

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – JUNE 1, 2021

A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on June 1, 2021 in the city council room of the New Germany City Hall. Mayor Van Lith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., those presents were: Mayor Van Lith, Councilpersons Shirley Jaeger, Ty Turnquist, Thomas Mielke and Kevin Grove. Others present were: Fire Chief - Dan Ruschmeier, City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were: Linus & Lori Latzig, Stacy Dallman, Stewart Aldrich, and Matthew Mastenbrook.

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

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

D. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: **Jaeger moved and Mielke second approval of the May 18, 2021 minutes. The motion carried. 5/0**

E. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. Stacy Dallman, Matthew Mastenbrook, and Stewart Aldrich received an abatement notice on hoop shed; Mayor Van Lith read through the ordinance. Turnquist mentioned snow load issue with these structures, material deteriorates and ordinance specially states no hoop shed. Residents would like Council to go through ordinance and amend to allow the use of hoop sheds. Stewart Aldrich suggested to Council for the city to come up with a plan that everybody can abide by, some cannot afford a larger shed or to construct a pole style building. Council and residents had discussion on options. Planning Commission will meet and review the ordinance and bring their recommendation to Council. Turnquist also mentioned any structures over 200 SQ feet requires a building permit and a hoop shed would not meet the State of MN building codes. Turnquist noted that there is a variance process that the residents need to follow, not a short process, variance would go before the Planning Commission and PC brings their recommendation to Council. Resident or applicant would need to demonstrate a hardship (not monetary), physical hardship (lot or land slopes, encroachment etc.). The abatement letter sent to resident's stated a compliance deadline of June 1, 2021.

Linus & Lori Latzig were present to discuss their unlicensed motor home that is not on an impervious pad. Linus stated their first 3 years no one ever said anything about recreational vehicles being on a pad, why the last few. Council had a discussion and explained the ordinance and it is for everyone to abide by. Linus agreed to a pad, clean up yard, Lori Latzig stated the motor home will be licensed by this weekend. Lori Latzig complained on people speeding into Lindstrom Park and requested the pot holes be attended; Lori would like to see this area done in tar. Mayor Van Lith noted the city owns Lindstrom Park and the County owns the parking lot and access to the park.

2. Resolution 2021-08. **Grove moved and Jaeger second Resolution 2021-08 which approves the City Clerk to file an application with the MN management & budget office for the purpose of a wastewater capital improvement project. The motion carried. 5/0**
Grove - aye, Mielke – aye, Turnquist- aye, Jaeger – aye, Van Lith – aye.

3. Electrical Quote - 12 existing 8" 4 lamp T-8 florescent fixtures to LED at Fire Station \$1200. Retrofit 6 existing 8' 4 lamp T-8 florescent fixtures to LED at City Shed \$600, furnish 36 T-8 4" lamp for baseball and softball fields \$250. **Mielke moved and Grove second approving the electrical quote from Laketown Electric Corporation, complete quote is \$2,050.00. The motion carried. 5/0**

F. SHERIFF'S REPORT: Officer Hendricks started his new hours on June 1, 2021.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Ruschmeier stated the new turn out gear is in. Brock Sennes leave of absence has expired; Chief Ruschmeier will address.

H. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the CTAS fund balance was \$1,682,654.54 which includes the Investment fund. **Turnquist moved and Mielke second approving the Treasure report. The motion carried. 5/0**

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I.

I. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: **Mielke moved and Grove second approving the claims in the amount of \$25,202.25. The motion carried. 5/0**

J. WATER SEWER REPORT:

Turnquist gave a brief recap of the Regionalization meeting at Mayer earlier today. Regionalization with Mayer is estimated to cost \$6,692,600, with annual operation cost of \$212,000. Council discussed other options such as aerated ponds. Council feels with higher utility rates and property taxes, the residents cannot afford the regionalization option. Even if the project was 80% funded, the operational cost is extremely high, not affordable at this time. Council and SEH will be exploring the other options, such as aerated or expansion of the existing ponds.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: ROW permit; CenterPoint.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Blight letters went out and were addressed in E1.

M. PW REPORT: Ron Eiden and Van Lith meet and reviewed a drain option Eiden has on his property. Van Lith reported in a heavy rain Eiden's yard would most likely flood (4" drain tile) as it cannot handle all the run off of the alley; liability issues for the city. Van Lith reported there is a storm drain nearby, Van Lith will have Henning's review the options for the water flow. The best option probably would be the storm drain to deviate the water reported Van Lith.

N. PARKS REPORT: Next week youth league starts.

O. MAYORS REPORT: Arts Consortium Purple Rein invitation to Council.

Mayor Van Lith read the correspondence from Met Council; waiting on the Federal Census for the population count, which is delayed on account of covid pandemic. Met Council will post or notify the city when the numbers are released.

P. CLERKS REPORT: Clerk Convention June 16-18, 2021 St Cloud.

If anyone thinks of National Night Out ideas please share.

Attorney still has CenterPoint contract.

Dean Aldrich (insurance agent) has sent the approved appraisal numbers to LMC, Dean did not see any issues with keeping previous numbers for the Water Treatment Plant and Lift Station. Reviewing insurance coverage for the Fire Dept Ball Tournament and Fire Works.

Lisa Geode started in the office today June 1, 2021.

MetroNet has provided a contact number to resolve the inground fiber maintenance issues some residents are experiencing. If there are any other areas, please have residents call and report to Clerk.

Carver County Environmental Services received additional funds; requested additional compost funds, as the price of the compost bin went from \$125 to \$500. The city was granted an additional \$3,000 for compost expenses.

Q. OLD BUSINESS: none

R. NEW BUSINESS: Council member Grove mentioned Frontier needs to mow lawn and maintain their building.

S. ADJOURNMENT: **Grove moved and Mielke second to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM. The motion carried. 5/0**

Respectfully Submitted, _____ Twyla Menth, City Clerk