

**Approved
03/26/24**



**MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
January 9, 2024**

Present: Mayor Gustafson, Council Member Battles, Rivers and Meyers

Absent: Dresel

Staff: City Administrator Pechman, Finance Director Gemuenden, Fire Chief Reed, Police Chief Schlumbohm, Attorney Doran, Associate Planner Nelson, City Engineer Guzik

Public Attendance: Leilani Freeman,

REGULAR MEETING-CALL TO ORDER 6:30

Mayor Gustafson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1a. "Pledge of Allegiance"

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Action

1b. Roll Call

All members present except Council Member Dresel.

Action

AGENDA

Administrator Pechman stated he had nothing to add to the agenda.

Mayor Gustafson asked for a motion.

Council Member Rivers made the motion to approve the agenda, Council Member Meyer seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

3a. Minutes of December 12, 2023

Action

3b. Payment of Bills/Finance Information

Action

3c. Committee Reports

Discussion

3d. Committee Appointments for 2024– RES-24-01-01

Action

Council Member Rivers made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Council Member Meyers seconded.

Mayor Gustafson said the yearly appointments are up for discussion.

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Administrator Pechman asked if the Mayor Gustafson if he was going to remain on the Library Commission; Mayor Gustafson stated he would be. Pechman stated on the City Engineer doesn't have to be specifically listed by person just the firm. He also noted Jake Guzik will now be the City Engineer.

Mayor Gustafson asked for any comments, hearing none, asked for vote for resolution 24-01-01, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/AGENDA PLACEMENT

Mayor Gustafson asked if anyone had any comments or concerns on anything which was not on the agenda.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, COMMUNICATION

5a. Fire Chief Annual Report

Administrator Pechman stated the Fire Chief Reed had to leave town but they have the report available and can present it at the next meeting. Administrator Pechman stated that the one-time public safety money it should be noted is based on population and it is now called public safety funding. We will need to discuss the use of the \$246,258 since public safety also includes the Police Department. The other note is on the recommendation about looking at paid on call fire fighters for the 2025 budget which will have a large impact to the city budget plus the addition of safe and sick time leave.

5b. City Council Special Meeting-Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Administrator Pechman stated there is a special meeting for the January 23 which is the normally scheduled meeting date.

Council Member Meyer made the motion for the meeting date, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6a. Fee Schedule Chapter 180

Action

Administrator Pechman stated there are not many changes this year. The changes are in bold there are a couple changes Plan review fees, Ojiketa fees, hourly equipment rates and sewer and water rates per the study we had done.

Council Member Meyers made the motion to open the public hearing, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried 4 to 0.

Mayor Gustafson asked if there were any comments on the fee schedule.

Council Member Meyer made the motion to close the public hearing, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, any council not in favor signify by nay, hearing none, motion carried.

Council Member Meyer resolution 24-01-01 made the motion to approve the fee schedule ordinance 328, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

7a. Limit Coverage (LMC)

Action

Administrator Pechman stated this comes before them every year. Cities which obtain liability coverage from the LMC must decide whether to waive the statutory tort liability limits by statute 466.04. The tort liability limit is \$500,000.00 on any claim and the total for all claimants could recover for a single incident is \$1,500,000.00. Some cities, mainly larger Metro cities have chosen to waive these limits. Staff recommends that the limits are not waived.

Council Member Meyers made the motion not to waive the liability limits, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

7b. Family Pathways-Lease Agreement

Action

Administrator Pechman stated Family Pathways has leased the space upstairs for several years. This is our funding support for the organization. We have increased the agreement for a slight increase to support them having access to our internet services.

Council Member Meyer made the motion to approve the lease agreement, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

7c. Hiring of Public Works-Shane Speltz

Action

Administrator Pechman stated the City Council approved the hiring of a fifth Public Works employee in the 2024 budget. The process to hire for the new position was started after the preliminary budget was approved for 2024. The city advertised for 3 weeks prior to starting the first round of interviews. Six applications were submitted prior to the initial interview date. Staff set up five interviews. One applicant was not selected for the interview. The remaining five were interviewed. Shane Speltz was given a conditional offer of employment. Staff is currently working on completing his background check. A final offer will be made pending the City Council approval and successful completion of the background.

Council Member Meyer made the motion to approve the hire, Council Member Battles seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

7d. Request ARPA Funds-Water Study

Action

Administrator Pechman stated City staff is seeking approval of the attached proposal from Bolton and Menk to study the city's existing water capacity. A projected demand for water in next 20 years and how much capacity we have as the city continues to expand and grow. The city council in the past has indicated the use of our remaining ARPA funds should be towards infrastructure planning. This study will help in the process to develop long range planning. The proposal is \$28,000 and there are adequate funds remaining in the ARPA. We need to be looking at this prior to the possible new development that could happen along Highway 8.

Council Member Meyer made the motion to approve the funding coming out of the ARPA fund, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Council Member Meyers made the motion to adjourn, Council Member Rivers seconded, all in favor, all ayes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Paula Oehme,
Deputy City Clerk