

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
December 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, and Coleman; Engineer Boots; Attorney Couri, Fire Captain Voigt, Fire Captain Sandhurst, Fire Captain Savage, Fire Lieutenant Claseman, Sergeant Nemie and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jackie Steinhofer, Sheri Stang, Steve Gapinski, Brent Ahmann

**CONSENT AGENDA:** **A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as amended items 3A – 3D by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, November 2, 2021  
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated December 7, 2021 and for US Bank payment, and Checks #26749 - 26835.  
City Council Agenda December 7, 2021.  
Hayloft Liquor License (On-Sale, Off-Sale and 2am).

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Deputy Nemie was in attendance and presented the November Sheriff's report. He indicated 40.75 hours were spent on contract during the month and he reviewed the call types and answered questions from the Council.

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

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the monthly building spreadsheet. He indicated there were 11 permits issued during the month including two new dwelling permits.

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

Mr. McCabe reported that Mark Harren has sold Mid Minnesota Code Enforcement and beginning in January we will be working with a new inspector.

**FIRE DEPT.  
REPORT:**

Captain Voigt was in attendance and presented the October run and training report. There were 11 calls during the month bringing the total to 99 calls for the year as compared to 107 at this time last year. Training was done by Fire Inc. and was on mayday calls.

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

Lt. Claseman presented a request to attend a training in Alexandria in February.

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

Captain Sandhurst reported the new hires will be attending the Fire 1 class in January.

**TRUTH-in-TAXATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Zenzen called the Truth-in-Taxation public hearing to order. Mr. McCabe presented the final budget and a Resolution approving the final tax levy collectible in 2022.

**A motion was made to approve the final budget as presented by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2021-19, adopting the final tax levy by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN FORUM:**

Mr. Backes proposed giving full time staff a \$200 prospective bonus and part time staff \$100. Mr. Couri stated it has to be a prospective bonus, not retro.

**A motion was made to provide a prospective bonus of \$200 to full time staff and \$100 to part time employees by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ORDINANCE  
#2021-04, ADOPTING  
2022 FEE  
SCHEDULE:**

Mr. McCabe presented the proposed fee schedule for 2022. He indicated he increased the water and sewer rates by 2% to keep up with our increased cost from the City of St. Cloud. He also indicated he wanted to change the liquor license background investigation from \$500 to actual cost. A suggestion was made to change it to \$25 plus the actual cost. The park fees were going to go up \$25 at each park.

**A motion was made to approve Ordinance #2021-04 as amended, by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

**RESOLUTION  
#2021-20, ASSESSING  
DELINQUENT UTILITY**

**BILL:** Mr. McCabe indicated this account was not paid as a commercial storm water account and asked that we assess to taxes.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2021-20 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ENGINEER'S  
REPORT:**

Mr. Boots indicated we are ready to advertise for bids for the 2022 Street Project. He asked for a motion calling for bids to be opened prior to our February Council meeting so it can be awarded at that meeting.

**A motion was made to advertise for bids for the 2022 Street Project by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Boots reported he has the soil boring report on the 200<sup>th</sup> Street issue. He stated the whole road is typically a shear failure and explained the options were rather costly and asked for direction. He stated the least costly option would be turning the road back to gravel. Mr. Couri suggested we need permission from the township to rip up their portion of the road.

Mr. Boots explained they are still looking at the Gaberdine Road project and Mr. McCabe indicated he had sent a letter to all residents and so far had only two responses. Mr. Ahmann indicated the road is used by more than the neighborhood, but as a connector road between County Road 7 and County Road 75. The city will look into getting a traffic study done.

**INVESTMENT  
REVIEW:**

Steve Gapinski, with Stifel was in attendance to review the City's investment portfolio. He explained strategy and indicted the city is doing very well

**GRADER BIDS:** Mr. McCabe presented one bid for the old road grader in an amount of \$4,000.

**A motion was made to accept the bid of \$4,000 by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**GREEN ACRES  
ANIMAL RESCUE  
CUP:**

Mr. McCabe presented two resolutions for consideration on the Green Acres Animal Rescue. Mr. Couri explained he thought it would be better to approve with recommendations and revoke if the conditions are not met or followed. Mr. McCabe reported we received an extension letter today and communication indicating her permit will be applied for prior to the January building. He suggested we table until the January meeting.

**A motion was made to table the issue until the January meeting by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mayor Zenzen. Motion carried unanimously.**

**COUNCIL MEMBER  
PURVIEW:**

Mr. Genereux asked about the trimming of the trail at Kiffmeyer Park. Mr. McCabe reported they are working on it.

Mr. Genereux indicated he was discussed with the service station and how it appears to the residents.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated we were looking for an additional snow plow driver and wondered if we could tie that in with our new park employee as Casey Schriener has indicated he won't have time to continue in that position. The plow driver is to drive one of the pickups and help clean up while our full time employees are driving the plow trucks.

Mr. McCabe asked if there was a willingness to move our January meeting to Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> has he has a potential conflict on January 4. Consensus was we would move the meeting to January 5.

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

Approved this 5th day of January, 2022.

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator