

CITY OF ISLE COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes February 8th, 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 and Naomi Creech. David and Monica Keding were present via Zoom in a public location at the American Legion, 1701 S Church St. Rockport, TX 78382.

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

A **Motion** to approve the February Amended Agenda by Houle; second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the January Regular meeting minutes by Creech and seconded by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** to approve the January final claims totaling \$153,341.64 by Creech with second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. **Motion** by Frie to approve February claims to date totaling \$144,994.16 with Houle making the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Open Forum: None

Presentations, Announcements, Complaints and Requests:

- a. 2022 Summary Budget to be published upon approval was presented. Houle made the **motion** to approve with Creech with the second. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. 2022 Pay Equity Compliance Report was presented and approved by motion from Creech and seconded by Frie. All in favor none opposed. Motion carried.
- c. FY23 Community Project Funding proposal request by Representative Pete Stauber to request the congressman's support on behalf of the city improvement projects. Mayor Frie requested each department to submit their requests for consideration. Motion by Creech and second by Houle to submit the Parks Grant project for consideration approved. Frie requested Parks Liaisons; Creech and M Keding; to work with Minenko, Hubbell and Peterson to write and submit a full parks improvement proposal for support.

Public Hearings: None

Department Reports:

Public Works – Supervisor Minenko provided his department activities report for January. Multiple snow events for plowing which in turn created multiple vehicle repairs. Police vehicle repairs completed in shop. Minenko, stated that some low profile ramps or lift would be helpful for the squad work. Completed some building maintenance at city hall and muni. Minenko requested the park improvements and to add a “Parks” maintenance vehicle and new mower to the project list for consideration. 8 Work orders completed and \$45,177.70 total receipts for January water and sewer bills received.

Police Department- Chief Reichel presented his January report of 235 calls for service. See packet summary report. Reichel presented his FY23 project proposal that included new squad car totaling \$41,225, squad cameras and new portal lap tops for on site reporting.

Liquor Store Operations- January sales report presented by Manager Johann. January revenues were down \$6330.23 from 2021 with \$57,926.20 in total sales revenue; expenses were up \$22563.54 with \$47357.81 in total expenses. Total profit for January was \$10568.59 with a year to date net effect of a profit of \$10568.59. Johann stated that she was taking advantage of larger beer buying opportunities and inventory and stocking what we can when it becomes available from the continued distributor shortages before all the prices increase. Jim stock specials for February. Wine tasting we well. New staff uniforms are in. The MN Lottery representative will be in next week to get the lottery sales displays set up. Nikki's FY23 project request included updated cameras, sewer rehab and a new beer cooler. Monthly budget transfer authorized for \$1000.00 by motion by Frie and second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Fire Department- Chief Miller presented the report for January. Miller reviewed the prizes for the 2022 raffle including \$7475 in prizes. Miller stated that 2/5 and 2/19 will be fire relief events. Miller submitted quotes and invoices for approval; Glen's Tires for \$3000, Alex Air for \$1755 and a Motorola Radio quote for \$2730. All approved by **Motion** by Houle, with Creech seconding. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Frie requested that Chief Miller stop by the muni to get Johann set up with the appropriate smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Midwest Racing donated \$500.00 to the fire department for attending their ice races on being the first responders on call.

Planning Commission – Commissioner Houle stated no meeting for January, but announced the public hearing for Zoning map amendments for March 7th.

Airport Committee – No meeting – although the Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics Private Airport license was renewed and approved.

City Engineer – Prior to Ramerth's presentation of his January activities; A full review of the Project Finances was discussed. With all of the bids submitted and two awarded to date, the project is now at \$2.6m over budget from the original 2019 project plan. Hubbell and Ramerth met with USDA RD Representative Brett Repulske and USACE Representative Michelle Prosser to discuss further grant options. USDA will submit requests for further grant and loan options, but at worst case the city will have to obligate a minimum of \$1.9m in additional financing to complete the project as bid. Clerk Hubbell requested the council approve Northland Securities letter of engagement to have Jessica Green arrange further financing for the project moving forward. **Motion** by Houle to approve with Frie making the second. All in favor of Northland's services agreement. Motion carried. Hubbell stated that the city's original obligated funds are almost spent in full and USACE grant dollars are being applied at 75% of each request. The temporary loan funds will start to apply to invoices for the 25% portions and then council will have to come back to USDA RD requests when the \$2.2m. MRWA temporary loans are exhausted. With that, **Resolution 2022-02A** presented to approve the lowest bidder for the main infrastructure project. Noting that council was aware that they are awarding the project fully aware that it is with gap funding and the city is assuming all potential financial risks if further funding is not awarded by USDA Rural Development. Award to lowest bidder TnT Construction Group, LLC at \$5,988,000 Approved by **Motion** by Frie with second by Houle. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. Ramerth continued his report with discussion of change order to the 2nd phase project for the well house. Request to change the design back to gas fed chlorine verses the liquid chlorine in the engineer specifications. Change order approval capped at no

more than \$20,000 by **motion** from Houle with second by Frie. A first payment request was submitted by Winwater for the 1st phase meter project approved, once submitted officially, by Houle and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. State Park sewer project is pending Archeological survey and Geotech review; due to be completed next week. Widesth Project invoice for \$32134.00 was reviewed and approved by motion from Frie and seconded by Houle. Notice from Federal US Department of Commerce EDA for potential approval for the Industrial Park improvements was received for further responses. Levenson will continue to work on this under the original contract for grant request.

Unfinished Business:

- a. Request for public hearing notice approved for March 8th, 2022 by motion by Houle and seconded by Creech to discuss a possible amendment to the 3% lodging tax ordinance 113 ch. 179. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. Resolution to amend 2022 pay scale was re-tabled due to delay in response from the LELS Union representatives for the Police Department.

New Business:

- a. McQuoids Inn annual liquor license renewal approved by **Motion** by Houle, second by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- b. McQuoids requested a gambling permit under their non-profit Rural Music Ministries; approved by **Motion** by Creech and second by Houle for their event to be held June 20th, 2022. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- c. **Resolution 2022-02B Accepting Donations** from Midwest Racing for \$500.00 for the Fire Department for Airpacks. Approved by **Motion** by Houle and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Clerk's Report:

- a. \$5000 Grant from MN Department of Agriculture was awarded and accepted on behalf of the Public Works department for invasive Plants and weed eradication for 2022 Summer season. Accepted by **motion** from Houle and seconded by Creech. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Financials:

- a. January 31st General bank balance: \$1,151,298.40 Liquor Fund bank balance: \$63,793.33
- b. (see bank balance statement sheet for Savings, Investments and Fund balances)

Adjourn Regular Meeting to sign claims at 8:07PM: **Motion** to adjourn Houle, seconded by Creech. Next regular meeting, March 8th, 2022. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Dated on this 8th, day of February, 2022
APPROVED on this 8th, day of March 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"/>