

## CITY OF ISLE COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes September 14th, 2021

At 5:00 PM Mayor Frie called the work session to order. Houle made the motion to approve the agenda with D Keding making the second. The Public Works 2022 budget was discussed first, then the Fire budget. Discussion on Ambulance Lease Agreement renewal was postponed, and fire contracts were reviewed. The work session was adjourned by motion made by Houle and seconded by D Keding at 5:56 PM

\*No recording of this meeting was saved due to recorder malfunction.

At 6:10 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, Naomi Creech, David Keding and Monica Keding.

Other staff present were: David Miller, Jamie Hubbell, Tim Ramerth, Don Graber, Mark Reichel, Jason Minenko and Damien Toven.

COVID 19 Social distancing protocols followed.

A **Motion** to approve the September Agenda by Houle; second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the August Regular meeting minutes by D Keding and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the August final claims totaling \$222,695.25 by D Keding with second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** by M Keding to approve September claims to date totaling \$118,832.29 with Creech making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### Open Forum:

- a. Mille Lacs Drift Skippers representative, Steve Dubbs, was present to discuss the need to allow class 1 ATV riders to use North Scenic Dr. up to Union Road. Chief Reichel and Streets Supervisor Minenko agreed as long as riders obeyed all traffic laws and no issues occur with the property owners. Houle made the **motion** to allow riders to leave the ROW ditch and ride along North Scenic Dr., with Creech making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### Presentations, Announcements, Complaints and Requests:

- a. Mayor Frie requested the council review the current short term residential rental situation with VRBO and AirBnB/private home rentals. Frie recommended that each private property residential owner should file an Interim Use permit with the city for notification and approval for the use in the residential zones. Houle made the **motion** to have Damien Toven amend the current Zoning ordinance to include the requirement of the IUP application process and fees. Council would like to raise the IUP fee for 2022 to \$200.00. D Keding seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Public Hearings:** None

### Department Reports:

**Public Works** – Supervisor Minenko provided his department activities report for August. He reported that the repainting of the City Signs were completed. Pulled the pump at the boat

landing lift station for repairs. Reported that vandalism still continues at the city park weekly. Requested authorization to post a new Stop Sign at the Dollar General frontage turn from 47 to N. Scenic to slow traffic down there. **Motion** to approve the sign by Houle with second by M Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Quote from RC Habeck on the manhole replacements on Malone Island at \$1100 per manhole. Quote approved by **motion** by Houle and seconded by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Quote by SKLTREE to remove two trees at Union Rd access for \$2200.00 approved by **motion** by Houle and second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. 17 Work orders reviewed and \$54,633.77 total receipts for August water and sewer bills received.

**Police Department-** Chief Reichel presented his August report of 280 calls for service. See packet summary.

**Liquor Store Operations-** August report presented by Manager Graber. August revenues were up \$593.64 from 2020 with \$90,805 in total sales revenue; expenses were down by \$1962.48 with \$88,297.85 in total expenses. Total profit for August was \$2,507.72 with a year to date net effect of a profit of \$37,453.58. Graber has added \$40K in inventory this year and increased the selections. Month to date total inventory is at \$110,000. A new promo for customers to win a drawing for a gift certificate to Smokin Mortars Meat Shop will start Oct. 1st. Monthly budget transfer authorized for \$2000.00 by motion by M Keding and second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Fire Department-** Chief Miller was present to review the department activities over the summer. Chief Miller requested to table the ambulance lease renewal until next month. Fire contracts were reviewed and recommended a flat 10% increase for all township/city and band contracts; except for Seavey Township at no increase for the 2023 contract renewals. Council agreed to the recommended increase and to hold it for two years (23-24). Approved by **motion** by Houle with the second by M Keding. Four in favor, D Keding opposed. Motion carried. Miller reported that the Relief Board is working on their 2020 Audit report.

**Planning Commission** – Commissioner Houle reported on the August and September activities. Discussed Anderson violation of construction without permit and a request to approve common lot line adjustments for Haggberg. Blight properties continue to make progress in lieu of abatement. The EDA Board recommended to continue work on the planning and grant application for the Industrial Park.

**Airport Committee** – Don Dahlen reported on the airport committee minutes, stating that the runway condition is better with the rain we have had. The airport management has treated the well, but it is not tested for use yet. Dahlen requested the city contact State Aeronautics to determine the next steps to acquire a “Public Airport” status, but privately funded. **Motion** by Houle to contact the state and pursue public status requirements, with Creech making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**City Engineer** –Tim Ramerth presented his August activities letting Council know that bids were received and opened for the Water meter bid and the Wellhouse, Tower and well bid. Bids came in much higher than estimated and will have to be reviewed by USDA RD prior to approval. The meter bid was recommended to be rejected and re-bid to eliminate the mechanical option meters. **Motion** by Houle with second by M Keding to reject meter bids. All in favor, none opposed. **Motion** by Houle to rebid with only Ultrasonic meters with second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motions carried. Ramerth stated that the rebid will cost

approximately \$2000.00 more. Ramerth then reported that he still had responses due to Rural Development for the Infrastructure Project. Stated should be completed by week's end. Next the council approved by motion to continue engineering work on the Industrial Park planning and EDA Federal Grant application. Ramerth reported that the original estimates for dig ready Phase I plans were too high and revised phase and the estimate to approximately \$600K instead of the original \$1.5 million. The State Park cooperative agreement edits were approved by both Toven and Ramerth. **Motion** by M Keding with a second from Houle to accept the Final Cooperative Agreement and submit to the State for their approval and execution. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- a. **Resolution 2021-09A** MidNorth Development Purchase and Deed approved by **motion** from Houle and seconded by M Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Haggberg/Snyder Parcel parcel boundary and common line adjustment between parcel PID#'s 20-011-0300 and 20-011-0358; both owned by Haggberg; approved by **motion** from Houle and second by D Keding. Surveys and revised deeds pending from Kroschel Land Surveyors Inc. to be recorded by owners at Mille lacs county recorder's office. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- c. No new expenses to discuss for the American Rescue Plan Spending fund at this time. Frie made the motion to table further discussion until new expenses are needed. M Keding seconded. No vote.
- d. Preliminary 2022 General Budget discussed and approved at 10% increase over 2021 final budget totaling \$66,991 plus \$29,833 fire hall levy. **Resolution 2021-09B** approved by **motion** by M Keding and second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- a. **Resolution 2021-09C Accepting donations** approved by **Motion** by Houle, second by D Keding for \$1500.00. \$500 from South Harbor Dock for Police and \$1000 from Initiative Foundation for a pass thru grant for Isle Chamber of Commerce. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **Clerk's Report:**

- a. Special meeting reminder for September 21st at 5:00 PM for the GO Sewer Bond refunding.

#### **Financials:**

- a. August 31st General bank balance: \$1,253,737.52 Liquor Fund bank balance: \$64,192.48
- b. (see bank balance statement sheet for Savings, Investments and Fund balances)

**Adjourn Regular Meeting** to sign claims at 7:47PM: **Motion** to adjourn M Keding, seconded by D Keding. Next regular meeting, October 12th, 2021. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dated on this 14<sup>th</sup>, day of September, 2021  
APPROVED on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021

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Ernie Frie - Mayor

ATTEST:

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Jamie Hubbell, MCMC Clerk-Treasurer

Unofficial