

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Heinen at 6:30 p.m. The following City Council members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen and Council Members Mike Fall, Ryan Hennen, Fran Ramler and Doug Schmitz. Absent: None. Others present: Kris Dockendorf, Jon Stueve, Jason Blum, Jessica Schnell-Schwieters, Sam Butler, Brian Lintgen, Christi Hoffman, Mark Backes and Joe Jelovnick.

OATH OF OFFICE

Mayor Dave Heinen, Council Member Ryan Hennen, and Council Member Mike Fall took their oaths of office.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE DECEMBER 27, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – December 27, 2022 Regular Meeting and December 28, 2022 Special Meeting

B. Approval for Adaptive Day at the Sledding Hill on Saturday, January 28, 2023 and Sunday, February 26, 2023, and to allow the use of approved motorized vehicles on these two days to provide transportation for adaptive sled users

C. Nicholas P. Koenig HERO Foundation, LG220 Application for Exempt Permit, for a Raffle to be Held February 4, 2023 at The Great Blue Heron

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01 APPOINTMENTS RESOLUTION

Dockendorf inquired whether the Council would like to keep the normal scheduled meeting for December 26, 2023. The Council agreed to keep the regular meeting scheduled for that date. Councilor Fall commented that Councilor Hennen would be an asset to return to the Planning Commission. Mayor Heinen stated he would be willing to trade with Councilor Hennen, that Councilor Hennen serve on the Planning Commission and Mayor Heinen would serve on the Park Board. Both agreed on making the trade on the boards.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2022 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BUDGETS AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Purchase of Salt

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF 100 TONS OF SALT ON THE STATE BID FROM CARGILL AT A COST OF \$9,800.00 FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FOR OUT OF THE SALT SAND BUDGET LINE ITEM 11-50-51-6315. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Meeting with Wakefield Township to Discuss Road Agreement and 3rd Avenue SE

Steve reported the meeting will be held on January 23, 2023 at 1 p.m., and that Kris Dockendorf, Pete Weber, Doug Schmitz and himself will be attending.

C. Advertise for Snow Plow Drivers

Stueve stated they are running short handed on plow drivers due to full-time employment work schedules and a medical condition. Stueve requested permission to advertise to hire additional snow plow drivers.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE ADVERTISING FOR ADDITIONAL SNOW PLOW DRIVERS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

D. Pay Increase for Snow Plow Drivers

Stueve reported that the current rate of pay per hour for snow plow drivers is \$18.89. He explained that the surrounding townships rate of pay for plow drivers is higher. He suggested increasing the pay to \$20.90 due to the requirement for a CDL, work long days and requiring very early start times. Councilor Schmitz stated that wages should have been discussed during the budgeting process.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE MOVING THE PAY FOR SNOW PLOW DRIVERS FROM GROUP 3, STEP 0, TO GROUP 4, STEP 0. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES: RAMLER, HENNEN, AND HEINEN. NAYES: SCHMITZ, FALL. MOTION PASSED 3-2.

E. Other

Stueve explained that they have been extremely busy with all the snowfalls lately. He stated there have been a couple break downs, a crash, and lots of hauling of snow. He stated that the brackets for hockey rink boards have arrived but due to other priorities the boards were not installed yet, he further explained that the weather has been too warm to develop a good ice surface.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. Water Treatment Plant

Lintgen stated that they have entered the next phase with the vendors for coordinating start-up of the plant and acclimating the system.

B. Industrial Wastewater Pretreatment

Lintgen stated that the roof panels are up and interior work is being done and in February they will be pouring the concrete slab inside the building.

D. 2023 Reconstruction Project

Lintgen stated that one of the notices for the public hearing was returned in the mail due to an incorrect address. He stated that the all notices had to be re-sent and the hearing date pushed back to January 24, 2023.

E. Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facility

Lintgen stated that staff is compiling a facility plan that should be submitted to the State in March.

F. Lift Station #1 Rehabilitation

Lintgen provided a project timeline for the proposed rehabilitation project explaining that some components have a twelve-month lead time. He proposed having a preliminary plan by April, submitting the plan to MDH for approval by May, and that work could begin in August or September.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Hiring of a Full-Time Officer – Jessica Schnell-Schwieters

Chief Blum explained the hiring process and his recommendation to hire Jessica Schnell for one of the full-time officer positions.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF JESSICA SCHNELL-SCHWIETERS AT THE STARTING WAGE OF THE POLICE OFFICER PAY SCALE.

MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Monthly Reports

Chief Blum presented the monthly calls for service report for the month of October.

C. Other

Chief Blum stated that no applications were received for the second full-time officer position that is open. Councilor Fall asked various questions about snow parking tickets, snowmobiles complaints and department purchases.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Amendment to Brewery Agreement

Dockendorf stated that the final version of the agreement was presented. She stated they agreed to a ten-year term for repayment and that they would begin those payments in February. She stated that progress meetings will be held every two weeks and overages under \$50,000 will be considered part of the project, and overages above that amount will be presented for discussion.

B. Discuss Proposed Sewer Rate Increases

Dockendorf presented the spreadsheets showing the impact of the proposed sewer rate increases as discussed at the last meeting. The different scenarios consisted of usage rate increases, base rate remaining flat, and base rate reduction. Councilor Schmitz stated he would like to see an additional scenario of reducing the base rate to \$20 and increasing the usage rate to a number that would generate an increase in revenue equal to \$88,298. Dockendorf explained that she would run that additional scenario and have those numbers at the next meeting.

C. Repair of Automatic Door on City Hall

Dockendorf explained that the automatic opener for the front door at City Hall is broken and she obtained two quotes to get it repaired.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE REPAIRING THE AUTOMATIC DOOR OPENER ON CITY HALL FROM MID CENTRAL DOOR AT A COST OF \$2,980.32; FURTHERMORE, TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN THE BUILDING REPAIRS BUDGETS IN THE ADMINISTRATION, POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LIBRARY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

D. Planning Commission Vacancies

Dockendorf explained that there are two openings on the Planning Commission and that there were two applications received. She proposed the Council making the appointments now instead of waiting for the next meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPOINT BILL MOLITOR TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2026 AND DEREK HOIUM FOR THE TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2025. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

E. Other

Dockendorf reported that Joe from Rocori Area TV had ran a cable to resolve the issues with the audio for the remote meetings. Dockendorf explained that the time clock for the lighting system in the City Hall building is not working correctly and parts are no longer available for it. She stated that she is getting prices on a hybrid replacement for it to be motion sensitive.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$2,664,385.97 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$10,415.57 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO ADJOURN AT 7:17 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

David Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator