

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, November 23, 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, City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen and Attorney Mark Rahrack via telephone.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There was no public comment during open discussion.

Council Member Hawkins made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes from the November 9, 2020 City Council Meeting; Minutes from the November 12, 2020 Special City Council Meeting; November Accounts Payable and League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form, in which the City does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2020-11**, an ordinance to sell 103 S. Orient Street, 850 S. Park Street, 523 N. Elm Street and 1030 N. Elm Street. 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 Lubenow made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2020-12**, granting permission to sell 406 N. Elm Street, 1206 N. Elm Street, 714 N. North Avenue, 614 N. Orient Street, 606 N. Prairie Avenue & 610 N. Prairie Avenue and 719 E. Sixth Street. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Hawkins, Lubenow, Peters and Cyphers all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Cyphers made a motion to approve the conditional use permit to operate a kennel business in an I-1 Light Industrial District at 1041 Marcus Street. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The first reading of proposed **Ordinance 2020-13**, an ordinance to sell 35 acres of city owned property to Dick Gerhardt for the Dutch Creek habitat and water quality project was held.

Nemmers reported that the contractor for the Lake Avenue reconstruction project has finished signage, topsoil and stripping. City crews will be working on lights this week and next week.

Hoye gave a recap on the COVID CARES Act.

Reynolds noted that there will be a Budget Work Session on December 7, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. and then the Truth in Taxation meeting will be held on December 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

With the Glows Parade being cancelled, the City and the Chamber of Commerce will be co-sponsoring a Holiday Lights Competition. To enter please email julie.zarling@fairmont.org, info@fairmontchamber.com or call Julie Zarling at the City of Fairmont or Kandi at the Chamber of Commerce.

Reynolds gave an update on Downtown Revitalization.

Reynolds stated that the City held two sessions with area businesses to determine community needs for education and training. The City is working with Iowa Lakes Community College to offer helpful courses at the Southern Minnesota Educational Campus.

Council Member Hasek reported that the Public Utilities Commission has been reviewing the rate study.

Council Member Cyphers stated that the Airport Board did not meet due to bad weather. Community Education and Recreation staff wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season. CER has 3M interactive learning adventure kits available for children K-6 grade. CER has also partnered with 4-H to offer individual kits available for children. They also have snowshoes available for rent.

Council Member Hawkins reported that the Planning Commission approved the conditional use permit for a kennel business in an I-1 Light Industrial zone. Alex Young-Williams of Lead for Minnesota addressed the Planning Commission. Peter Bode, Planner/Code Enforcement Technician advised that the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan will be presented to the Planning Commission on December 1st.

At 5:59 p.m., Council Member Hasek made a motion to go into closed session to discuss labor negotiations pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.03. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. At 6:52 p.m., Council Member Peters made a motion to end the closed session. Council Member Hawkins seconded the motion and the motion carried.

At 7:02 p.m., Council Member Hawkins made a motion to go into closed session to conduct the City Administrator's performance evaluation pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.05, Subd. 3(a). Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried. At 7:46 p.m. Council Member Hawkins made a motion to end the closed session. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Cyphers, seconded by Council Member Hasek and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk