

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
October 5, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zenzen at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Zenzen, Council Members Backes, Genereux, Coleman and Schmitz; Engineer Boots; Attorney Couri, Fire Chief Kramer, Asst. Chief Steinhofer, Fire Captain Voigt, Fire Lieutenant Claseman and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jackie Steinhofer, Brent Ahamann, Bryce Larson, Kyle Kerfeld, Tim Gillet, Todd Johnson

CONSENT AGENDA: **A motion was made to approve the consent agenda items 3A – 3F by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, September 7, 2021

Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated October 5, 2021 and for US Bank payment, and Checks #26604 -26688.

City Council Agenda, October 5, 2021.

Gambling Permit, St. Augusta Blizzard Busters, American Legion 2-5-2022.

Gambling Permit, St. Augusta Legion Women's Auxiliary, American Legion 10/17/2021 and 11/6/2021.

Stearns County Contract for Police Services.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Deputy Hemmesch was in attendance and presented the September Sheriff's report. He indicated 43 hours were spent on contract during the month and he reviewed the call types and answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made to approve the Sheriff's Reports by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Harren was in attendance and presented the monthly building spreadsheet. He indicated there were 39 permits issued during the quarter including one new dwelling issues in September.

A motion was made to accept as presented by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer was in attendance and presented the August run and training report. There were eight calls during the month bringing the total to 72 calls for the year as compared to 88 at this time last year. Training was done by Fire Inc. and was SCBA and EMS refresher.

A motion was made to approve the monthly fire report by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

Lt. Claseman presented a quote to repair the cypher locks on each of the outside doors indicating they have been giving a lot of issues.

A motion was made to approve replacing the cypher locks by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM:

Todd Johnson was in attendance to address his letter about his detached shed. He indicated he was aware of other similar sheds within the City. He asked how we could work with him and Mr. Couri explained the rules.

**SALARY STUDY
RESULTS:**

Tessia Melvin with David Drown and Associates, was attending via telephone and she presented a summary document of their study results. Ms. Melvin explained the process and the results of the market study. Mayor Zenzen wondered about how the average was determined and Ms. Melvin stated it was the average of all the bench mark communities. Ms. Coleman indicated she believes private industry is giving raises, and she sees that this might need to be done. Mayor Zenzen stated we could discuss further at our budget workshop meeting.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Boots indicated he didn't have any action items. The road project soil borings are done and they will continue to progress. The Gaberdine study is preliminarily completed and he will get it to the Council for further discussion next month.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION –**

WHEELCO:

Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval of the zoning change and site plan for Wheelco so long as all the engineer and planner comments are addressed. He presented Resolution #2021 -15 and #2021-16 along with Ordinance #2021-03 for approval.

A motion was made to approve Resolutions #2021-15 and #2021-16 approving the change in zoning and the site plan by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance #2021-03, approving the change in zoning by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER

PURVIEW:

Ms. Coleman wanted to thank staff for taking care of potholes throughout the city.

Mr. Backes indicated he had a call from a citizen that was upset about City Hall not being open during posted hours.

Mr. Genereux wondered about the Winkelman nuisance. Mr. Couri stated that he visited with Mr. Winkelman today as there hasn't been significant progress. Mr. Genereux asked what the next step. Mr. Couri explained the process about taking action on the nuisance.

A motion was made to start court action on the Winkelman property by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Zenzen questioned what plans were necessary for a site plan review as he was concerned we were asking for more than what is required of Augusta Auto Body. Mr. Couri and Mr. McCabe explained our site plan review ordinance lists out exactly what is expected and Mr. McCabe indicated those requirements were given to Augusta Auto Body.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

Mr. McCabe asked that we set a budget workshop review meeting. He suggested we do it on October 20 at 4:30pm.

Mr. McCabe indicated there were another round of interviews for the administrative assistant/utility billing clerk position. The committee is recommending we hire Hannah Ross as Administrative Assitant.

A motion was made to hire Ms. Ross at \$17/hour by Ms. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCabe also suggested we send another reminder that there are delinquent storm water bills that will be assessed to taxes if they are not paid by November 2.

ADJOURMENT:

A motion was made to adjourn to at 8:40. Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Meeting Adjourned.

Approved this 2nd day of November, 2021.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator