

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
April 5, 2022**

**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; Asst. Fire Chief Steinhofer, Fire Captain Voigt, Fire Captain Sandhurst, Firefighter Daryl Stang, Firefighter Herman Roerick, Attorney Couri, Engineer Boots, Engineer Madejczyk, Stearns County Deputy Hemmesch, Stearns County Deputy Widmer and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Bertram, Taylor Williamson, Sheri Stang, Jackie Steinhofer, David Kotschevar, Roxanne Kotschevar, Jim Honer, Janel Honer, Ollie Mondloch, Jeanette Krippner, Tami Calhoun, Aaron Binsfeld, Jenna Binsfeld, Pete Verant, Nicole Verant, Brent Ahmann, Marlin Hommerding, Naomi Hommerding, Isaac Meemken, Abby Meemken, Tom Kellner, Andy Meemken

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor Zenzen removed item 3E from the consent agenda and moved it to item 3.1

**A motion was made to approve as amended by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, March 1, 2022

Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated April 5, 2022  
and for US Bank payment and Checks #27041–  
27132.

City Council Agenda, April 5, 2022

Resolution #2022-08, Electing Standard Allowance for ARPA  
B. McCabe's attendance at the annual League of Cities  
Conference.

**BUILDING INSPECTION**

**CONTRACT:** Mr. Couri indicated he had some minor changes that he has made to this contract with other cities Inspectron covers.

**A motion was made to approve the building inspection contract with Inspectron as amended by Mr. Couri by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Deputy Widmer was in attendance and presented the Sheriff's report. He reviewed the call types and answered questions from the Council.

**A motion was made to approve the Sheriff's report as presented by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **BUILDING INSPECTOR'S**

### **REPORT:**

The 2022 building permit spreadsheet was presented. 14 additional permits were issued in March including another 2 new single family homes.

**A motion was made to approve the report as presented by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **UPDATE:**

Mr. McCabe presented quotes for dust coating and street sweeping. He recommended we go with the lower of both quotes (Central Minnesota Dust Control and Pearson Bros for street sweeping).

**A motion was made to accept the bid of Central Minnesota Dust Control at \$1.08/gallon for dust control and the bid from Pearson Bros. at \$112.10/hour for street sweeping by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **FIRE DEPT.**

### **REPORT:**

Assistant Chief Steinhofner presented the February monthly report indicating there were 11 calls for the month and 20 for the year total. This compares to 13 at the same time last year. Monthly training was provided by Fire Inc. and was on Hazmat refresher.

**A motion was made to approve the report by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Captain Voigt presented the quotes on equipment for confined space entry. The three quotes combined allow the department to serve the minimum confined space entry situations.

**A motion was made to approve the quotes and purchase the confined space entry equipment by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Captain Voigt presented quotes for additional grant writing requests specifically to write to FEMA for SCBA and Truck grants.

**A motion was made to approve \$1,300 for grant writing by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Captain Voigt presented quotes for additional turn-out gear for the new hires.

**A motion was made to approve the quotes for the PPE in the amount of \$7,479 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

Captain Voigt presented a list of items the Relief Association wanted to donate to the department.

**A motion was made to accept the donation from the Fire Relief Association by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

Assistant Chief Steinhofner indicated they had conducted another interview with a trained firefighter and would like to make a conditional offer to Ashley Eichten.

**A motion was made to make a conditional offer of employment to Ashley Eichten by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Couri explained a situation with Fire Safety with Kids, stating they were using the City's Fire Department.

**A motion was made to denying the use of the St. Augusta Fire Department name without specific approval by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN FORUM:** Mayor Zenzen, knowing there were many in attendance to discuss the proposed Honer Pit, explained the process for the open forum. He turned the meeting over to the engineers to explain the EAW process. Mr. Madejczyk explained the process and along with other staff answered questions.

**GARBAGE HAULING  
REQUEST:**

Jeff Bertram and Taylor Williamson were in attendance and wanted to discuss our waste hauler's license and ordinance. Mr. Bertram explained the West Central history in St. Augusta. Mr. Williamson passed out a map requesting they be allowed to expand their service to two separate days. Mr. McCabe explained the reason we went to one hauler. Consensus was to bring an amended ordinance to our May meeting.

**CLEAN UP DAY:**

Mayor Zenzen indicated we need to set up a clean-up day and Mr. McCabe thought it best to discuss when our contracted hauler is in attendance. Mr. McCabe asked Mr. Bertram what their availability was for late May or early June. June 11 was the consensus for our 2022 clean-up day.

**ENGINEER'S  
REPORT:**

No additional comments offered.

**COUNCIL MEMBER  
PURVIEW:**

Mr. Genereux inquired about the lot on County Road 75 and 245<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. McCabe responded they are adding a house. Mr. Genereux asked about cleaning up around the ponds in Kiffmeyer Park. Mr. McCabe explained the city pond we are looking at potentially doing a controlled burn. The County indicated they have it on the list but no time set.

Mr. Genereux inquired about the gutters in Blackberry Farms. The staff will take a look at it.

Ms. Coleman inquired about the water reading complaint. Mr. McCabe indicated there appeared to be a leak as the usage had increased each of the past two months. He explained the new reading system that was authorized at the last meeting will be able to show hourly data to prove when the leak began. He suggested, because it is already authorized, we change out the meter and radio and test the old meter. If it shows an error, we can adjust the bill to reflect that.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

**REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe reported our travel and meal reimbursement policy has not changed.

**A motion was made to change the meal reimbursement to \$50/day by Ms. Coleman, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**A motion was made to adjourn at 9:05pm by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

Approved this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2022.

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator