

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
August 2, 2022**

**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; Fire Chief Kramer, Assistant Fire Chief Steinhofer, Fire Captain Voigt, Fire Captain Sandhurst, Firefighter L. Bahr, Engineer Boots, County Deputy Widmer and Water Sewer Operator Blashack, and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jeff Bertram, Marlene Bertram, Sheri Stang, Jackie Steinhofer, Dave Werschay, Dave Kotschever, Roxanne Kotschever, Isaac Meemken, Loni Henkel and Emma Johnson.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mr. McCabe asked we add payment to Rob Claseman in the amount of \$336 for hosting the SAFD Website for the past 16 years, and to Air Maxx for \$528, Knaus \$629 and Daryl Stang for \$674.02 for the National Night Out food and miscellaneous items.

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, July 5, 2022  
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated August 2, 2022 and for US Bank payment and Checks #27390– 27482 and for ePayments 24571e-24581e.  
Gambling Premise Permit – St. Augusta Lions at St. Augusta Legion

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** The sheriff's report was included in the packet, Lt. Widmer was in attendance to answer questions. He indicated 43.5 contract hours were spent in the month and reviewed the call types.

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

Mayor Zenzen questioned what the legalization of canibas edibles would have on the law enforcement. Lt. Widmer replied that there were some issues and indicated they still can enforce the driving under the influence.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S**

**REPORT:** The 2022 building permit spreadsheet was presented. 59 additional permits were issued in July including another four single family permits.

**A motion was made to approve the report as presented by Mr. Backes seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**JEFF BERTRAM:** County Commissioner candidate Jeff Bertram was in attendance and thanked the Council for allowing himself to introduce himself and his candidacy. He thanked the people in attendance and expressed his appreciation for those working with and for him in St. Augusta.

**FIRE DEPT. REPORT:** Chief Kramer presented the June fire department report stating there were 14 calls in the month bringing the total for the year to 72 as opposed to 53 at the same time last year. Monthly training was defensive driving held in house.

**A motion was made to approve the report as presented by Mr. Backes seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Kramer presented a letter recommending Craig Cordie be promoted to Lieutenant. Mayor Zenzen asked if we have the points included in future promotion recommendations.

**A motion was made by Mr. Backs, seconded by Mr. Genereux promoting Craig Cordie to Lieutenant. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Kramer indicated he wanted DAMA boxes with the keys for the park pavilions. He was told to get them ordered.

Captain Voigt stated the grass rig pump or something inside the pump went out tonight indicating there would be some emergency repairs.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Mr. Boots presented change order #5 on the 2022 Street Project along with Pay Request #1. He indicated the job is substantially done.

**A motion was made to approve change order #5 and Pay Request #1 to Knife River in the amount of \$706,614.42 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE:** Mr. Blashack was in attendance and explained the module on the speed sign on County Road 7, that was discussed at last month's meeting, could be fixed as was authorized, but the company indicated this is the last time they would repair this module. He wondered if we wanted to reconsider our decision of fixing the module versus replacing

it with the new one. Consensus was the decision from last month would not change.

Mr. Blashack reported the well at HLP may be running out of water. He stated we could water the grass by pumping out of the pond for now.

**A motion was made to take water from the pond at a price not to exceed \$15,000 by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW COMPUTER  
QUOTES:**

Mr. McCabe presented quotes for new computers for the accounting and payroll specialist, the utility billing clerk and for our new meter reading system.

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

**OPEN FORUM:**

Mr. Werschay was in attendance to talk about Eagles Landing and the possibility to expand the subdivision to surrounding areas.

**COUNCIL MEMBER  
PURVIEW:**

Mr. Genereux asked about the pond behind Blackberry Farms and was told the city owned the property.

Ms. Coleman asked about the pot holes on 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Mr. Backes indicated he was asked about water coming to the west side of State Highway 15.

Mayor Zenzen indicated he was interested in possibly putting in a moratorium on the regulation of cannabis edibles. Mr. McCabe suggested if we want to regulate, we could make it part of a tobacco regulation ordinance. Staff was asked to bring a moratorium back that would be acted on within three months.

Mr. Couri reported he visited the Winkleman property and not much has changed since the last time he visited the property. He said he suggested an auction but also said we would prevail in court. The motion will be made to the court.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated we made need to schedule a special meeting if the application from F Street Development comes in by the middle of next week.

Mr. McCabe asked for direction on the SIS Upholstery CUP, stating they are not following the CUP by only selling cars on a paved or concrete surface.

**A motion was made to adjourn at 8:40pm by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.**

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator