

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
February 6, 2024**

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, Attorney Couri, Stearns County Deputy Meeland, Engineer Morast and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Reinert, Sue Reinert, Randy Hommerding, Denise Hommerding, Mark Skaalerud, Loren O'Brien, Jim Sinker, Chad Erdmann, Robin Kaufman, Jim Honer, Fritz Voigt, Mason Voigt

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. McCabe indicated the updated packet left out the first payroll adding \$8,980.80 to the check total bringing the total to \$219,659.13

A motion was made by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, January 2, 2024.

Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated February 6, 2024 and for ePayments #24930e – 24949e and Checks #25358ary 6, 2024

Gambling Permits – St. Augusta Legion Auxiliary (multiple dates), St. Mary HOC (June 25) and St. Wendelin (July 28.)

Temporary Liquor Licenses – St. Wendelin (March 16, April 20 and July 28) and St. Mary HOC (June 23.)

P. Hollermann's and C. Blashack's attendance at Annual Rural Water Conference

B. McCabe's attendance at the MCMA Conference

St. Augusta Legion Outdoor Concerts (May 18 and June 22.)

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Deputy Meeland presented the sheriff's report indicating more hours were spent on the contract than normal but they will average it out over the next couple of months.

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

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Wallen was in attendance and presented the January building inspector's report. He also reviewed the building from 2023 and answered questions from the Council

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

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the December monthly report indicating there were 14 calls for the month bringing the total to 129 for the year as compared to 135 at this time in 2022. Monthly training was hazmat refresher.

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

OPEN FORUM:

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION
COMP PLAN
UPDATE:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended we contract with Bolten and Menk for the comp plan review and update including the zoning ordinance review and update. Bolten and Menk has provided a proposed contract agreement.

A motion was made to approve the contract subject to the City Attorney review and his recommended changes by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION
REITER ADDITION
REZONING:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval of the change in zoning request on the Reiter Addition.

A motion was made to approve Ordinance #2024-02 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried 4-0 with Mr. Hommerding abstaining.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION
RED WILLOW
PROPERTIES:**

Mr. McCabe indicated there were three actions taken on this issue with the first in the packet being the variance request to allow some equipment to be parked on a non-bituminous surface.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2024-05, approving a variance from the zoning code by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McCabe stated the second item in the packets is the CUP/Site plan approval for Red Willow Properties and indicated they again unanimously recommended approval. Mr. Couri wanted clarification of exactly where the outside storage is allowed on the lot and asked that a new map be provided defining the areas that will be used for outdoor storage. He also stated we need to add language to the resolution the August 1, 2021 CUP is terminated.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2024-06, approving the CUP and site plan as amended for Red Willow Properties by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

The third item addressed was the request to amend the zoning code to make truck driver training an allowable use within the Business Warehouse district. Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended denial of the proposed change. Mr. Couri suggested we add another Now therefore, be it further...

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2024-07, denying the change to the zoning code by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Reinert presented a concept for his family's farm, wondering if the council would be open to changing the land from ag, with a future land use of residential to business warehouse or commercial/industrial. Ms. Coleman stated she would be concerned with the availability of water.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Morast presented the bid tabulation and recommendation on the 2024 Street Project. Mr. McCabe explained that we budgeted approximately \$575,000 for this project and suggested because the bids were favorable we could approve the entire project and spend down reserves and replenish those reserves by not doing a full project in 2025.

A motion was made to award the 2024 Street Project bid to OMG Midwest including all the alternates for a total of \$921,306.23 by Mayor Zenzen, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION #2024-04, APPOINTING

ELECTION JUDGES: A motion was made to approve Resolution #2024-04 appointing election judges by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

AED MONITORING: A motion was made by Mayor Zenzen to table the discussion until next month seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER PURVIEW:

Ms. Coleman reported that Galaxy Road has some large pot holes.

Mayor Zenzen reported that we have opened a certificate of deposit to generate more interest earnings.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

Mr. McCabe reported that next month's meeting will be on Wednesday, March 6 as Tuesday the 5th is the Presidential Primary.

Mr. McCabe stated he had a request from Keller Builders on behalf of F Street to potentially amend the F Street SAC and WAC agreement. Mr. Couri advised against stating if we do we will not get full WAC and SAC payments until the building is 100% occupied.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 8:15pm by Mr. Hommerding seconded by Mr. Schmitz.

Approved this 6th day of March, 2024.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator