



**CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
OCTOBER 15, 2024 – 7:00 PM**

1. Opening Items

- Call meeting to Order - Mayor Jager called the meeting to order at 7 PM.
- Roll Call – Mayor Shirley Jaeger, Council Members; Paul Roepke, Kevin Grove Thomas Mielke, and Lorn Herrmann.
- Others; Lucas Braun with Advanced Power, Matt Tourville with Ehlers, Chris Barlau with Public Works, Ryan Goede Fire chief, Twyla Menth, City Clerk, Kim Lohse with Southern Valley Alliance. Residents – Kevin Johnson, Joe & Rachael Yant.

2. Approval of Agenda

- Consider Approval of Agenda – **Mielke moved and Grove 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

- Southern Valley Alliance, Kim – October is domestic violence awareness month, new transitional housing program this year. Asking for help to spread the word, lawn signs available on the website, volunteer opportunities.
- Ehlers Financial – Matt Tourville was present to discuss longer term investing options for the city. Matt explained to Council callable agency bond, which they reserve the right to refund your money back early when the rate decreases, they pay the investor a higher rate of return, as the short-term rates have declined. When the rates decrease that is when they would possibly return your funds. Today's callable bond rate term of 5 years, 2029, 6-month call protection with 5 % earnings, Matt suggested a \$250,000 additional investment. Ehlers will also be rolling out a new program called the discretionary management; this would allow Ehlers to invest when good investment opportunities arise; would not need to call the city or meet to discuss. Ehlers is only paid by assets, the management fee is the same .25%, no additional fees.
- The Fancy Farmer - Brett MacNally – not present.
 - Kilbane update – no update.
- Advance Power, Lucas Braun worked on the mobile generator and the city hall generator. Lucas explained what his company provided for New Germany, and how the generator needs to be maintained. Lucas will send over an agreement for maintenance that includes load banking on the portable generator.
- Misc – nothing additional.

5. Officers' /Department/Staff Reports

- Fire Department Report
 - New FD roof replaced, that part of the bill has been paid. On the inside upper loft, Dale is sheet rocking so it will be OSHA complaint going forward, not included in the bid.
 - Received a \$4,000 Compeer Grant, DNR grant funds may be released in November, cannot order anything until the funds are received.
 - Encryption radios – are no longer an option, there has been some new developments. Fire Chief Goede is suggesting to still go with the 3 -6000 radios for \$17,876.35, 1 - 4,000 radio for \$4,113.99, grants are earmarked for radios. Fire Chief Goede will move forward with ordering the radios.
 - Fire Truck refund – Chief Goede will check where the funds are \$5-7,000.00 to be refunded.
 - Cascade system brought up to date, Alex Air will be sending invoice, McQueen was here today for the hydro testing, will be sending invoice.
- Water/Sewer
 - Utility software – Clerk is recommending Banyon for the new utility software. Several neighboring cities use Banyon, out of Burnsville, MN. In the event something would happen to Clerk there is options for getting utility bills done. **Mielke moved and Roepke second approving the Banyon utility software. The motion carried. 5/0**
- Public Works – storm drains all painted, all 15 hydrant flags used, 5 ½ snow buckets of dead grass off Lindstrom last night. Chris will research a bagger option for the lawn mower. Older weed whip is now running, walk behind running, changed oil on the skid loader. Fire Department doors will be sand blasted and painted. Painting on front of the fire hydrant curbs.
- Misc – no additional items.
- Clerk Report – Received the police aid & post reimbursement for a total of \$1605.96.
 - October 30, 4 PM zoom meeting with Senator Pappas for the wastewater upgrade needs.



CITY OF NEW GERMANY- CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA OCTOBER 15, 2024 – 7:00 PM

Officers’/Department/Staff reports cont’d

Clerk report

- Today was public accuracy testing (PAT) at Carver County, left at 9:15 AM, returned to the office around 2:30 PM, everything went well, ran 390 ballots, twice, made 50 omni ballots. Head Election judge meeting Thursday at Carver County from 6 – 8 PM.
- Building Permits – Roof permit fire garage, 580 State Avenue reroof permit, ROW permit for Metronet fiber optic.

6. Consent Agenda

- Consider Approval of September 17, 2024, October 9, 2024, Council Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
- Consider Approval of Financial Reports
- Consider Approval of 2025 West Community Guidebook
- Consider Approval of 2025 Prosecution Contract

Grove moved and Herrmann second approving the consent agenda. The motion carried. 5/0

7. Old Business

- Chicken Ordinance
Kevin Johnson, Joe and Racheal Yant were present to discuss chickens. Johnson explained his proposal he sent to the city. Council explained the developers covenants for Black Forest; chickens are not allowed; developer is not interested in changing the covenants in Black Forest. The city code does not allow poultry, and currently Council does not have the manpower to inspect coops and chickens for permit requirements, the city is not interested at this time in changing the city code. Residents and Council continued discussion for an extended period. It was then determined by Council after discussion the chickens should be removed by the end in October, coops can stay as long as they are cleaned out.
- Misc
 - CenterPoint rate increases 2024/2025 (informational).
 - Carver County news release – public input for Carver County Mitigation Plan update (informational).
 - Future City projects (FMP) – workshop with final levy in November – discuss on November 6 meeting.

8. Mayor City Council Reports

- Councilmember Kevin Grove – no additional comments.
- Councilmember Thomas Mielke – no additional comments.
- Councilmember Paul Roepke – no additional comments.
- Councilmember Lorn Hermann – Move forward with landscaping around the flag – **Roepke moved and Grove second approving the landscaping project around the flagpole, estimated to be under \$1500. The motion carried. 5/0.**
50th Birthday party – Tim Ross gave a generous donation to the baseball light project, Lorn suggested to donate the use of the Hall, Council agreed.
- Mayor Shirley Jaeger – no additional comments, glad to be present.

9. Adjourn City Council Meeting – Grove moved and Roepke second adjourning the meeting at 8:20 PM. The motion carried. 5/0

Respectfully submitted by City Clerk Twyla Menth.