

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, June 8, 2020 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Mayor Deborah J. Foster called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members Ruth Cyphers, Wayne Hasek, Tom Hawkins, Randy Lubenow and Bruce Peters were present. Also, in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Police Chief Mike Hunter and City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen.

Council Member Cyphers made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Foster presented Doug Rainforth, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, representing the Fairmont Wastewater Treatment Facility with an Operational Award from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in recognition of exceptional compliance with its Minnesota Pollution Control Agency NPDES/SDS wastewater permit during the 2019 review year. Rainforth thanked staff and gave them credit for the award.

Council Member Cyphers made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were: City Council minutes from May 11, 2020 and May 26, 2020; Payment of the May accounts payable in the amount of \$1,862,146.40; FAA Grant Agreement No. 3-27-0029-018-2020; Amendment #1 to State Grant Agreement for Airport Maintenance and Operations; **Resolution 2020-27**, Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Fairmont on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department; State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement Authorized Agency; and Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment to CJDN Subscriber Agreement.

Rec. & Youth Services Director Betsy Steuber presented the 2019 Aquatic Park Year End Report. Finance Director Paul Hoye explained to the Council the financial impact on opening the pool late and under the social distancing restrictions. It is staff's recommendation to close the aquatic park for the 2020 season due to the ongoing pandemic and health concerns and stated that staff would focus on maintenance while closed. After much discussion, Council Member Peters made a motion to open the Aquatic Park as soon as feasibly possible. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the Terms of Engagement for Smith, Tollefson, Rahrck & Cass as City Attorney. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Tom Olinger, CPA of Abdo, Eick & Meyers, LLP presented the results of the 2019 financial audit. Council Member Peters made a motion to accept the 2019 audit and approve the distribution of the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the permit application for the July 4th fireworks display by J & M Displays, Inc. of Urbandale, Iowa. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve funding the July 4th fireworks in the amount of \$1,500.00. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2020-06**, an Ordinance Amending Fairmont City Code, Chapter 2 – Administration and Chapter 10 – Fire Prevention and Protection. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Cyphers, Hasek, Hawkins, Lubenow and Peters all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve **Resolution 2020-28**, Municipal State Aid Funds Advance for the Lake Avenue project. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow, Peters, Cyphers, Hasek and Hawkins all voted aye, no one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Nemmers advised that MnDOT will be closing the Highway 15, eastbound I-90 ramp beginning June 19th and it will be closed approximately three weeks.

Nemmers gave the following updates from Public Works: Last week the Street Department hung 132 Senior banners, delivered picnic tables to three restaurants and is in the process of cleaning up the tree dump site. Last week, Friday the contractors finished paving the new Cedar Creek Trail Loop. The Ward Park parking lot and boat ramp opened today. The Human Services parking lot project is scheduled to open this coming Wednesday. Work continues on Winnebago Avenue, Fourth Street, Burton Lane and the T-hanger project at the Airport.

Nemmers reported that he is finalizing the Dutch Creek Water project and is working on the Development Agreement with Lakeview. He is also working on finalizing the plans to go out for bids for the new public works building.

Council Member Lubenow asked Nemmers if the beaches could be cleaned on both sides of Gomsrud Park and if water testing of our lakes has been done. Nemmers responded that the City is not required to test the lake water, however they do usually test beginning in June. Results in the past have been consistent with lake water. The lakes are very clear this year. Lubenow also asked if Nemmers knew what was going on with the Adventures Playground. Nemmers stated that he believed the contractors needed to do some adjusting on the equipment and he noticed that they were there working on it last week.

Council Member Hawkins stated that the Lakeview project is not an addition, it is a new separate facility. Council Member Hawkins asked about plans for Gomsrud Park parking lot and ramps. Nemmers stated that the City has a master plan for Gomsrud Park, but four years ago the cost was two million. He is currently looking at Amber Lake Park parking lot and boat ramp and possibly looking at options for Gomsrud Park. Nemmers stated that these items could be discussed in the 2021 Budget to see if there is funding for them.

City Administrator Reynolds announced that Fairmont Economic Development Authority has a vacancy and that anyone interested should complete the application posted on the City website. The deadline to apply is June 16.

Reynolds shared the May 2020 Building Permit Report. Sixty-six building permits have been issued year-to-date at a value of \$5,090,374. In comparison to May 2019 of 39 building permits issued at a value of \$4,331,380. Reynolds stated that this is looking good for our community.

Reynolds gave all council members a copy of a letter she received from the YMCA. The City gave the YMCA \$50,000. to begin programming efforts in the City. Due to the current environment with COVID-19, the YMCA has decided that for the months of June, July and August they were going to take a step back and resume efforts beginning in September.

Council Member Lubenow asked about Quarterly Reports from the prosecutor's office. Mayor Foster advised that Reynolds was working on that.

Council Member Cyphers thanked the Police Department for their assistance with the graduation parade and the Street Department for hanging all the banners. Cyphers congratulated all the Seniors. Cyphers also thanked her constituents for reaching out to her yesterday and today.

Council Members Hasek and Hawkins also commented on how nice the banners are.

Council Member Hawkins invited people to reach out to City Administrator Reynolds and get to know her.

Council Member Lubenow encouraged citizens to support the local restaurants as they open and to be patient as they get going again.

Council Member Hasek congratulated the Seniors and mentioned that one had been accepted into the Air Force Academy. Mayor Foster announced that it was Tyson Geerdes and that he will represent Fairmont very well.

A motion was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Hasek and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk