

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Heinen at 5:00 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, Jason Blum, Jon Stueve, Sam Butler, Donna Lebrun, Cliff Johnson and Joe Jelovnick.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2024 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – January 24, 2024 Regular Meeting and January 31, 2024 Special Meeting

B. Ducks Unlimited – Rich Spring Chapter – Application to Conduct a Raffle, Form LG220 – March 23, 2024, at 305 5th Ave S at The Great Blue Heron

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

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Cliff Johnson from the Cold Spring Area Historical Society announced an upcoming event they are hosting on March 6th at 6:30 p.m. at the DEF featuring Minnesota Marvels with author Eric Dregni.

COMPENSATION & CLASSIFICATION STUDY

Dockendorf explained that only one proposal was received from the Request for Proposals on the Compensation and Classification Study. The proposal received was from Abdo in the amount of \$17,500. This version of the proposal would assign City staff the task of updating the job descriptions which Dockendorf felt was possible since several positions have already received updated descriptions.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE HIRING ADBO, LLP TO CONDUCT A COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY ACCORDING TO THEIR PROPOSAL DATED JANUARY 25, 2024 AT A COST OF \$17,500.00; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF EXPENDITURE LINE ITEM 11-30-36-7111. MOTION FAILED DUE TO A LACK OF A SECOND.

The Council expressed disappointment at not receiving more proposals and that the large cost of paying for a study could instead be put towards increasing wages. Councilor Fall stated his concern of paying for a new study, but getting the same results as the last one, he inquired whether the Council should just decide wage increase on it's own on a case by case basis. Councilor Schmitz stated he still wanted to get a defined value amount of benefit packages for positions. Councilor Ramler stated he wanted to make sure that wages are separate from the benefit packages. Mayor Heinen stated his concern that staff are doing additional duties but are not being compensated for it. Councilor Hennen stated that since the past study was never acted on, he wanted to make sure that this time the wages are updated. It was agreed by general consensus that they would forgo paying for a formal study and instead form a committee to do individual surveys of other cities.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPOINT COUNCILORS HENNEN AND SCHMITZ, TO WORK WITH THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR ON A COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION STUDY. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Replace Baseball Park Sign

Stueve stated that two quotes were received for replacing the sign at the Baseball Park. He was recommending the lower quote as presented.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE PURCHASING A REPLACEMENT SIGN AND CABINET FOR THE BASEBALL PARK FROM SCENIC SIGN AT A COST OF \$13,325.00; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF PARKS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURES LINE ITEM #6413. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. Project Updates

Butler stated that the preconstruction meeting for Lift Station #1 was held and that work will begin this spring instead of late summer. Butler stated that the facility plan for the wastewater treatment plant will need to be submitted to the MPCA by their March 1st deadline and that a public hearing on it is anticipated for the last meeting in March.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Purchase of Two Squad Cars

Chief Blum stated the order for two squad cars that was placed in August of 2022, has now been fulfilled and the vehicles have been delivered.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO 2023 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES FROM TENVOORDE FORD AT A TOTAL COST OF \$85,075.76; FURTHERMORE, THAT \$30,000 BE PAID FOR FROM THE GAMBLING FUND, AND \$55,075.76 BE PAID FOR FROM POLICE DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURES, LINE ITEM 6413. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Updates

Chief Blum provided the report on the calls for service for the month of January. He also stated that the department successfully passed the POST Board audit which happened last week.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Appraisal of Schmitt Property

Dockendorf explained that the EDA had met and recommended to appraise three of the four quadrants that Schmitt is willing to sell. She stated the EDA would likely only purchase two depending on factors including access and cost.

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY FALL, TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDA AND APPROVE THE APPRAISAL OF ARNOLD SCHMITT’S PROPERTY, TO INCLUDE THE NORTHEAST, SOUTHEAST, AND SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS, FROM GUGGENBERGER APPRAISAL, AT A COST OF \$1,200; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID OUT OF THE EDA FUND LEGAL FEES, LINE ITEM #6214. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

LIST OF BILLS AND ADDITIONS

MOTION WAS MADE BY RAMLER, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO REVIEW AND ACCEPT PAYMENT OF THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE ACCORDING TO THE LIST TOTALING \$521,906.92 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$12,066.48 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Fall indicated that he would like to see the expenditure budget report more frequently, instead of quarterly he suggested monthly. Dockendorf stated she would try to accommodate the request.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO ADJOURN AT 5:44 P.M., SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

David Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator