

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
March 7, 2023**

**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, Hommerding, Coleman and Schmitz; Fire Chief Kramer, Fire Captain Voigt, Stearns County Deputy Widmer, and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Wayne Winkleman, Jim Honer, Todd Johnson and Amy Brand.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mr. McCabe asked that we add liquor licenses for Luxemburg Rec Club and St. Augusta Sports and a payable to Stearns Electric in the amount of \$1,543.98.

**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, February 7, 2023.  
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated March 7, 2023 and for US Bank payment and Checks #24696e – 24713e and #27996 – 28049.  
City Council Agenda, March 7, 2023  
B. McCabe's attendance at MCMA Conference  
3.2 Liquor License for Luxemburg Rec Club and St. Augusta Sports

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Deputy Widmer presented the Sheriff's report. He reviewed the call types and answered questions from the Council.

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

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S**

**REPORT:** Mr. McCabe presented the building inspector's report indicating 17 permits were issued during the month.

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

**FIRE DEPT.  
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the January fire report. He indicated there were eight calls during the month compared with nine at this time last

year. He noted the training was gear and equipment inspections as well as an Incident Command Class presented by Fire Inc. There was also in house training on medicals.

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

Discussion was held on used fire engines. The department presented quotes on five used fire engines. Unfortunately all were over the \$175,000 bid threshold. There was discussion on where the funding would come from. Mr. Schmitz indicated he intended to get the steps in order to get the ball rolling on replacing the existing fire engine. There was additional discussion on what we would need to do to advertise and plan on spending the CIP funds in the future.

**A motion was made to advertise for bids on the used engine by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Discussion was held on quotes for connecting six heat detectors to a fire alarm panel as well as installing a cellular dialer and on-going monitoring. Mr. Backes indicated there was little risk.

**A motion was made to table the issue by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Kramer requested Luke Schwinghammer be moved off probationary status.

**A motion was made to remove Luke Schwinghammer from probationary status by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**OPEN FORUM:**

Mr. Winkleman indicated he is doing his best to work with the City Attorney on cleaning his yard. He complained about the timing of the court hearing and that mediation hasn't been scheduled in the last month. He asked for time.

**GARAGE HEATER QUOTES:**

Mr. McCabe presented two quotes to replace the heaters in the main garage that have been there since 1989. He stated they are starting to become more expensive to fix and it is harder to find parts.

**A motion was made to approve purchasing new heating units from H&S Heating in an amount of \$10,776 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ENGINEER'S  
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated Mr. Boots is off on vacation this week. Mr. McCabe presented the final pay estimate on the 2022 Street Project.

**A motion was made to approve the final pay estimate in the amount of \$16,622.15 by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION  
PETERSON**

**VARIANCE:**

Mr. McCabe stated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2023-07, approving a variance to allow Mr. Peterson to build an accessory structure larger than the maximum allowed by 40 square feet by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION**

**GOHMAN CUP:**

Mr. McCabe stated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2023-07, approving the CUP allowing Mr. and Mrs. Gohman to relocate an accessory structure onto their lot at 2524 Gableview Circle by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**COUNCIL MEMBER  
PURVIEW:**

Mr. Hommerding inquired if Scenic Specalties called. Mr. McCabe replied they had a conversation.

Ms. Coleman asked that we contact Mr. Couri on the mediation issue.

Mr. Backes commented to Mr. Winkleman that we enforce ordinances based on complaints because that is the staff we have available.

Mayor Zenzen commented that he and Mr. Hommerding had attended the League Officials conference.

Mayor Zenzen indicated there was discussion about charging for fire services to help with revenue.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR  
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the State has adopted and recognized the federal holiday of Juneteenth. He offered the staff would be willing to trade that day this year for the day before the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. McCabe stated the joint planning meeting that was listed as Monday, March 20 has been switched to Tuesday, March 21.

**ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:30 by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Approved this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator