

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
ST. AUGUSTA, MINNESOTA
February 4, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Schmitz at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Schmitz, Council Members Backes, Hommerding, and Genereux; Fire Chief Kramer, Attorney Couri, Stearns County Deputy Widmer, and Clerk/Administrator McCabe. Council Member Skaalerud was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Honer, Brent Ahmann, Amy Brand,

CONSENT AGENDA: Mr. McCabe asked that we add payables to the MN Public Facilities Authority in an amount of \$3,308.43 and to Great American Financial Services in an amount of \$121.37.

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

The following items were approved with the consent agenda:

City Council Minutes, January 7, 2025.
City Council Agenda, February 4, 2025.
Bill Payable, Receipts and Treasurer's Report dated February 4, 2025 and for ePayments #25210e – 25225e and Checks #26318 – 26364.
City Council Workshop Minutes, January 21, 2025.
Temporary Liquor Licenses – St. Wendelin (March 15 and April 26).
Appoint Brent Ahmann to the Planning Commission.
Liquor, Tobacco and THC License to Lotus Business

SHERIFF'S REPORT: Lt. Widmer presented the sheriff's report indicating 45 hours were spent on the contract during the month. He answered questions from the Council.

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

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. McCabe presented the monthly building report stating there were 13 permits issued during the month including one single family home.

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

**FIRE DEPT.
REPORT:**

Chief Kramer presented the December monthly report indicating there were 11 calls for the month bringing the total to 151 for the year as compared to 129 at this time in 2023. Monthly training was a refresher on run reporting and radio communications. Fire Inc. also held the annual Haz Mat refresher and the EMR refresher.

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

Chief Kramer presented quotes to replace 5 radios totaling \$30,438.55 and to five pagers at a cost of \$2,570.

A motion was made to authorize the purchase of the pagers and radios by Mr. Hommerding, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

OPEN FORUM: No comments offered.

**PLANNING COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION
KNIFE RIVER IUP
TRANSFER:**

Mr. McCabe indicated the planning commission unanimously recommended approval of the IUP being transferred from Knife River to Jim and Janel Honer.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #2025-04, A Resolution Modifying an Interim Use Permit Issued to Knife River on August 20, 2024 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT:**

Mr. McCabe indicated Mr. Bunders had called in sick. He provided an email explaining the meeting held with Astech on the Otta Seal project and recommended the Council approve the pay application that was tabled last month. Mr. Hommerding

A motion was to approve the pay application to Astech in an amount of \$135,699.16 by Mr. Backes, seconded by Mr. Genereux. Motion carried unanimously.

**PARK FERTILIZER
QUOTES:**

Mr. McCabe presented quotes to fertilize both parks and ball fields twice during the summer as was done last year.

A motion was made to approve the quotes for fertilizer by Mr. Genereux, seconded by Mr. Hommerding. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEMBER

PURVIEW:

Mr. Hommerding asked about the open accounting position and Mr. McCabe stated we have two applications so far.

Mr. Hommerding asked about the new pumps; Mr. McCabe indicated he would follow up with the water operator.

Mr. Hommerding asked to add the fee schedule to the next workshop meeting.

Mr. Genereux asked if this was a year for the cleanup and was told this is the off year.

Mr. Genereux wondered where we are at on social media and website update. Mr. McCabe asked that he forward anything he would like to see so we can incorporate into our new website.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

REPORT:

Mr. McCabe asked for volunteers to assist with the interviews and stated once he gets the candidates, he would send out an email to coordinate schedules.

ADJOURMENT: A motion was made to adjourn at 7:25 m by Mr. Hommerding seconded by Mr. Backes.

Approved this 4th day of March, 2025.

Jeff Schmitz, Mayor

Attest:

William R. McCabe, Clerk/Administrator