

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 COLD SPRING CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Dave Heinen called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. The following members were found to be present: Mayor Dave Heinen and Council Members Mike Fall, Ryan Hennen and Doug Schmitz. Absent: Fran Ramler. Others present: Kris Dockendorf, Jon Stueve, Jason Blum, Bill Molitor, Derek Hoiium, Jim Kraemer, Gary Kiess, Zach Studanski, and Dennielle Hofmann. Later, attendance members included Fran Ramler and Michael Monson. Additional attendance members at City Council Chambers: Angie Mueller, Joe Jelovnick, Sam Butler, Tina Barak, Brodey Sweeter, Christi Hoffman, Dan Weber, and present by video: Robert Kringler.

TOUR OF WATER TREATMENT PLANT

MOVE MEETING TO THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, AT 4:30 P.M. TO CONTINUE THE COUNCIL MEETING AT THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, STARTING AT 5:00 P.M. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONTINUE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO CONTINUE THE COUNCIL MEETING STARTED AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes – August 23, 2023 Regular Meeting

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

Councilor Ramler stepped out of the meeting at 5:01 p.m. and returned at approximately 5:05 p.m.

TINA BARAK – DISCUSS DEI TRAINING

Barak explained that at the last Ad Hoc Committee it was discussed that they would like to request that the City Council to also complete the online Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training that was hosted by the League of Minnesota Cities. She also stated the group met with the three St. John's University students that will be completing a class project to better understand local government and that they will also participate in the next committee hosted event.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO DIRECT THE CITY COUNCIL TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES. MOTION PASSED 4-0.

PURCHASE OF 2006 FLATBED TRAILER

Fire Chief Weber explained that currently the fencing for Firefest is being transported on hayracks. He stated that the department would like to purchase a flatbed trailer to properly transport the fencing.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY SCHMITZ, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A 2006 FLATBED TRAILER FROM SCOTT SIMPSON FOR \$7,000.00, TO BE PAID FOR FROM BUDGET LINE ITEM 30-40-42-6311, FURTHERMORE, TO BE REIMBURSED FROM FIREFEST PROCEEDS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Chief Weber stated that the background checks have been completed on four applicants for firefighter positions. He stated that he would like to schedule interviews for the candidates and that Council representation would be needed for the hiring committee.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPOINT MAYOR HEINEN AND COUNCILOR HENNEN, TO SERVE ON THE FIREFIGHTER HIRING COMMITTEE. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT

A. Paving of Park Trails

Stueve explained that these trails are in poor condition and that their paving was budgeted for this year. Councilor Fall recommended that the dead trees in Frogtown Park be removed before the paving project starts.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE PAVING THE FROGTOWN PARK AND 14TH AVENUE SOUTH TRAILS FROM GRANITE CITY PAVING AT A TOTAL COST OF \$37,200.00; FURTHERMORE, TO BE PAID FOR OUT OF PARKS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURES LINE ITEM #6413. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Discuss Maintenance Shop

Stueve explained the layout drawings provided by Wells Concrete for the concrete panel style Maintenance Shop was estimated to cost \$1.2 million. He stated that the pole shed style was estimated to cost \$900,000. The funds to pay for the shop would come from the Wastewater Fund which would then be replenished through sewer rate increases. The Council discussed both construction options and next steps which would include further examination of the funding plan and obtaining a bid from a general contractor for the pole style building which would need to be designed by a draftsman.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO TABLE THE DISCUSSION ON THE MAINTENANCE SHOP UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION IS OBTAINED. MOTION PASSED 5-0

CITY ENGINEER REPORT

A. 2023 Improvements Project Change Order #1

City Engineer Sam Butler gave an explanation of the change order which consisted of the granite blasting that was needed for the project near the intersection of 1st Street South and 3rd Avenue South.

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY FALL, TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE 2023 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR GRANITE BLASTING NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF 1ST ST S AND 3RD AVE S. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

Butler updated the Council on the project explaining that there was another section of granite, approximately 20 by 25 feet, that was causing an issue on the project, on 3rd Avenue South, south of 1st Street S. He stated that the granite, if left in place, could impact the quality of the roadway in that area for years to come. He recommended that it be blasted so that the roadway would be done right. He stated the estimated cost for the additional blasting would be from \$15,000-\$20,000.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY FALL, TO ORDER THE ADDITIONAL BLASTING OF GRANITE FOR THE 2023 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT AS DESCRIBED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

A. Updates

Chief Blum presented the monthly calls for service report for July. Next, Chief Blum stated that the owners of the new building being constructed at Main Street and 2nd Avenue North have offered the police department an available slot in their security camera system. Chief Blum stated it would cost between \$500-\$800 for the additional external camera which could be helpful to solve crimes and provide another angle of monitoring in Alexander Park. Councilor Schmitz stated that downtown cameras have been brought up in the past and that he was not in favor of it.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF AN EXTERNAL CAMERA AS PROPOSED. MOTION PASSED 3-2. ROLL CALL VOTE, AYES – HENNEN, FALL, AND RAMLER, NAYES – HEINEN AND SCHMITZ.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

A. Personnel Contract Memorandums of Understanding

Dockendorf explained that when the MN State Retirement System reviewed the current employee contracts, they notified the City that it is prohibited for employees to roll their comp time balances into the Health Care Savings Plans upon their separation with the City. She stated that during the last contract negotiation the language had been added to the employee contracts giving them the choice to contribute their comp time balances into their HSCP. She stated that both employee groups were informed of the needed change and were willing to amend their contracts back to the previous language on that matter.

MOTION WAS MADE BY SCHMITZ, SECONDED BY HENNEN, TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUMS

OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE COLD SPRING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERVICES, INC. LOCAL #264 REGARDING REVISIONS TO THE PERSONNEL CONTRACTS FOR POST EMPLOYMENT HEALTH CARE SAVINGS PLANS. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

B. Other

Dockendorf stated that she has reached out to a few people to serve on the library fundraising committee and has also had a few people contact her expressing their interest too.

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 \$3,263,579.16 AND SUPPLEMENTAL LIST TOTALING \$23,151.95 AS PRESENTED BY CITY STAFF. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:50 p.m. Mayor Heinen announced that the Council would be going into a closed meeting pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) to consider threatened litigation against the City. Those present in the closed session are: City Council, Kris Dockendorf, Jon Stueve, and Robert Kringler the City Attorney from Flaherty and Hood. At 6:19 p.m. Mayor Heinen re-opened the meeting.

MOTION WAS MADE BY FALL, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2023-25, A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY ATTORNEY AND CITY COUNCIL OF COLD SPRING MINNESOTA AUTHORIZING REPAIRS TO CITY OWED PARKING LOT AND AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO EXECUTE ANY AGREEMENT NECESSARY TO EFFECTUATE THIS RESOLUTION. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADJOURN

MOTION WAS MADE BY HENNEN, SECONDED BY RAMLER, TO ADJOURN AT 6:20 P.M. SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

David Heinen, Mayor

Kris Dockendorf, City Administrator