

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
June 6, 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, Fire Captain Voigt, Firefighter L. Stang, Firefighter Daryl Stang, Stearns County Deputy Hoffman, Engineer Boots, Water Operator Blashack and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chad Erdmann, Sheri Stang, Patty Kronnenberg, Kevin Kieke, Andrew Kieke, Katie Kieke, Tom Kenning, Jason Miller, Jim Senkyr, Ted Schmid, Isaac Meemken, Representative Bernie Perryman, Larry Schill, Gary Schill, Jim Honer, Janelle Honer, Emma Johnson,

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. McCabe noted that he added item 3D, the 2024-25 Prosecution Agreement with Stearns County Attorney's Office earlier today. He also asked that we add the park refunds as presented.

A motion was made to approve as amended by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried 4-0.

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, May 2, 2023.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated June 6, 2023
and for US Bank payment and Checks #24750e –
24768e and #28192 -28256.
City Council Agenda, June 6, 2023
2024-25 Prosecution Agreement with Stearns County.

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Deputy Hoffman presented the Sheriff's report. He indicated 41 hours were spent on the contract in the month and reviewed the call types and answered questions from the Council.

A motion was made to approve the Sheriff's report as presented by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried 4-0.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the monthly building inspector's report. He noted there were 61 total permits issued during the month of May including two new single family homes.

A motion was made to approve the building inspectors report by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried 4-0.

2022 AUDIT REPORT: Jason Miller of Smith Schafer and Associates was in attendance to present the 2022 Audited Financial Statements. He began by reviewing the standard letters included with the report and rather than go through the Financial Statement in detail, he presented a power point with highlights from the Financial Statement. Mr. Miller answered questions and indicated the city was in strong financial shape.

A motion was made to approve the financial statement by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC WORKS
28th AVENUE
REPAIRS:**

Mr. McCabe indicated he has included a quote in the packets to fix a large soft spot on 28th Avenue.

A motion was made to approve the quote of J & S Excavating for a total of \$12,354 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried 4-0.

**PUBLIC WORKS
VEGA RADAR LEVEL
FOR PUMP STATION
ALARM:**

Mr. Blashack was in attendance and presented a quote for a new radar level to assist the alarm system at the main pump station. He indicated this would make it much easier to clean when we have an issue. Mr. McCabe stated the funding could come from unspent ARPA Funds.

A motion was made to accept the quote from Minnesota Pump Works in the amount of \$7,535.50 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried 4-0.

******* Mr. Backes entered the meeting at 7:30pm*******

**PUBLIC WORKS
HIDDEN LAKE PARK
WELL QUOTE:**

Mr. Blashack presented a quote for a new well. The well will replace the existing well at the park and be for both irrigation and domestic use.

A motion was made to approve the quote of Werner Well Drilling in the amount of \$9,749.70 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS
STRIPING:**

Mr. McCabe presented a quote to stripe 228th Street and 53rd Avenue after the seal coating and 43rd Avenue and 230th Street due to fading.

A motion was made to approve the quote from Sir Lines A Lot in the amount of \$11,170 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the April fire report. He indicated there were 13 calls during the month bringing the total to 32 calls compared with 41 at this time last year. He noted Fire Inc. presented training with a forcible entry trailer and they also discussed properly filling out run reports.

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

Relief Association Representative Lauren Bahr was in attendance and presented new re-written bylaws. Mr. McCabe indicated Mr. Couri reviewed and didn't have any concerns. Mr. Zenzen wondered about a person who retires and defers, D. Stang responded saying they don't get anything additional

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

OPEN FORUM:

Rep. Perryman introduced herself, said she is happy to be home from the legislative session. She touched on the e-tab legislation but stated that is not set in stone.

Andrew Kieke was in attendance and said he received a letter about the seed business he is operating out of building on his farm. There was clarification on why they received the letter stating they were out of compliance.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Boots stated we are working on a capital budget request for our water project.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION**

HARREN VARIANCE: Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval at their meeting.

A motion has been made to approve Resolution #2023-11 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION
SCHILL TRUCKING**

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

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2023-10, approving the site plan by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION**

MINING ORDINANCE: Mr. McCabe presented the ordinance in its 5th draft after all the public comments were discussed at the planning commission public hearing that was continued multiple times. The planning commission unanimously recommended approval. There was discussion about the length of the IUP, Mr. Schmitz suggested that we use 20 years rather than 10 years. Ms. Kronnenberg stated she would prefer it remain at 10 years. Mr. Schmitz also pointed out a couple of times the word shall should be replace with may.

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance #2023-03 as amended by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried 4 -1 with Mr. Hommerding voting no.

**COUNCIL MEMBER
PURVIEW:**

Ms. Coleman thanked the staff for filling potholes on Galaxy Road.

Mr. Hommerding asked about the solar lights for the dog park. Mr. McCabe responded that he has some posts, just waiting to see who is going to install the posts.

Mayor Zenzen indicated we need a planner and said we need to work on updating our comprehensive plan.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated we needed to appoint a new planning commission member. He stated Mark Skaalerud has expressed interest and the other who had expressed interest is not available right now.

A motion was made to appoint Mark Skaalerud to the planning commission by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCabe indicated the Governor signed the bill into law establishing Juneteenth (June 19th) as a legal holiday. We cannot conduct any business on Juneteenth or hold any meetings. City Hall will be closed.

Mr. McCabe presented the April 2022 State Demographer's population estimate.

Mr. McCabe stated because of the July 4th Holiday, our City Council Meeting would be held on Wednesday, July 5th. He also indicated most and probably all of the staff would be taking July 3rd as a vacation day to prolong the holiday weekend.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:50pm by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved this 5th day of July, 2023.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator