

**COUNCIL MINUTES - May 4, 2021 – 7:00 PM**

- A CALL TO ORDER – The Regular City Council meeting was held on May 4, 2021 in the city office of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Van Lith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those present were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, and Thomas Mielke. Others present were: City Clerk Twyla Menth. Audience members present were: Matt Harris.
- B CITIZEN PUBLIC COMMENT – There were no additional comments from the audience members.
- C APPROVAL OF AGENDA- **Jaeger moved and Mielke second approval of agenda. The motion carried. 4/0.**
- D APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES – **Jaeger moved and Turnquist second approval of the April 20, 2021 Council Minutes. The motion carried. 4/0**
- E ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED –
1. Barb Hone with Purple Reign Arts Consortium of Carver County is present to explain a unique opportunity with Prince's Estate in Carver County. Estate support to facilitate this art project, in June they will host a painting the county purple theme, community wide art project. Barb provided a list of ideas; purple side walk art, purple lights, purple banners, purple flags, purple flowers. Paisley park brings in funds for the county with high attendance. Prince's birthday is June 7, on June 17 Arts Consortium at Chanhassen community center is planning a celebration, art gallery in the center. Express in purple is the title of the exhibit, music, drinks, celebration would be from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. Invitations are delayed on account of the covid requirements. If a business would do any purple decorations, take a picture of the business with their name displayed in the photo for additional advertising and email to Barb. Barb would like any photos of purple displays that may take place in the city.
  2. Insurance appraisal – Council went through the insurance appraisal report, few questions on buildings, inquire with insurance agent; table until the questions are answered.
  3. Council decided to discuss the address change in Old Business on the account of Matt Harris being present. Matt Harris of 130 Jefferson Avenue N, explained to Council the impacts if they decide to change his address of 16 years. Mayor Van Lith explained from an emergency service stand point it could extend the rescue time as the address is in the alley. Matt Harris noted he has no issues with UPS, FedEx, or other delivery systems finding his address and in the past the Sheriff and others have found his address with no issues. Matt also explained to Council he as an electrician, union member, holds many occupational licenses, this would be a major inconvenience to have all of these licenses reissued for an address change. Council continued discussion; if Matt would ever sell his property, at that time Council would look into reassigning the address to a Park Street address.
  4. CenterPoint Ordinance – Attorney is reviewing contract.
- F SHERIFF'S REPORT – No report.
- G FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT –
1. Mayor Van Lith reported all Township contracts have been sent out and Council reviewed the information. Ehlers will be providing an alternate method for the FD during budget time for future use.
- H TREASURE REPORT – The Treasure report noted the financial accounting fund balance was \$1,726,055.39. **Turnquist moved and Mielke second approval of the Treasure report. The motion carried. 4/0**
- I APPROVAL OF CLAIMS – **Mielke moved and Turnquist second approving the claims in the amount of \$14,117.92. The motion carried. 4/0**
- J SEWER WATER REPORT –
1. Quarter report form People service was reviewed by Council. New air hose was ordered for the ball at the wastewater ponds.
  2. **Jaeger moved and Turnquist second approving People Service contract, beginning October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2024. The motion carried. 4/0.**

## CITY OF NEW GERMANY

3. 62<sup>nd</sup> Street connection – Schroeder meats would like to know the fee they would be charged if they decide to connect to the city utility services. Council discussed and it would be one pipe, one charge. Schroeder would need to be annexed into the city and would be liable for the charges, along with the pipe and labor fees to connect to the city pipe.

- K BUILDING PERMITS UPDATE – Fence permit, 130 Jefferson Street N
- L COMPLAINT LOG – no complaints.
- M PUBLIC WORKS –  
1. Truck signage, city streets – order 5 no truck street signs.  
2. PW report by Steve Van Lith and Eric Roepke – pressure washer is in and the cord is damaged, need a different outlet in the city shop for pressure washer. Bobcat should be in this week and the lawnmower next week.
- N PARKS REPORT –  
1. Fence signage – order 6 No dogs or animals signs for the two parks.  
Eric Roepke provided a Park report - Light bid is opening tomorrow. Eric reported there is a short on a light at Lindstrom Park, wire going up the pole needs to be replaced, the city will need to rent a lift to complete the work. **Turnquist moved and Jaeger second for the City to rent a boom lift, Eric will perform the work of tighten the brackets, replace the lights that need replacement, and clean the lights. The motion carried. 4/0** Turnquist noted that Eric shall wear the proper safety equipment while operating and performing the work.  
Eric figures to replace all the lights that are obsolete would be around \$100 per light, there is 26. If the City receives the other lights, they can be swapped out; may need to implement into the FMP.  
Kromer machine, trans axle was replaced and works well, need a new battery.  
Eric still has not received a schedule from Chopper. Other games start on June 7, Monday's and Wednesday's. Lutheran High last game is scheduled for the Tuesday before Memorial Day, maybe some additional playoff games.
- O MAYORS REPORT – Workers for cleanup day on May 15, Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist and Steve Van Lith.
- P CITY CLERK REPORT – Trying a different copier as the lease is up in July; two companies will be supplying quotes. Clean-up day time will be corrected in the newspaper; it is from 7 am – 11 am on May 15. Possible have purple chalk for the color the county purple in June.
- Q OLD BUSINESS –  
1. Address change – discussed earlier.  
2. Solar subscription – Council discussed the option of a solar subscription, references from other cities that have subscriptions with US Solar were reviewed. Council's concern is the long-term commitment of 25 years, let US Solar know of this concern.  
3. PT Office Assistant – interviews (3) May 12, Turnquist and the Clerk will conduct the interviews.
- R NEW BUSINESS –
- S ADJOURNMENT – **Mielke moved and Turnquist second to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 PM. The motion carried. 4/0**

Respectfully Submitted, \_\_\_\_\_ Twyla Menth, City Clerk