

NEW GERMANY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Steve VanLith with the following present: Council Kevin Grove, Thomas Mielke, Ty Turnquist and Shirley Jaeger. Also present was Taaya Zellmann, citizen and Scott Wakefield from the Snowmobile Club and Ryan Goede, Fire Chief. (arrived at 7:30 PM.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On motion by Ty Turnquist, second Thomas Mielke to approve the Agenda as printed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Scott Wakefield from the Snowmobile Club was present to discuss using the Dakota Rail Trail for snowmobile use this winter. They have already talked to the County, the County has said that they need Camden Township and City of New Germany approval before they can consider the request. Mr. Wakefield had a resolution ready for the Council; however, it was felt that we should look over the resolution and possibly make a few minor changes before approval. The Council did feel that the request would be granted at the next meeting.

Taaya Zellmann was present to discuss having some issues with her neighbor. The neighbor has been complaining about Taaya's son and his loud car. Taaya's son leaves for work at 4:30 AM and tries to leave home as quietly as possible. Taaya feels there are many other loud vehicles that go past her place at all times of the day. Taaya was told this really is a problem between the neighbor and herself. She was also told that maybe an app could be installed on the phone to monitor the decibel level of the noise. If it is within the noise ordinance, then the neighbor has no complaint, if it is above the level, then her son will have to make some adjustments on his car.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Consent Agenda was approved on motion by Kevin Grove, second Thomas Mielke and passed accepting the Agenda as printed. Bills amounted to \$17,244.53 for this period.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: The fire chief noted that \$20,000 was put into the Capital Fund, gambling has been good recently. Mayer is keeping their truck so we will not have a chance to purchase it. Pumps are now certified. Flow test is done on air packs, compressor will be certified on Thursday.

WATER SEWER: Jessica from SEH had sent an archeological survey and the next steps to be taken to get ready for the waste water project. The engineers feel that the more that we can show that we are "shovel ready" the better chance we have of getting help from grants.

PUBLIC WORKS: Steve noted that there were roots in the driveway to the ponds. Being there would be a meeting there with legislators, he had asked Hennings to take care of that. They dropped some Class 5 on the driveway to smooth it out.

CLERK REPORT: The clerk has placed an order for city hall supplies, toilet paper, paper towels, hand soap. Letter was received from the Department of Revenue in regard to the solid waste tax audit (garbage). Twyla has emailed the billings as requested from June 2020 to June 2023, hauler contract, and answered all the interview questions on 9/27/2023. Completed a MN Sure appeal on 9/27/2023 for a Council member who applied for MN Sure. Will consider adoption of ordinances pertaining to smoking cannabis in public place on the October 17, 2023 meeting and also the CenterPoint Franchise agreement. These ordinances are posted for public review at this time. Spent approximately \$100.00 on bonding bill tour for goody bags and treats, was put on city credit card.

BUILDING PERMITS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: We have received a carpet quote for the entry way of the city hall for \$7990.35. Part of this is \$540.00 for tearing out old carpet. Was felt that we could get a few volunteers to do this part of it ourselves and save the money. The Council would like to see some samples of this bid, will table until the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Ty had received a quote to purchase some of the hall decorations which would include mounting hardware, chandelier, o-ring to hang tooling, spinner and remote control for \$100.00. On motion by Tom Mielke, second Kevin Grove and passed to purchase this décor.

Parks report had been given to Council, Lindstrom Park is done for the year, Halloween Party will again be held on October 28, Christmas lights will be hung on November 18, Santa breakfast will be held on December 2.

Kevin had attended the presentation at the ponds this morning to the legislators in regard to being awarded a possible grant. Kevin noted they were rather stunned to hear of the high-water bills and property taxes for this community. Kevin explained we have explored every avenue and felt this would be the only cost-effective way to proceed.

We received a thank you card from the Southern Valley Alliance Team for our continued support and letting them come and present the program to us.

ADJOURN: On motion by Kevin Grove, second Ty Turnquist and passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Jaeger
Minutes taken by councilor in absence of city clerk.