
CITY OF NEW GERMANY COUNCIL MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

A. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor, Steve Van Lith with the following members present: Mayor, Steve VanLith, Shirley Jaeger, Thomas Mielke, Kevin Grove; absent, Ty Turnquist. Also present were Shelby Buhr and Jordyn Kubasch, students at a local high school observing how City Government works, Shelly Eldridge and Jeanne Vogt from Ehlers, Officer Brad Hendricks, and Jeff Fuller.

B. CITIZENS PUBLIC COMMENT: Jeff Fuller had filed a formal complaint in regard to the loud music coming from Fat Boyz. He stated this had been a recurring happening on weekends. This past weekend he had contacted our local deputy. The deputy had talked to Mr. Rolf, owner of Fat Boyz and then had also talked with Mr. Fuller. Deputy Hendricks stated he did not have a decibel meter with him. He stated that in the conversation with Mr. Rolf, he was very cooperative and did turn the music down. Possibly another workshop should be held in order to keep the area residents happy and also allow the bars to have music outside. Mr. Fuller also understands that bands bring in customers and he does not want the local businesses to get citations, he just wants the music at a happy medium for both the neighbors and the business.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed approving the agenda. 4/0** Noting there will not be a Zoom call this evening with Hwy 7 Safety Group.

D. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: **On motion by Shirley Jaeger, second Thomas Mielke and passed approving the Minutes of the September 6, 2022 meeting. On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed approving the Minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting. 4/0**

E. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

1. No zoom call.

2. Shelly and Jeanne were here from Ehlers to go over the Financial Management Plan. They had two proposals, the first would be to lower the tax rate to 16%, second option is 28.1%. The residents were informed on their previous tax statements that home valuations will go up considerably next year. This would increase taxes on a \$100,000 home by about \$120.00 per year. The second option would be to leave it as it is on the FMP and over the next three years put \$200,000 in savings for the sewer project. This would have a \$100,000 home go up about \$240.00 per year. **After much discussion, on motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke to go with the first option. The motion carried. 4/0**

Shelly and Jeanne will be at the Truth in Taxation meeting in December to explain this to residents. Residents should be reminded of the Property Tax Rebate that they may file for to help with the high taxes. They also noted that the Debt Service Funds are doing well. Trophy Lake tax forfeited lots are all sold and we are able to reassess property taxes to those lots in 2024.

3. Resolution 2022-16 a Resolution Approving the LG555 Government Approval or Acknowledgement for use of Gambling Funds in the amount of \$5000. **On motion by Thomas Mielke, second Kevin Grove and passed accepting the Resolution. 4/0**

4. Resolution 2022-17, A Resolution Accepting the Preliminary Levy for 2023 in the amount of \$373,644 and \$95,162 for debt service or a total of \$468,806. **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed. 4/0**

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5. Prosecution contract for 2023 has gone down a little, our rate for 2023 will be \$475.26. **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed approving the Contract for 2023. 4/0**

F. SHERIFF'S REPORT: Previously discussed.

G. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: No report at this time.

H. TREASURE'S REPORT: **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed approved as printed. 4/0**

I. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Shirley Jaeger and passed to pay the claims in the amount of \$13,637.96. 4/0**

J. SEWER WATER REPORT: No report.

K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATES: No report.

L. COMPLAINT LOG: Previously discussed in citizen's public comment.

M. PUBLIC WORKS: Trees are all down behind the city shed and things are starting to get cleaned up.

N. PARKS: Nothing to report.

O. MAYOR: Nothing to report.

P. CITY CLERK: A new office assistant has been hired, she is from Waverly and would like a part-time job. The attorney is finishing up on the Schroeder annexation to the city.

Q. OLD BUSINESS: Was brought up can we request some weekend evening police presence? There is not much going on during the day and would be more beneficial in the evening hours. We can request additional time at \$75.37 per hour.

2023 Budget - no added workshop in regard to 2023 budget would be needed at this time.

R. NEW BUSINESS: No report

S. ADJOURNMENT: **On motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed adjourning the meeting at 8:26 PM. 4/0**

Minutes submitted by:

Shirley Jaeger

Due to the absence of the City Clerk