

## CITY OF ISLE COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes January 11th 2022

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

Other staff present were: Jamie Hubbell, Tim Ramerth, Nikki Johann, Mark Reichel, and Jason Minenko.

COVID 19 Social distancing protocols followed.

A **Motion** to approve the January Agenda by Houle; second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the December Regular meeting minutes by M Keding and seconded by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the December final claims totaling \$264,054.48 by M Keding with second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Question regarding the charges for Isle Hardware Hank by Frie then **Motion** by Houle to approve January claims to date totaling \$78,336.59 with D Keding making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### Open Forum:

- a. McQuoids Inn Hotel and Resort owner; Tim Potoczny; presented a request to the council to hold a public hearing to repeal the 3% lodging tax ordinance for all Resorts and Lodging businesses in town. Potoczny would like to see the money that they pay to Mille Lacs Area Tourism actually stay in town to benefit Isle verses the whole lake area. Houle made a motion to hold the public hearing on March 8, 2022 at 6PM with D Keding making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

### Presentations, Announcements, Complaints and Requests:

- a. Mayor Frie presented the Annual Appointments and declarations for 2022; naming Houle as Mayor Pro-Tem in his absence and leaving all council liaison duties same as 2021 assignments. With no further discussion, Houle made the **motion** to approve **Resolution 2022-01A**, D Keding with the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Annual EFT and Wire transaction **Resolution 2022-01B** was presented and approved by motion from Houle and seconded by D Keding. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.
- c. Annual calendar need to be amended for the August and November council meeting dates. Both dates are state election dates, therefore both meetings were moved to the following Tuesday of each previously set regular council meetings.
- d. Mayor Frie presented a request to council to approve donations and fundraiser options for a new city Dog Park. Frie would like to raise enough money to get a fence and the supplies needed to keep the park clean. Discussed converting a portion of Memory Lane Park or approaching MLBO on their large grass lot next to the DaVita building on Isle St. E. Frie made the motion to accept donations and set up donation locations at the Muni, Naomi's Pet Grooming store and City hall. Houle made the second, none opposed. Motion carried.

- e. Complaint request from Michael Weidenhamer 1860 White Cloud Dr. on his fine for not acquiring a permit prior to erecting his accessory structure carport. Weidenhamer stated that it was only a temporary structure with no concrete footings or permanent posts. He stated that he fully plans to build a primary residence on the parcel within the next year and will submit a full permit for both house and garage by May 2022. If he does not submit by May, then the carport must be removed. An Interim Use permit will be allowable for 1 year from the date of application. Houle agreed to reduce the fine to \$140.00 from the original \$840.00 fine. D Keding seconded. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Public Hearings:** None

**Department Reports:**

**Public Works** – Supervisor Minenko provided his department activities report for December. Lots of plowing and snow removal and truck repairs. Constantly having to repair the 05 Ford, warns that it will need to be replaced sooner than later. Residential frozen meter repairs and the high school meter was plugged with scale; no way to tell how long. 11 Work orders completed and \$42282.90 total receipts for December water and sewer bills received. \$552,316.79 for the year total.

**Police Department-** Chief Reichel presented his December report of 298 calls for service. See packet summary report. Reichel presented a request from new hire Gary Smith for an increase in his starting wage due to his 16 years of experience. Council approved the \$2.00 increase by **motion** from Frie and second from D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Chief then requested to promote new hire LaForce to full time due to Officer Skluzacek’ s resignation. Houle made the **motion** to approve with D Keding seconding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Resolution 2022-01C** to hire Officer Carter Tornio as full time officer to replace Officer Kleinsasser, was approved by **motion** by Houle and seconded by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Liquor Store Operations-** December and yearend report presented by Clerk Hubbell with Manager Johann present. December revenues were down \$3046.13 from 2020 with \$56,427.47 in total sales revenue; expenses were also down by \$18,132.02 with \$57,830.58 in total expenses. Total loss for December was \$1403.11 with a year to date net effect of a profit of \$24,426.20 Nikki stated that we are maintaining our inventory and stocking what we can when it becomes available from the distributor shortages. Lots of clean up and getting the store organized and inventory 100% accurate has been her first priority. Long term goals are to get the bar open again. Scheduled a wine tasting event for Feb 8<sup>th</sup>. Monthly budget transfer authorized for \$1000.00 by motion by M Keding and second by D Keding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Fire Department-** Hubbell presented the reports from Chief Miller; stating that the FEMA grant deadline was extended to the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, so we would not get award notice until March or April, (award notices will go thru August of 22). Notice from Midwest Fire that the new tanker will be ready for final inspection on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Hubbell will get the final loan secured with First National Bank. Isle Fire Relief submitting their annual renewal for their gambling permit

for 2022 motorcycle ride in July. Motion by Houle to approve permit, with D Keding seconding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**Planning Commission** – Commissioner Houle reported on the December and January activities. Zoning Map amendments will be discussed and Public hearing set for March. 1235 Dorothy St, Steve Hall, constructed a permanent concreted carport/garage without permit. Motion by D Keding to issue the fine of \$740.00, with second by M Keding. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried. Blight properties report that they will continue with clean up efforts come spring. Planning Board is discussing street name options for the new industrial park streets.

**Airport Committee** – No meeting

**City Engineer** –Tim Ramerth presented his December activities letting Council know that bids were received and opened for the Main Water and Sewer Infrastructure portion of the project. Bids came in much higher than estimated back in 2019 and will have to be reviewed by USDA RD prior to approval. Ramerth discussed with Rural Development if there could potentially be any more grant award from USDA; with them stating we will need to award first and review after. The award of the third phase bids on **Resolution 2022-01D** was tabled until the February council meeting. Phase #1 Meter project, is pending meter orders. Phase #2 Well House & Tower project is underway. MBI first payment authorization presented for approval at \$16,463.88. Approved by **Motion** by Frie with second by M Keding. All in favor, none opposed. State Park sewer project is still pending final project survey.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- a. Reopened the tabled discussion regarding the WSN FEMA grant application refund. Ramerth stated that the most recent submission by Dave Pecchia was copied verbatim and only minor edits to some text was noticed. Also stated that the error of posting the grant submissions as “Career” fire departments twice, was their fault, so they would credit the cost of the grants back to the city in the amount of \$2500. **Motion** by D Keding and second by Houle to accept the credit. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- a. **Resolution 2022-01E Accepting donations** approved by **Motion** by Houle, second by D Keding for \$3500. \$500 from McQuoids Inn and \$500 from Mille Lacs Drift Skippers for Police and \$2500 from City of Wahkon for Fire Department for SCBA unit expense. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. **Resolution 2022-01F Accepting In Kind donations** approved by **Motion** by Houle and second by D Keding to accept a 2006 Polaris Snowmobile offered by the Steve Reis family with a value of \$2000. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- c. **Resolution 2022-01G Amending the pay schedule** was tabled until February due to pending Police Union agreement.

#### **Clerk’s Report:**

- a. Fourth quarter budget, year end budget totals report reviewed by Hubbell with Council and department managers.

#### **Financials:**

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Regular Council Meeting

- a. December 31st General bank balance: \$1,162,559.65 Liquor Fund bank balance: \$49,364.23
- b. (see bank balance statement sheet for Savings, Investments and Fund balances)

**Adjourn Regular Meeting** to sign claims at 7:35PM: **Motion** to adjourn D Keding, seconded by M Keding. Next regular meeting, February 8th, 2022. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dated on this 11<sup>th</sup>, day of January, 2022  
 APPROVED on this 8th, 2022

---

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"/>