

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
December 1, 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, Backes, Schulzetenberg, Reinert and Genereux; Engineer Boots; Fire Chief Mike Tabbat, Assistant Fire Chief Orth, Fire Lieutenant Claseman, Fire Captain Kramer, Fire Lieutenant Voigt, Stearns County Deputy Hemmesch, Treasurer Rasmuson and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Schmitz, Mary Coleman, Brad Paul and Brent Ahmann.

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, November 4, 2020.
City Council Agenda, December 1, 2020
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated December 1, 2020 and for US Bank payment, Preferred One Payment and Checks #23893– 23963.
City Council Minutes, November 13, 2020 Special Meeting

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Lt. Hemmesch was in attendance and he presented the November report. He indicated there were about 44 hours spent on the contract and reviewed the call types. He answered questions from the Council.

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

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the updated spreadsheet indicating 13 permits were issued in November. Mr. McCabe stated our total single family permits for the year total 20, 11 of which were in the water/sewer area.

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

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Tabatt presented the monthly report for October indicating there were twelve calls, bringing the total for the year to 106 calls compared to 104 at the same time in 2019. Monthly training was done by Fire Inc. and was on confined space training.

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

Lt. Claseman asked about hiring three new firefighters. Council directed them to start the process.

Lt. Voigt inquired about the rescue rig paperwork. Mr. McCabe said they again sent a certificate of origin, but have not taken care of titling the vehicle. Lt. Voigt is working on getting it.

Chief Tabatt presented a quote for new tables and chairs for the meeting room. Mr. McCabe indicated this was included in the budget at a cost of \$10,000.

A motion was made to approve the purchase of chairs and tables from Office Furniture Solutions in an amount not to exceed \$11,952 by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Tabatt and Assistant Chief Orth both indicated their intention to retire from the department in February of 2021. Mr. McCabe said he would like to begin the process of replacing the Chief while Chief Tabatt and Assistant Chief Orth are still with the fire department. Mr. McCabe would like to establish a committee and suggested there be two council members along with the Chief, Assistant Chief and himself. Council members Reinert and Backes agreed to be on the committee.

OPEN FORUM: no comments offered.

**TRUTH-in-TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING/
ADOPTION OF 2020 BUDGET AND
RESOLUTION #2020-19,
ADOPTING FINAL
LEVY:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the final budget was gone over at the October work session meeting. All changes discussed have been incorporated and the final levy proposed in Resolution #2020-19 is the same as the preliminary levy approved and adopted in September. Mayor Zenzen declared the public hearing open.

A motion was made to approve the final 2021 Budget as presented along with the adoption of Resolution #2020-19, adopting the final

levy by Ms. Schulzetenberg, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Boots said the survey and soil boring he can write up the report. He doesn't know if he'll have it by January.

RESOLUTION #2020-18, UPDATING SEWER AND WATER CONNECTION CHARGES IN LIEU

OF ASSESSMENT: Mr. McCabe explained this is supposed to be done annually and as there is a parcel that may be sold soon, we need to get it done so as to make sure we can collect what is coming to us if any of these parcels develop.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #2020-18, updating sewer and water connection charges in lieu of assessments by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2020-20, DECERTIFYING

TIF DISTRICT 2-2: Mr. McCabe reported we are finished with our payment obligations to St. Cloud Truck Sales and can decertify the TIF district. He indicated there was a balance in the fund of \$139,739.57 that will be returned to Stearns County to be redistributed to the taxing jurisdictions.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2020-20 decertifying TIF District 2-2 and returning the excess increment in the amount of \$139,739.57 by Ms. Schulzetenberg, seconded by Mr. Reinert. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER PURVIEW:

Ms Schulzetenberg asked to pursue the internet connection in the city after her retirement from the council; she also thanked everyone for their support over the years.

Mr. Reinert thanked everyone for their service and his time on the council has been enjoyable.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Mr. McCabe said there is a water utility account that has not been paid since COVID. He is asking to assess it to their property. McCabe said there are a handful of storm water bills that have never been paid since the inception of the program. He would like to hold a hearing to assess it to those properties after a hearing in January to let them know the city will assess it to them if it is not paid. Council agreed to hold the hearing in January, 2021.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 7:55 pm by Mr. Reinert, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Meeting Adjourned.

Approved this ____ day of January, 2021.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator