

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
April 4, 2023**

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, and Hommerding; Fire Chief Kramer, Assistant Fire Chief Steinhofer, Fire Captain Savage, Firefighter Daryl Stang, Stearns County Deputy Meland, Attorney Couri, Engineer Boots, Street Superintendent Kiffmeyer, Public Works employee Hollermann, Building Inspector Waller and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: .Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall, Amy Brand, Sheri Stang, Jackie Steinhofer, Brent Ahmann,

CONSENT AGENDA: **A motion was made to approve Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, March 7 and March 27, 2023.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated April 4, 2023
and for US Bank payment and Checks #24714e –
24731e and #27503 – 28131.
City Council Agenda, April 4, 2023
B. McCabe's attendance at LMC Conference
Temporary Liquor Licenses for Lux Rec Club (July 14-16 and
August 11-13).

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Deputy Meland 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. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Wallen was in attendance and presented the quarterly building inspection report. He indicated we have 67 permits to date including one new home permit issued in March and answered questions from the Council

A motion was made to approve the building inspectors report by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

STEARNS COUNTY PROSECUTION CONTRACT

REPORT: Ms. Kendall was in attendance and presented her summary of the past year's prosecution contract. She started with diversion and moved along to types of calls.

**PUBLIC WORKS
SKID LOADER/WHEEL LOADER/
TRAILER**

QUOTES: Mr. Kiffmeyer discussed the quote that was included in the packets to replace the JCB skid loader. He indicated they would like to have one with tracks as it will be easier to use the brush hog. Mr. Backes suggested we look at a new wheel loader and push the skid loader off another year. Mr. Kiffmeyer agreed that is a smart idea.

A motion was made to purchase a new Case Mini-wheel loader for a cost of \$86,679 along with the Midsota trailer at a cost of \$10,900 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS
DUST CONTROL:**

A motion was made to approve the dust control with Crow River Construction by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS
SEAL COAT:**

Mr. McCabe presented a list of recently completed street projects and suggested these be the roads seal coated and fog sealed this year. He explained the preliminary estimate is just shy of \$80,000 but said the street project should come in under budget making up for the extra.

A motion was made to solicit quotes on the proposed seal coat project by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS
48TH AVENUE
PATCHING:**

Mr. McCabe presented a quote to do a patch repair on 48th Avenue. He also explained the quote included a mill and overlay option. Mr. McCabe suggested there is a potential to add this road to other projects for a future road project.

A motion was made to approve the patch in an amount of \$4,150 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS

STREET SWEEPING: Quotes were presented and Mr. McCabe explained that Ehlinger did the work in about two thirds of the time it was done last year by Pearson.

A motion was made to approve the quote from Ehlinger for street sweeping by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPT. REPORT:

Chief Kramer presented the February fire report. He indicated there were six calls during the month bringing the total to 14 calls compared with 13 at this time last year. He noted the training was the annual right to know as well as an Art of Reading Smoke Class presented by Fire Inc. There was also in house training on CPR recertification.

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

Mr. McCabe presented the only bid received for the used truck that was advertised after our last meeting.

A motion was made to approve the bid from Fire Safety USA in an amount of \$200,000 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kramer indicated the DNR has a 50/50 grant and suggested we go ahead and submit for pagers.

Mr. McCabe indicated the fire relief wants the designated members to be declared and it will be the City Administrator and Mayor as well as Mr. Schmitz.

OPEN FORUM: no comments offered.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Boots stated he had nothing to report.

COUNCIL MEMBER PURVIEW:

Mayor Zenzen indicated he got a text message about lengthening the disc golf course. Mr. Backes stated he was going to bring it up at the next park board meeting.

Mayor Zenzen brought up a flyer received about a new transmission line from Albertville to Big Stone. It won't have a much of an impact on the City of St. Augusta.

Mayor Zenzen questioned where we are on the Dollar General tobacco license. Mr. McCabe stated they had not yet paid.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

Mr. McCabe stated he hadn't begun planning a clean-up day and wondered if we could hold off until next year as has been the practice.

Mr. McCabe stated the Fire Relief Association needed to know who the two city delegates were to their board. Mr. McCabe stated he assumed he and the mayor were the automatic appointees without voting privileges. Mr. Couri looked up that statute and said they are voting members and there actually needs to be 3 members. By consent the members chosen were Mayor Zenzen, Councilmember Schmitz and Administrator McCabe.

Mayor Zenzen declared the meeting closed to discuss attorney/client privileged information related to St. Augusta v. Wayne Winkelman, Court File #73-CV-22-3002 at 8:20pm.

Mayor Zenzen declared the meeting reopened at 8:55pm.

A motion was made to approve the mediated settlement agreement in the Winkelman matter by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:55pm by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved this 2nd day of May, 2023.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator