

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, March 22, 2021 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the peace time emergency declared by Governor Walz, the meeting was held with limited capacity in City Hall and by teleconferencing pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.021.

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

Council Members Wayne Hasek, Britney Kawecki, Randy Lubenow, Michele Miller 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 Rahrnick.

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

Mayor Foster recognized City Employee Nancy Campbell for her ten years of service.

Economic Development Coordinator Linsey Preuss presented the 2020 Fairmont Economic Development Authority Annual Report.

During open discussion, Jay Maynard of 1831 Oakwood spoke in favor of the new Public Works Facility.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes from the March 8, 2021 City Council Meeting; Accounts Payable March 2021; Authorization to purchase a new pickup Dodge 1500 pickup truck for the Parks Department and Authorization to purchase a new John Deere 672G motor grader for the Street Department.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve the proposal from John Riemann for the sale of the Senior Center for a proposed use of a brewery. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the interfund transfers for 2020 as listed on the attached schedule. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2021-28**, designating fund balances for specific purposes. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve a Lease Agreement with Independent School District #2752 for two rooms located in the SMEC Building located at 115 South Park Street. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve **Resolution 2021-29**, advertising for bids for the 2021-B Resurface and Overlay Projects. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve **Resolution 2021-18**, awarding the bids for the Public Works Facility. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Nemmers informed the Council and citizens that the MPCA discussion on the County owned Gopher Landfill, north of the City, and the contaminants do not impact the City of Fairmont's source drinking water. If anyone would like more information on this topic, please contact Nemmers.

Nemmers is working with Lakeview to finalize the Development Agreement for the new street and should be bringing that to council at the next meeting for approval.

The yard waste recycling site is scheduled to open April 1<sup>st</sup>. With Spring cleanup, Nemmers asked citizens to be conscious of not raking sand, dirt and leaves into the streets, as all that goes directly into our lakes.

Hoye stated that auditors will be coming this week to conduct the City's annual audit. The City currently uses the firm of Abdo, Eick and Meyers and has used them for several years. A representative from Abdo, Eick and Meyers will present the Audit findings sometime the end of May or in June. The City is working on putting together a Request for Proposals for future auditing services.

Reynolds advised that the Public Auction for the sale of five lots the City acquired through the demo program will be held on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The lots to be sold are: 406 North Elm, 1206 North Elm, 714 North North Avenue, 614 North Orient and 719 East Sixth Street.

Last week Reynolds testified for the House Capital Investment Committee in supporting the House funding bill to fund Public Facilities Authority with state bond proceeds. This fund is for clean water projects and was what the City of Fairmont used for water projects and wastewater projects.

Reynolds reported that she can tell that Spring is in the air. The building department has been very busy issuing permits, which is good news for our community.

Council Member Lubenow thanked Reynolds for looking into any questions that arise about building codes in the City. He appreciates that she does the research and responds.

Council Member Hasek reported that there was no Public Utilities meeting, and that the aprons at the Airport are all ready to go.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the library is open and has a thirty-minute limit for visitors. The library also has several on-line programs being offered at this time. Lubenow reported that the parks are being prepared for opening and that the new sign is ready for the newly named Richard S. Bradley Park.

Council Member Peters reported that Visit Fairmont is working on a new website this year and is looking for new visual assets. If anyone has photos/videos to share, please contact Stephanie Busiahn. The Martin County Veteran's Memorial in Fairmont has been chosen to be placed on

the Tour of Honor. This is a self-guided Motorcycle tour throughout the United States. The Fairmont Area Life campaign targeting individuals in Minneapolis and St. Paul has been well received.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, seconded by Council Member Miller and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

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Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk