

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
October 6, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Zenzen via Zoom Meeting at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Zenzen, Council Members Reinert, Backes, Schulzetenberg and Genereux; Attorney Couri, Engineer Boots; Fire Lieutenant Claseman, Assistant Chief Jerry Orth, Captain Joe Kramer, Building Inspector Mark Harren, Treasurer Rasmuson and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Hartkopf, Eric Netter, Jeff Schmitz, Nick Muller, Lee Meier, and Ray Kenning

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, September 1, 2020.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated October 6, 2020 and for US Bank payment and Checks #23709 – 23796. October 6, 2020
Gambling Permit, St. Augusta American Legion Auxiliary
2021 Stearns County Sheriff's Contract for Police Services

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Mr. McCabe indicated that the report would be given next month.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Harren presented the updated spreadsheet highlighting that it was a good quarter. He indicated there were 12 permits issued in September and so far in October, including four single family dwellings.

A motion was made to approve the building inspector's report as presented by Ms. Schulzetenberg, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Lt. Claseman presented the monthly report for August indicating there were 18 calls, two of which were cancelled. Monthly training was held in house and was on address recognition and driving throughout the City.

A motion was made to approve the report by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Lt. Claseman presented a quote for new SCBA bottles indicating this was included in the annual budget.

A motion was made to purchase the SCBA bottles for an amount of \$5,815.02 by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Lt. Claseman presented a quote to replace hose that was too old to be recertified. He indicated about half the old hose was being replaced.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of the hose in an amount of \$2,456.50 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

Lt. Claseman presented an amendment to the medical standard operating guidelines in reference to the LUCAS devices indicating it was approved by the medical director.

A motion was made to approve the Medical SOG's amendment by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Lt. Claseman reported the generator is not outputting, they have asked Augusta Electric to look at it. Mayor Zenzen suggested we should start budgeting for it. Captain Kramer thought \$41,000 is an approximate quote for a new one.

OPEN FORUM:

Ray Kenning and Eric Netter of Edgewood Road were in attendance to discuss the private road they live on and the possibility of making it a public road. 207th Street, 65th Avenue and 205th Street are the public roads leading to Edgewood Road. Mr. Reinert said part is city road and part is private and the residents want to make the private portion public. He indicated a letter dated May 7th of 2002 started the process, but nothing ever happened. Mr. Reinert wondered if this letter still has weight and if not what's the process. Mr. McCabe stated our policy states the residents improve the road to a specification and then the City will take it over so long as there is sufficient right-of-way. Mr. Reinert is concerned about fire protection if it's private and how does that affect the City. Mayor Zenzen indicated he was on the Council back in 2002 and the reason this stalled is the landowner wasn't willing to give up the land for the necessary right-of-way. Mr. Reinert indicated we should review the policy to see if it should be amended. Mr. Kenning asked if there is one person who wants to stop progress is that sufficient to stop the project. Mr. Couri stated that is a private property right issue. If the city wants to make it public we need to condemn it and that is fairly expensive; hard to justify; once we maintain it as public we are responsible to make it safe and passable. The extra cost is a policy question. As long as it's private the city has

no liability. Mr. McCabe indicated the next step is a letter from the residents requesting the City take over ownership. He stated they will have to bring it up to spec or agree to paying the cost of the City doing it via assessments. Mr. Couri said once we have the request we can begin talking with property owners for right-of-way and if they are not willing to provide the right-of-way if we want to go through the process to condemn. We can get an engineer's estimate to provide the Council with information they need and see if it's a project the city wants to proceed with. Mr. Couri explained condemnation is expensive, assessments can work but either way residents may contest it, making it even more expensive. Mr. Kenning said a resident on 207th is saying they won't sign because they are moving soon.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Boots presented a change order (Change Order #2) for the 2020 Street Project indicating all items were completed and previously discussed.

A motion was made to approve the change order in the amount of \$2,312.70 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boots presented pay request #1 for the 2020 Street project in an amount of \$208,006.77. He explained what remained and the punch list items that were still needing to be addressed.

A motion was made to approve Pay Request #1 to Knife River for the 2020 Street Project in an amount of \$208,006.77 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Boots provided the ditch design along with stating there is no quote to date. We can wait but he is looking for direction. Mr. Reinert suggested we stick with those two quotes for now and possibly have a quick special meeting. Mr. McCabe said we can do it at the budget meeting. Ms. Schulzetenberg said she'd like to do the project this year. Mr. Hartkopf questioned the slope of the ditch and wondered if it was adequate. Mr. Boots responded it was the minimum recommended in MnDot's design. Mr. George wondered how we knew the ditch was working as designed behind his property with shooting elevations. Mr. McCabe responded it was by observation, there was not any standing water in the ditch. Mr. Backes concurred saying there weren't any issues out there when it was inspected a day after a hard rain.

Mr. Boots presented a "Master Service Agreement" to formalize how things will be done and billed in the future. He explained individual tasks need to be done and be approved. This allows them to do some work without a new agreement every time they do work for the City. Mr.

Couri said all the changes he felt needed to be made have been and are included in the agreement.

A motion was made to approve the Master Service Agreement by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

**CARES ACT EXPENDITUERS/
COVID-19**

DISCUSSION: Mr. McCabe indicated the committee to review the CARES Act Grant application has met twice to review the applications that were received. He indicated the City had \$200,785.87 plus the match from Stearns County to award. He presented a spreadsheet tracking the applications with the recommend grant award listed which totaled \$200,800 meaning we would really not have to get any funds from Stearns County.

A motion was made to award a CARES Act Grant to the St. Augusta Legion in an amount of \$25,000 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried 4-0 with Mayor Zenzen abstaining.

A motion was made to award the following grants –

Connect Ability of Central	\$25,000
Janel Honer, Daycare	\$25,000
The Big Blast Inflatables	\$15,800
Voigt Bus	\$25,000
Hayloft	\$25,000
Club Almar	\$25,000
Dreams to Reality Daycare	\$25,000
Nadine Streit Daycare	\$10,000

On a motion by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

STREET PATCHING

QUOTE: Mr. McCabe presented a quote for a patch in Eagle's Landing along with Resolution #2020-16, declaring a conflict of interest.

A motion was made to approve the patching by Diversified Paving in the amount of \$1,100 along with Resolution #2020-16, Authorizing a contract with an interested officer by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried 4-0 with Mr. Reinert abstaining.

COUNCIL MEMBER

PURVIEW: Ms. Schulzetenberg wondered about follow up on the internet issue and was told we were waiting for the residents to reach out as

discussed at last meeting. Mayor Zenzen indicated he has reached out to Senator Relph, but Senator Relph was non-committal.

Ms. Schulzetenberg indicated she wanted to say during the discussion on the Annis Acres ditch that once the work is done, we could determine if more is needed to the north.

Mr. Backes stated he thought the signage at Hidden Lake Park disc golf could be better.

Mr. Genereux wondered what everyone thought about not getting a sheriff's report for two month in a row. Mr. McCabe state he can share the frustration with the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Genereux made an observation about the sign at Dollar General indicating he thought it was going to be more in the air.

Mayor Zenzen asked about the Winkelman issue. Mr. Couri responded that he hoped to get a letter out this week.

Mayor Zenzen wondered what we should do with the old Council computers. Someone suggested donating to a non-profit. Mr. McCabe was directed to get a value and make them available for people to bid on.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the current law says the County will have to accept any absentee ballot postmarked by Election Day up to a week after the election. This means we will not be able to canvass the municipal election on November 10 and we need to discuss when to hold our regular meeting. He suggested we hold it on Wednesday November 4th and hold a special meeting to canvass on Friday, November 13 at 9am. The budget workshop meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday the 20th of October at 5pm with a special meeting to be held to approve the ditch work in Annis Acres either preceding or after the workshop meeting.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:38 pm by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Meeting Adjourned.

Approved this ____ day of November, 2020

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator