

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
November 4, 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 and Genereux; Attorney Couri, Engineer Boots; Fire Chief Mike Tabbat, Fire Lieutenant Claseman, Stearns County Deputy Hemmesch, Treasurer Rasmuson and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Schmitz, Mary Cloleman, Brent Ahmann and Ray Kenning

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, October 6, 2020.

City Council Agenda, November 4, 2020

Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated November 4, 2020 and for US Bank payment and Checks #23797– 23875.

City Council Minutes, October 20, 2020 Special Meeting

City Council Minutes, October 20, 2020 Budget Workshop Meeting

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Lt. Hemmesch was in attendance and he presented the reports for the last three months. For October he reported 41.75 hours were spent on the contract. He reviewed the call types and indicated there were 15 citations issued. In September they spent 35.5 hours on the contract and issued 26 citations. Forty-nine hours were spent on the contract in August and 29 citations were issued.

**A motion was made to accept the Sheriff's reports as presented by Ms Schulzetenberg, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the updated spreadsheet indicating 16 permits were issued in October with an additional five issued so far in November. The three new homes issued so far this quarter brings the total for the year to 19 and Mr. McCabe reported another permit was dropped off earlier today. He highlighted the two commercial permits issues so far this month.

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

**FIRE DEPT.  
REPORT:**

Chief Tabatt presented the monthly report for September indicating there were six calls. Monthly training was held in house and was on search and rescue.

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

Lt. Claseman indicated the department applied for a grant for COVID for coveralls. He said they applied about a week ago and should find out in a week if they got the grant. The grant will cover two sets of coveralls for all the firefighters.

**OPEN FORUM:**

no comments offered.

**ENGINEER'S  
REPORT:**

Mr. Boots initiated a discussion on potential 2021 Street Project. Mr. McCabe expressed a belief the project should be in the half million dollar range for the project. Garden Hills Lane, the northern side of Terrace Hills was discussed. Cost estimate would be about \$4.50-\$4.60 a square foot. Mayor Zenzen said 228th is an issue. Mr. Boots said about a mile of road would be at roughly \$612,000.

Mr. McCabe said Gaberdine Road may be a road that needs to be updated. Mr. Couri said the city needs four of the five council members to assess the project back to the residents. Ms. Schulzetenberg said not to redo the road unless we put the sewer and water in. Mr. Couri said we need to get the residents wanting the project to happen. Mr. Ahmann, who lives on Gaberdine Road, said the road is bad and it's about a 50/50 with the residents who want it done. Mr. Ahmann is not in favor of the sewer/water.

228<sup>th</sup> makes more sense to overlay in 2021. Mr. McCabe said 223<sup>rd</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> should be an alternate road project.

**Mr. Genereux made a motion to make 228<sup>th</sup> and 223<sup>rd</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> as and an alternate for the 2021 street project, Ms. Schulzetenberg seconded all voting aye, motion carried unanimously.**

**COUNCIL MEMBER  
PURVIEW:**

Ms. Schulzetenber offered congratulations to our newly elected council member. Mr. Backes echoed those thoughts.

## CITY ADMINISTRATOR

### REPORT:

Mr. McCabe indicated he has received one written offer on the backhoe. He stated the offer was for \$2,000.

**A motion was made to accept the offer on the backhoe by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. McCabe indicated he had sent to nuisance/zoning letters. The animal complaint was addressed immediately. He reported the individual with the canvass shed flat out told him he would not remove it. Mr. Couri suggested we have an administrative fine ordinance and we can start with that and if it doesn't work, the next move would be court which will be a lengthy and expensive process. Council said give him to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 before we start enforcing the administrative fine ordinance.

Mr. McCabe presented a letter following up on the Edgewood Road/205<sup>th</sup> Street/65<sup>th</sup> Avenue/207<sup>th</sup> Street discussion that was held during the open forum last month. He explained to Mr. Kenning, representing the neighbors, the policy; explaining the benefiting residents would be responsible for any improvements made to the existing gravel road and the private road before the City would take over ownership of the private road. We'd need an amendment to the petition saying the residents would pay for any of the assessments. Mr. Boots indicated the first step would be to do a survey of the area and then a feasibility study could be completed.

**Mr. Backes moved to have an engineering and feasibility study on 205<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> and 207<sup>th</sup> Street; Ms. Schulzetenberg seconded. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. McCabe presented the current tax rate information. We are the lowest tax rate in the area.

Mr. McCabe showed a spreadsheet that showed investment income on our Stifle account as well as the US Bank account for the third quarter. He asked for permission to move up to a million dollars from the US Bank account to Stifle to maximize our investment income.

**A motion was made to authorize moving up to \$1 Million from the US Bank account to Stifle by Mr. Zenzen, seconded by Ms. Schulzetenberg. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. McCabe reported there was a meeting of the St. Cloud Area Wastewater Advisory Committee and this annual meeting usually sets the rates for the coming year. There will be approximately a 1.3% increase. He also reported that the City of Foley was given approval in the bonding bill to connect to the facility. He indicated we have agreed

to sell our pool capacity space in the facility to Foley and it will bring us a cash payment along with reduction in future debt service payments. This will be brought forward at a later date as the proposed connection for the City of Foley is 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 9:05 pm by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Backes. Meeting Adjourned.**

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 2020

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator