

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
September 7, 2021**

**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; Engineer Boots; Fire Captain Voigt, Fire Captain Savage, Fire Captain Sandhurst, and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brent Ahmann,

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mr. McCabe asked that we add payables received earlier today including to the League of Minnesota Cities for Dues (\$4,025), LMC for Mayor's Association Dues (\$30), Stearns Electric for monthly electric usage (\$2,066.43), North Star Signs for signs (\$146) and the St. Augusta Fire Relief Association for the annual retirement contribution (\$3,000).

**A motion was made to approve the consent agenda items 3A – 3D as amended by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried 4-0.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, August 3, 2021  
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated September 7, 2021 and for US Bank payment, and Checks #26550 -26603.

City Council Agenda, September 7, 2021  
City Council Minutes, August 17, 2021

**\*\* Mr. Backes entered the meeting at 7:05 \*\***

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

**A motion was made to approve the July and August Sheriff's Reports by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the monthly building spreadsheet. He indicated there were 18 permits issued during the month including two new dwellings.

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

**FIRE DEPT.  
REPORT:**

Captain Voigt was in attendance and presented the July run and training report. There were 11 calls during the month bringing the total to 64 calls for the year as compared to 70 at this time last year. Training was done in house on pump training.

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

Lt. Claseman asked if Mr. Couri had come up with a policy amendment on requiring random drug testing.

**OPEN FORUM:**

Mr. Ahmann was in attendance and indicated he was wondering if Gaberdine Road could be a simple road improvement project versus an assessment project. Mr. Boots indicated what would be entailed in doing a preliminary engineering report.

**A motion was made to authorize a preliminary engineering study for Gaberdine Road by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Backes asked for additional information on why we force connection.

**ENGINEER'S  
REPORT:**

Mr. Boots presented a pay request for the 2021 Street Project in an amount of \$13,838.41 to Knife River. He indicated there was still a retainage amount being held back for punch list items.

**A motion was made to approve the pay request to Knife River in an amount of \$13,838.41 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Boots presented quotes for soil borings for the proposed 2022 Street Project. He also indicated he wanted to discuss the potential of there being a wetland delineation needed if the culvert replacements impact a wetland and get authorization for the necessary survey work on the project.

**A motion was made to approve the quote of ITT in the amount of \$3,515 for the soil borings and also an amount of up to \$5,000 for wetland delineation and up to \$22,000 for survey work by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PRELIMINARY LEVY/  
RESOLUTION #  
2021-14:**

Mr. McCabe indicated he was comfortable with the preliminary budget that was completed but stated he is somewhat concerned the proposed levy increase of 2.25% will take our tax rate lower and suggested we authorize an increase in the CIP levy of an additional \$50,000 knowing we can reduce the levy but cannot increase it after today.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2021-14 as amended to include a larger CIP levy by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr.Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PARK BOARD RECOMMENDATION**

**CARDIAC RESTART:** Mr. McCabe indicated the park board met and discussed adding cardiac restart stations to the parks. One at each shelter and potentially one at the ballfield/tennis court area in Kiffmeyer Park. The cost of each station is \$5,795 and includes the first year of monitoring with monitoring being \$375 per station after the first year. Mayor Zenzen asked if the Legion Auxiliary could be contacted for a donation as they have expressed interest. Mr. Genereux asked for data to how often they are used. Consensus was to contact potential donors and bring it up at the next meeting.

**COUNCIL MEMBER**

**PURVIEW:** Mr. Schmitz wondered about the salary study and was told nothing yet.

Mr. Genereux wondered about the sign coming into town on County Road 7 and asked that we have the sheriff look into it.

Mr. Genereux wondered if the trail at Kiffmeyer Park trail had been trimmed.

Mr. Backes wondered about the warning siren and was told it is in, but needs to be connected.

Mayor Zenzen indicated we should rent a lift to trim some of the trees in Kiffmeyer Park. He suggested we do this during this month and would like some volunteers to assist him. He also wants one additional person to become qualified.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

**REPORT:** Mr. McCabe presented a request from the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities asking that we join as members.

Mr. McCabe presented a letter from Green Acres Animal Rescue asking us to extend the CUP request for another 90 days. He wondered if we wanted to ask them to speed up their application or if we just wanted to let it linger for another 90 days.

**ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn to at 8:40. Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Meeting Adjourned.**

Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator