

## CITY OF NEW GERMANY, COUNCIL MINUTES – MARCH 21, 2023

- A. CALL TO ORDER: The Regular City Council meeting was held on March 21, 2023, 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 City Clerk – Twyla Menth. Audience members present were Commander Wollin.
- B. CITIZEN COMMENT: There were no additional comments from the audience.
- C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **Jaeger moved, and Grove seconded approval of Agenda. The motion carried. 5/0.**
- D. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES: **Jaeger moved, and Grove seconded approval of the March 7, 2023, minutes. The motion carried. 5/0**
- E. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED: No items to be discussed.
- F. SHERIFF'S REPORT:  
1. Commander Wollin – arrest made in the recent liquor burglaries. 2024 Sheriff contract meeting was in February, implemented a look back method (2022). Significant increases in rates, staffing recruitment challenges in all areas at the Sheriff Department. Rates for 2024 reflect the previous years and driven by the market in the competitive aspects, looking at 12- 14% increase for 2024. Deputies 12-hour scheduling, shared costs with Mayer, regionalized coverage will be reviewed. Recruiting candidates for law enforcement has declined, many cities are facing vacancy issues. Council had question when complaints are called into the Sheriff Office, is it protocol to identify the caller's name.  
Discussion on patios and amplified music, special permits will be required as it states in the ordinance. Special permit would need to be posted at the establishment, need to have permit approved by Council, attend Council meeting to request the special permit, report special permit to the Sheriff Department.
- G. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Goede asked Clerk to report on Fire Garage roof findings; hail damage. Filing a claim on the FD garage and city hall, going forward should do inspections after any storms.
- H. TREASURE REPORT: The Treasury report noted that the CTAS fund balance was \$2,165,880.67 which includes the Investment fund balance. **Grove moved, and Turnquist seconded approval of the Treasure report. The motion carried. 5/0**
- I. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: **Grove moved, and Jaeger seconded approving claims in the amount of \$13,005.82. The motion carried. 5/0**
- J. WATER SEWER REPORT: No report.
- K. BUILDING PERMIT UPDATE: few mechanical permits issued.
- L. COMPLAINT LOG: no complaints currently.
- M. PW REPORT: Van Lith had a storm drain that was not draining, fire department helped washing them out, washed allot of sand, dirt. Van Lith reported the plow is not lifting again; get it back to Rec Tec.
- N. PARKS REPORT: Mielke brought up on netting at the baseball park; no netting until poles are in place.
- O. MAYORS REPORT: Clerk represented the city well at the Capitol on the wastewater bonding bill, thankful for representing the city.

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P. CLERKS REPORT:

1. Spring clean-up May 13, 7AM – 11 AM. Reviewed the pricing, will adjust as discussed. Drop off location has changed from NYA to Cologne public works this year. Van Lith or Grove will have someone available for scrap metal.

Q. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Going forward have in person reviews, 2-person team.

- Will need a seasonal employee for this summer.
- Discussion on plowing; allot of work for one person, need to start thinking about additional staff.
- Turnquist would like to see an employee relation committee, structure the increases and the committee would make the recommendation.
- Public works needs a structured plan for future needs; would like a plan that Steve Van Lith can be a part of.
- Annual reviews are to set goals for the year and look at the past goals and performance.

2. Update the special event permit.

R. NEW BUSINESS: Mayor Van Lith requested different Council seating; can hear better.

S. ADJOURNMENT: **Mielke moved, and Jaeger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 PM. The motion carried. 5/0**

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