

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
May 7, 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, Coleman, Hommerding, and Schmitz; Fire Chief Kramer, Stearns County Deputy Widmar, Public Works Supervisor Kiffmeyer, Engineer Morast and Clerk/Administrator McCabe.

OTHERS PRESENT: Amy Brand

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. McCabe asked that we add Stearns County Attorney Janelle Kendall to the agenda after the fire report. He also indicated he added a gambling permit for Angel Reins Stable to the consent agenda.

- 1. A motion was made by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Hommerding to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried 4-0.**

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, April 2, 2024.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated May 7, 2024
and for ePayments #24995e – 25022e and Checks
#25555 – 25612.
City Council BOE Minutes, April 2, 2024.
2024-25 Liquor Licenses
Club Almar – on sale, off sale, Sunday
Hayloft – on sale, off sale, Sunday
St. Augusta Legion – on sale and Sunday
Delux Liquors – off sale
Mini Mart #2 – off sale
Gambling permit

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Deputy Widmar presented the sheriff's report indicating 44.25 hours were spent on the contract during the month of April. He reviewed the call types and other points of interest.

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

**BUILDING INSPECTOR'S
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe presented the February building inspector's report indicating there were 35 permits issued during the month including two new house permits bringing the total to nine for the year.

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

**STEARNS COUNTY ATTORNEY
JANELLE KENDALL
PROSECUTION CONTRACT**

REVIEW: Ms. Kendall was in attendance to provide her annual report on prosecutions her office is working on. She indicated they are working on a plan to build a new jail and courthouse and that plan will be presented to the public this spring. She explained it is less expensive to build all at once in one place.

- **Mr. Backes entered the meeting at 7:25pm**

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the March monthly report indicating there were eight calls for the month bringing the total to 34 on the year as compared to 19 at this time in 2023. Monthly training was provided by Fire Inc. on Hazmat and monitoring.

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

Chief Kramer presented a quote from Line-X to provide two air bags for the grass rig.

A motion was made authorize the purchase of the air bags in an amount not to exceed \$895 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC WORKS UPDATE
STREET SWEEPING**

QUOTES: Mr. Kiffmeyer presented two quotes for street sweeping.

A motion was made to approve the quote from Pearson Bros for street sweeping at a rate of \$130/broom by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kiffmeyer asked for permission to solicit quotes for patching jobs on 215th Street and 28th Avenue, on 13th Avenue and on 48th Avenue. He also sought approval to get a quote to have some additional paving done at city hall between the two buildings.

Mr. Schmitz wondered if we are interested in having our own crack filling machine.

Mr. Kiffmeyer wondered about a few spots where the road is damaged where it isn't really holes and Mr. Morast suggested on option is a slurry seal.

OPEN FORUM: No comments offered.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT:**

Mr. Morast presented a proposed change order adding Galant Road and 60th Avenue to the 2024 Street Project. The unit cost will be honored by the contractor amounting to approximately \$75,000 in construction costs and a total additional engineering cost of \$116,999 which also includes the added costs of inspection on the three alternates that were originally approved on the bid.

A motion was made to approve change order #1 by Mr. Schmitz, seconded by Mr. Backes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Morast reported the pre-construction meeting will be held on Thursday.

**PARK BOARD
RECOMMENDATION
GAGA PIT:**

Mr. McCabe reported the park board unanimously recommended allowing the Girl Scout Troop 307 to install a gaga ball pit at Kiffmeyer Park.

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

**PARK BOARD
RECOMMENDATION
HIDDEN LAKE PARK
AED:**

Mr. McCabe reported the park board reviewed and unanimously recommended purchasing and adding an AED unit similar to the one in Kiffmeyer Park for Hidden Lake Park at a cost of \$6,605. Mayor Zenzen indicated we should check with the American Legion Auxiliary to see if they will contribute.

A motion was made to approve adding and AED to Hidden Lake Park at a cost of \$6,605 plus electricity by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**PARK BOARD
RECOMMENDATION
WEED AND FEED:**

Quotes were presented to contract the weed and feed at both parks and the fire hall. Mr. McCabe reported the park board unanimously recommended approval.

A motion was made to contract with Valley Green Companies for spring and late summer/fall lawn applications by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Schmitz. Motion carried unanimously.

**ST CLOUD WASTEWATER
TREATMENT
AGREEMENT:**

A motion was made to approve the agreement conditional on Mr. Couri's review by Mr. Backes, seconded by Ms. Coleman. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER

PURVIEW:

Ms. Coleman wondered about filing for City Council, she indicated she is not planning on running again.

Mr. Backes asked if there was any update on Emerald Ponds. There is not update at this time.

Mr. Hommerding indicated the dog park was mowed, but not yet weed wacked.

Mr. Hommerding asked if we could order wood chips for the playgrounds at the parks.

Mr. Hommerding and Mr. Schmitz asked about starting the planning for connecting to the trails. Mr. Couri suggested we need to have a plan first.

Mayor Zenzen indicated we were having issues on our MS4. Mr. McCabe

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

Mr. McCabe presented the most recent pay equity report, indication the city is in compliance with the requirements.

Mr. McCabe indicated he was putting together an order for city shirts for those interested in having a city shirt to wear to meetings away from city hall. He asked for sizes of those interested.

Mr. McCabe said Saturday, May 11 is the day the new state flag is supposed to be displayed and indicated he has one reserved to be picked up later this week.

Mr. McCabe gave a brief review of the 2024 clean up day, stating we had 48 forms turned in as compared to the 28 forms turned in in 2022. Revenue was up only slightly from 2022 and he attributed this to less appliances than in past years.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 9:20 pm by Mr. Hommerding seconded by Ms. Coleman.

Approved this 4th day of June, 2024.

Michael G. Zenzen, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator