

CITY OF ISLE COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes July 13th, 2021

At 6:00 pm the regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by roll call. **Council members present:** Mayor Ernie Frie, Ginger Houle, David Keding, Monica Keding and Naomi Creech.

Other staff present were: Jamie Hubbell, Mark Reichel, Jason Minenko, and Tim Ramerth. COVID 19 Social distancing protocols followed.

A **Motion** to approve the July Agenda by Houle; second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the June Regular meeting minutes by D Keding and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the June final claims totaling \$177,619.96 by M Keding with second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** by D Keding to approve July claims to date totaling \$239,678.41 with Houle making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Open Forum: None

Presentations, Announcements, Complaints and Requests:

- a. Peddler permit application from Culpepper Circus approved by **motion** by Houle seconded the motion by D Keding; all in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Standard and Poor's Global rating review of city bond financial status read and reviewed. City report downgraded two points from A++ to A-, with a negative outlook.
- c. Jessica Green of Northland Securities presented an Underwriter engagement letter for council to approve for refunding the 2012A GO Bond. **Motion** by M Keding to accept the underwriter services, with Houle making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Green will review the terms and market for the best refunding options (rated vs. non-rated) and report back to council for final approval. Council did not set a savings threshold at this time.
- d. 2022 Initiative Foundation request to contribute to the donation budget. Requested \$360.00. **Motion** by Frie to approve 2022 donation with a second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Public Hearings: Opened Public Hearing by **motion** at 6:21PM by Houle, second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

- a. Ordinance 190 to Annex Isle Harbor Township parcel 08-013-0605 Mid-North Development Company :Doppler Gear, into corporate city limits. Township tax loss compensation discussed and offered by M Keding at one (1) lump sum payment of \$2963.28, which represented three year taxable average. No township board members were present.

Public Hearing was closed at 6:25PM by **motion** made from Houle, second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Ordinance 190 with a lump sum payment offer to Isle Harbor Township totaling \$2963.28 made by M Keding. Second to that motion was Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Department Reports:

Public Works – Supervisor Minenko provided his department activities report for June. Water testing continues as normal, transfer pump repaired at the WWTF and summer Soo Line maintenance is working out well with Drift Skippers. The new speed sign was installed at the light pole across from the Father Hennepin cross streets. D Keding stated that he was pleased with the west end city sign rehab and would like Ellie Hubbell compensated for her art work. Would also like to see the rest of the city signs rehabbed as well. \$60,312.16 in water and sewer receivables for June. Twenty one (21) work orders processed.

Police Department- Chief Reichel provided his June report of 218 calls for service. Reichel stated that Officer Sammis provided extraordinary life saving measures to an individual at Appledorn's Resort during an apparent heart attack. Not only saving the sole, but also securing the landing zone and arrival for medivac crew. Creech asked if a neighbor's house was secure after finding it left open. Chief confirmed all was secure. Law Enforcement Labor Services notified council that they will be representing the Police Department on behalf of union representative service for the MN Bureau of Mediation Services. Reichel requested a forfeited cash recovery sum of 70% of \$3206.78 to be received and deposited into the 809 Forfeiture fund verses the public safety general fund. Council verbally agreed, without motion or vote. Chief Mark Reichel was then recognized for his fifteen (15) years of dedicated service to the city with a certificate and plaque.

Liquor Store Operations- June report provided by Manager Graber, reviewed by Hubbell. June revenues were down from 2020. \$87567 total sales; -\$1714.48 difference from 2020; expenses were up by \$6827.69 with \$79858 in total expenses. Total profit for June was \$7708.51 with a year to date net effect of profit at \$34670.65. Graber continues to make better buys through MMBA to increase stock options. A request to host a Fall Festival event at the Municipal lot on September 25th with craft beer vendor, food and permitted peddlers approved by motion from Houle and second by M Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Monthly scheduled transfer of \$1000; denied by **motion** from Houle and second by D Keding. Four in favor, Creech opposed. Motion carried.

Fire Department- Chief Miller was not present but reported that the July 3rd Fly your Flags motorcycle ride and raffle with Pancake breakfast was a success. All Isle Days events went well including the Fun Run and the department is seeing a higher than usual average number of service calls; assuming that the dry weather is a contributing factor along with higher number of visitors to the area.

