



**CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

1. Opening Items

- Call meeting to Order – 7 Pm Mayor Shirley Jaeger.
- Roll Call – Mayor Shirley Jaeger, Council Members; Paul Roepke, Thomas Mielke, Kevin Grove and Lorn Herrmann. Other present; Asst Fire Chief/Public Works Chris Barlau, People Service Greg Stang, Ehlers Jeanne Vogt, City Clerk Twyla Menth. Residents; Kevin Johnson, Joe and Rachelle Yant.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – **Grove moved and Mielke second approving the agenda. The motion carried. 5/0**

3. Public Comment Period

Open Public Comment Period – Comments are limited to 5 minutes.

4. Business items or New Business

- Kevin Johnson, Joe Yant – Chicken nuisance letters.
Kevin Johnson – city ordinance in place for no chickens, Kevin J questioned the reason behind this ordinance. Grove explained it draws predator animals into the city. Kevin noted more wild cats than chickens in the Black Forest area. Council and residents had a discussion on chickens, residents that were present would like to be able to have chickens, Council was asked to review ordinances of neighboring cities that allow chickens. Council agreed to review neighboring city ordinances pertaining to chickens, residents are to provide information by the end of the month to Council for review. In the event Council entertains allowing chickens and a new ordinance, ordinance & zoning changes will need to be posted for two consecutive weeks prior to the Council taking any action. After the two weeks it would be brought back to Council with a Public Hearing at the Council meeting. Council will listen to anyone attending Council public hearing meeting, close public hearing, and then make their decision later in the Council meeting. If Council choses to allow chickens the new ordinance would then need to be published in the newspaper. Upon publication is when the ordinance becomes official, if Council does not change the ordinance, residents would need to remove chickens and coops.
- Ehlers – Jeanne with Ehlers went through the updated Financial Management Plan (FMP), tax rate would be lowered by 3% this year 69.917%. Homestead market exclusion has changed from \$413,800, now \$517,200. Review Park projects and Public Works Equipment fund; add projects to the FMP before the December meeting. Jeanne went through the debt service funds with Council. Jeanne went through the property tax levy for 2025; Preliminary Levy 2025 \$434,802.00, difference of (\$20,195.00) from 2024.
- Resolution 2024-16 Adopting 2025 Preliminary Levy – **Grove moved and Mielke seconded approving the 2025 Preliminary Levy \$434,802.00. The motion carried. 5/0 (all ayes)**
 - People Service contract – Greg Stang was present to discuss the People Service contract. People Service provides the maintenance of the Water Treatment plant, wastewater ponds, and locates for the City of New Germany. Greg explained with the inflation the contract has increased about 7-7.5% overall; contract is a three-year period for services, increases are every October. **Grove moved and Roepke second approving the 3-year People Service contract. The motion carried. 5/0**
 - Advance Power generator contract/maintenance – Lucas Braun (not present).
 - Misc – no additional information.

5. Officers' /Department/Staff Reports

- Fire Department Report – Tanker left yesterday. FD garage rehab may start tomorrow.
- Water/Sewer
- Utility software – went through preliminary quotes with software that needs to be updated by December 31, 2024. Will be doing a few more webinars with different companies before bringing final information to Council for approval. It was discussed for only utility software at this time, maybe for the future financial software.



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5. Officers’/Department/Staff Reports cont’d

- Water meters – went through pricing of Core & Main, supplies and installs sensus water meters, and antenna option (AMI). Jean will implement into the Utility Plan and see what worst case scenario would look like.
- Public Works - Street crack repairs – major cracks \$13,230.00 from Bargaen. **Herrmann moved and Roepke second approving the quote from Bargaen of \$13,230.00 for the major cracks on Hilda and 62nd Street. The motion carried. 5/0**
- Curbs and handicap areas painted, fire hydrants all painted (maybe 2 out in Black Forest), 13-16 hydrant flags to replace, will need to order more flags.
- Council had a discussion on livestock & dogs running at large in Black Forest area.
- Misc – Nothing additional.
- Clerk Report -
 - Misc – no additional information.
- Building Permits – 9/5, 710 Broadway Street re roof permit, 9/9, Dale Kutzke Fire Garage soffit, facia and residing.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of September 3, 2024, Council Minutes
 - Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
 - Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- Grove moved and Roepke second approving the consent agenda. The motion carried. 5/0**

7. Old Business

- Misc – no additional business.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- Councilmember Kevin Grove – no information.
- Councilmember Thomas Mielke – no information.
- Councilmember Paul Roepke – no information.
- Councilmember Lorn Hermann – no information.
- Mayor Shirley Jaeger – no information.

9. Adjourn City Council Meeting – Grove moved and Roepke second adjourning the meeting at 8:55 PM. The motion carried. 5/0

Respectfully submitted by City Clerk Twyla Menth.