

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2, 2021

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on February 2, 2021 in the city hall basement of the New Germany City Hall, using Covid guidelines. Mayor Van Lith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those present were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Thomas Mielke, and Kevin Grove. Others present were: City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were:

B. CITIZEN COMMENT: There were no additional comments from the audience.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Turnquist moved and Mielke second approval of Agenda. The motion carried. 5/0.**

D. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: **Mielke moved and Jaeger second approval of the January 19, 2021 minutes. The motion carried. 5/0**

E. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Resolution 2021-06 Resolution is for the Community Development Grant through Carver County CDA, this is a matching grant in the amount of \$7,500 which is used for the wastewater research with SEH. **Turnquist moved and Jaeger second approving Resolution 2020-06. The motion carried. 5/0**

F. SHERIFFS REPORT: Deputy Hendricks may be stopping in if available. Hendricks has 15 years of experience on the Carver County Sheriff Department.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Fire Department is recommending to Council an amendment in their personnel policy; The fee shall be accumulated and payable in January of the following calendar year is the verbiage change. The current pay is in November or beginning of December, this does not correspond with the state reports for the Fire calls in a calendar year and makes book keeping difficult. **Mielke moved and Grove second the fee shall be accumulated and payable in January of the following calendar year. The motion carried. 5/0**

H. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the General fund balance was \$661,628.09, which includes the CD's balance of \$26,290.58. Investment portfolio balance is \$1,013,712.36. **Grove moved and Jaeger second approval of the Treasure report. The motion carried. 5/0**

Ehlers provided correspondence on potential refunding of existing bonds; it was estimated that the refunding would not generate sufficient savings to be considered.

I. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: **Mielke moved and Turnquist second approving claims in the amount of \$27,176.391. The motion carried. 5/0**

J. WATER SEWER REPORT: Lee Ortloff was present to go over the quarterly report from last meeting. Lee gave an update on water meters, 7 left.

Lee explained the graph of the reduction in lift station flows; possible due to all the repaired sewer lines from the new Ordinance; sewer line is televised, city inspects, if fail they are repaired. There have been many failed sewer lines, failure rate is about 90%, unless it is a new home.

Lee explained chemical testing on the wastewater ponds; part of the MPCA permit requirements was jar testing for phosphorus limits. Phosphorus limit June – September has to be under a 2, this is also the time when you are not to discharge. Pond is usually between a 2-3, People Service goal is not to discharge at all during the time frame June – September. Lee went through the chemicals list that were jar tested, advantages and disadvantages of chemicals. Aluminum sulphate would be the top choice of chemical for the wastewater ponds, mix it in with the pontoon. Hawkins chemical would deliver the product.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: None to report.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: None to report.

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M. PW REPORT:

1. Willow removal update – check with County if they have equipment and time.

N. PARKS REPORT: None to report.

O. MAYORS REPORT: US Dept of Commerce – thank you for participating the census. Van Lith read through the letter of accommodation.

P. CLERKS REPORT: Possible subdivision on ag land coming up; sorting through possibility. Out of the office on February 10.

Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Hall Rental – Council reviewed the MN stay safe guidelines. Council reviewed and discussed the hall capacity that Turnquist and Clerk completed. Clerk noted the 4-H would like to have Shooting Sports and Horse bowl practice in the Hall ASAP. Council will allow 4-H providing they follow the mask requirements, 6 ft social distance. Rentals will be allowed at 150 capacity for the entire building. Separate rental of each floor for different events would allow 150 capacity on the upper level, 134 in the lower level, no food after 10 pm, mask requirement, private parties MN Stay Safe guidelines will be attached to the contract. Update the current hall rental contract with the above information.

2. County ROW - Discussed the findings within a county ROW, unclear of an exact distance, on the south side of 30 it would be to the trail. Carver County would develop a mapping system showing any projects in the city if so desired by Council. There is no time frame on completion of the mapping system, New Germany is only city that has requested this type of notification.

R. NEW BUSINESS: none to report.

S. ADJOURNMENT: **Grove moved and Jaeger second to adjourn meeting at 8:12 PM. The motion carried. 5/0**

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk