

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA  
May 2, 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, Schmitz, Coleman and Hommerding; Fire Chief Kramer, Stearns County Deputy Meland, Attorney Couri, Engineer Boots, Street Superintendent Kiffmeyer, Water Operator Blashack and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chad Erdmann, Sheri Stang, Jackie Steinhofer, Jim Honer, Gina Kramer, Patrick Kramer, Amy Brand

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Mr. McCabe asked that we add a gambling permit for the St. Augusta Fire Relief Association on October 13 at Club Almar and payables to Motorola in an amount of \$26,415.20 and Blue Star Plumbing for \$143.64.

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, April 4, 2023.

Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated May2, 2023  
and for US Bank payment and Checks #24732e –  
24748e and #28132 -28187.

City Council Agenda, May 2, 2023

Board of Review and Equalization Meeting Minutes, April 4, 2023.

B. McCabe's attendance at Summer EDAM Conference

Gambling Permit – St. Augusta Sports, Club Almar July 8, 2023.

Expanded Outdoor Liquor License, Club Almar June 25, 2023.

Expanded Outdoor Liquor License, Hayloft July 29, 2023.

Expanded Outdoor Liquor License, American Legion, May 20 and  
July 22, 2023.

2023 Liquor Licenses as attached.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT:** Deputy Meland 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 monthly building inspector's report. He noted there were 57 permits issued during the month of April including seven new single family permits.

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **NEW DOOR ON**

### **SALT SHED**

### **QUOTES:**

Mr. Kiffmeyer was in attendance and explained the difficulty he has occasionally opening the salt shed in the cold weather. He presented quotes for an overhead door.

**A motion was made to approve the quote of Alternative Garage Door in an amount of \$7,130 and the quote from Mike Schlangen Construction for a total of \$2,850 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **SEAL COAT**

### **QUOTES:**

**A motion was made to accept the quote from Astech in the amount of \$66,949.74 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **MISC:**

Mr. McCabe indicated that we have the new loader and we should authorize selling the old loader. He suggested that we list it at \$17,000 with the intent of not taking any less than \$12,000. He also suggested we authorize selling one of the Sterling Dump Trucks, once we receive the new International which could be any day. Consensus was arrived we could do this.

## **FIRE DEPT.**

### **REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the March fire report. He indicated there were five calls during the month bringing the total to 19 calls compared with 29 at this time last year. He noted Fire Inc. presented training on wildland firefighting.

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

Chief Kramer asked that we move Ashley Eichten off of probationary status.

**A motion was made to remove Ms. Eichten from probationary status by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Kramer presented quotes for hoods and gloves and said this was part of the annual turn out gear budget.

**A motion was made to approve the quote for hoods (\$3,300) and gloves (\$618) by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chief Kramer presented a list of item the Relief Association would like to donate to the department including six Forestry Hose Single Jacket 1" x 50' coupled nst (\$660), 30 flashlight (\$2118), a side tool box (\$940) and 10 new plastic tables (\$900).

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

**OPEN FORUM:** Mr. Honer wondered about the mining ordinance updates. Mr. Hommerding stated he has looked at a few of them.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Mr. Boots stated he had nothing to report.

**PARK BOARD RECOMMENDATION**

**LAWN MOWER:** Mr. McCabe presented two quotes for new lawn mower for the parks. Mr. Kiffmeyer stated they believed the XMark was the better machine and he also explained why staff thought adding the bagger was a good investment.

**A motion was made to approve purchasing the XMark Mower and Bagger from Powerhouse Outdoor Equipment for a cost of \$19,677 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PARK BOARD RECOMMENDATION KIFFMEYER PARK**

**BALL FIELD SHED:** Mr. McCabe indicated the park board unanimously recommended we purchase a small shed for Kiffmeyer Park similar to the one at Hidden Lake Park. He presented a quote solicited by the St. Augusta Little League.

**A motion was made to purchase the shed from Home Depot in an amount of \$4,069.50 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PARK BOARD  
RECOMMENDATION  
SPLIT RAIL  
FENCE:**

Mr. McCabe reported the park board had discussed adding split rail fence at Kiffmeyer Park from the north edge of the existing fence, west to the tree line. Staff can pick up at Menards when the repair any existing poor fencing and install it themselves.

**A motion was made to approve the addition of the split rail fence by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PARK BOARD  
RECOMMENDATION  
KIFFMEYER PARKING  
LOT STRIPING:**

Mr. McCabe presented a quote for striping the parking lots at Kiffmeyer Park.

**A motion was made to approve the striping of the handicap spots by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PARK BOARD  
RECOMMENDATION  
OTHER:**

Mr. McCabe reported he never did receive the quotes he solicited for street lights in the dog park, so he stated he would bring the item to next month's meeting.

He asked that we approve hiring Mason Voigt at \$15/hour.

**A motion was made to hire Mason Voigt at \$15/hour by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Schmitz indicated we could look at LED lights for the dog park and indicated he can present quotes for those before we bring it back at the next meeting.

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION  
RICE CONTRACTING**

**PIT:**

Mr. McCabe stated the planning commission recommended approval unanimously at their meeting. Mr. Boots indicated there are a few additional items he needs to sign off on. He explained the updated NPDES permit, the SWPPP that shows an accurate boundary and wetland delineation. Mr. Erdmann indicated he didn't understand why he needed all this when he didn't have to last time. Mr. Couri explained that it doesn't matter what happened in the past, the ordinance needs to be followed and we have to do things required by the ordinance. Mr. Boots indicated he will provide him with a list of items that are required tomorrow. The Council agreed to issue the permit for an initial 90 day

period, to be extended to a total of one year if Mr. Erdmann provided Mr. Bootts with acceptable materials within 90 days.

**A motion has been made to approve Resolution #2023-09 as amended by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**PLANNING COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDATION  
AUGUSTA AUTO BODY**

**SITE PLAN:** Mr. McCabe stated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval of the site plan.

**A motion was made to approve Resolution #2023-08, approving the site plan by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.**

**F STREET SAC/WAC**

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

**COUNCIL MEMBER**

**PURVIEW:** Mr. Schmitz asked about the mediation project, Mr. Couri stated he will have the paperwork to the court.

Mr. Hommerding stated he has a request with the fire report, asking for a little more explanation on call detail. Mr. Couri said we can't put anything on medicals and the Council requested just a little more detail on the fires.

Ms. Coleman brought a neighboring newsletter and suggested we look into it again. Mr. Schmitz suggested our website being worked on would be a better idea.

Mayor Zenzen wondered where we were at with tree branch trimming in the parks.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

**REPORT:** Mr. McCabe reported that he sent an email earlier today with the agenda for the next Stearns County Municipal League Meeting.

Mr. McCabe stated the area cities are looking at re-starting the quarterly area cities meetings.

Mr. McCabe stated we are down one planning commission member.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made to adjourn at 8:55pm by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

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Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

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William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator