.84
319 Cedar Street Improvement	\$ 4,089.00
601 Water	\$ 8,827.52
602 Sewer	\$ 8,058.80
603 Sanitation	<u>\$ 2,631.15</u>
Total GC	\$ 57,706.31
230 Ambulance	\$ 5,340.06
225 Fire	<u>\$ 864.17</u>
TOTAL CHECKS	<u>\$ 63,910.54</u>

City Clerk/Treasurer/Administrator – Mr. Thompson submitted a letter of resignation/retirement effective in June or July 2023. Mr. Thompson noted that it was an honor and privilege to serve the City of Wabasso. Mr. Thompson noted that he had not given a specific date as he wanted to give the Council sufficient time to find a replacement and to allow time to work with the new person. Mr. Novak outlined the process used with Mr. Thompson's appointment and recommended the Council use a similar process.

Motion by Olson, second by Guetter to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Larry J Thompson, City Clerk