Planning Commission – Commissioner Houle reviewed the July meeting agenda. New commissioner Chad Gross will attend August meeting to take oath. Commission agreed to a credit on an application with the variance process for 870 Island Ave. Owner will submit application for further review. Unanimous vote to issue continued blight fines for Eli, Pedersen, Remer/Hood, Taylor and Red Beard Lumber. Granted 30 day extension for Manning abatement process and 30 day recheck on Eli with abatement pending.

Airport Committee – Don Dahlen reported the minutes of the June meeting. New hangar construction is progressing, runway will need help recovering from the drought in the fall and the electrical needs to be upgraded to accommodate the new well pump. The water was available for the fly in breakfast, 75 planes and 1 helicopter brought in over 619 people for breakfast. MN Department of Aeronautics recommended removal of three existing obstructions or moving the end cones north 90'. The association will meet later in the month to discuss.

City Engineer –Tim Ramerth was present and discussed his June report. MN State Park requested council to review the Engineering/Project mutual agreement for comment. Ramerth recommended council to table approval until the full revised contract costs were updated. MN Dept of Health issued a permit for the new water meter portion of the bid and Widseth submitted

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the final revisions of the PER for approval by USDA Rural Development. Industrial Park Road permit is still pending final approval. Water tower removal plans have been approved. Still no response from Mille Lacs Band on their agreement for utility easements on Superior phase. Houle made the request to table approval of the Widseth invoice for Industrial Park EDA grant writing and reports until next month. Ramerth agreed that the city can reopen for discussion on Widseth Invoice #211778 in August.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Amended Airport lease was reviewed and approved by **Motion** by D Keding to amend the original no overnight use to allow overnight use with permission and indemnify the city for any liability occurring from such activity. Second by Houle; All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. MN Department of Aeronautics reviewed the flight path obstruction status of the airport and identified three remaining issues. (see map) 3403, 3404 and 3405. The suggestion to the Flying Association was to move the south end runway cones north by 90' ninety feet to temporarily avoid the remaining obstructions verses further costs to remove. Donald Dahlen; Flying Association President; was present and stated that the association would be discussing in detail at their next meeting and he would return with their recommendations to the council next month.
- c. Hubbell and Ramerth brought the council up to date on the EDA grant opportunities for the Industrial Park project. Due to lack of reserves and matching fund requirements, it was recommended that the grant requests be put on hold. **Motion** by Houle and second by D Keding to postpone further work on the grant options for the Industrial Park.

New Business:

- a. **Resolution 2021-07A** Order to Abate a Public Safety Nuisance and Sewer contamination threat at 555 Hennepin Ave (Maplewood Apartments); approved by motion by Houle, second by M Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. **Resolution 2021-07B** Accepting Donations in the amount of \$5250.00 approved by **Motion** by Houle, second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report:

- a. Set the work session schedule for preliminary budget setting. One hour before the August and September regular meetings for General Fund 100 2022 budgeting. One hour before the October and November regular council meetings for the Water/Sewer and Liquor fund budgets. Motion by Houle to approve work sessions with D Keding seconding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Reviewed second quarter 2021 budget status for all funds. All funds on target for 2021 expenses.
- c. Hubbell awarded Advanced Academy grant for \$100 for fall session.
- d. Invitation to Sandy Reichel's, Wahkon Mayor - Celebration of Life in Wahkon 7/17 at 1-3PM

Financials:

- a. June General bank statement balance: \$924,160.02 Liquor Fund bank statement balance: \$64,671.26
- b. Reviewed all account balances and Fund Balances with council in detail. (see bank balance statement sheet for Savings and Investments)

Adjourn Regular Meeting to sign claims at 7:53PM: **Motion** to adjourn Houle, seconded by D Keding. Next regular meeting, August 10th, 2021. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dated on this 13th, day of July, 2021

APPROVED on this 10th, day of August, 2021

Ernie Frie – Mayor

ATTEST:

Jamie Hubbell, MCMC Clerk-Treasurer

CERTIFIED BY VOTE:		
Motion	_____	
Second	_____	
AYE		NAY
<input type="checkbox"/>	NAOMI CREECH	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	ERNIE FRIE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	GINGER HOULE	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	DAVID KEDING	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	MONICA KEDING	<input type="checkbox"/>