

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, April 12, 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 Rahrack.

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

Mayor Foster proclaimed the month of April 2021 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in the City of Fairmont.

During open discussion, Jay Maynard of 1831 Oakwood spoke in opposition of the proposed Letter of Intent from Carlson Walters Group, LLC regarding the purchase of 55 acres of the Day Farm to develop a campground.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes from the March 22, 2021 City Council Meeting; Event Permit for Borderline Cruisers Car Show to be held on June 12, 2021; Event Permit for Red Rock Center for Friday's in Citizen's Park on various dates throughout the summer; Event Permit for Red Rock Center for a concert to be held in Sylvania Park Band Shell on June 11, 2021; Event Permit for Red Rock Center to hold a drive through community picnic at 222 East Blue Earth Avenue on May 31, 2021; Premises Permit for Fairmont Fire Fighters Relief Association for Minnesota Lawful Gambling at Interlaken Golf Course, Inc.; Declare sixteen Tasers 26Xs as excess property to be sold to Accredited Security; Authorization to purchase new electric distribution switchgears; Approve proposals from Barga Incorporated for pavement maintenance.

Mayor Foster opened the public hearing for the first reading of proposed **Ordinance 2021-01** an ordinance to sell 414 Downtown Plaza. No public comment was received. Council Member Peters made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Millers seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Economic Development Coordinator Linsey Preuss presented the Council with a Letter of Intent from Carlson Walters Group, LLC and Staff's review and recommendation. Investors John Walters and Garth Carlson spoke. Council Member Peters made a motion to disapprove the Letter of Intent from Carlson Walters Group, LLC regarding the purchase of 55 acres of the Day Farm to develop a campground. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Lubenow, Miller and Peters voted aye. Council Member Kawecki voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Jessica Green of Northland Securities presented the Council the Finance Plan for both the 2021A and 2021B bond issues. Council Member Peters made a motion to approve the Municipal Advisory Services Agreements with Northland Securities. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2021-31** awarding the Habitat Restoration & Nitrate Bioreactor project, Project 2021-H to Beemer Companies. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve awarding the bid for the wastewater scum removal project to Winona Mechanical in the amount of \$141,000.00. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the agreement with Dude Solutions for asset management software and training. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Nemmers thanked the council for approving the agreement with Dude Solutions. For construction updates, Nemmers advised that construction on the new portion of Fairlakes Avenue will begin next week. The pedestrian bridge on the I-90 bike trail has been installed. The contractor will be coming to do repairs on the Day Farm trail and hot mix will be ready soon, to start filling in some potholes. The construction of the new Public Works Facility will start in two weeks. All city docks are now installed, and the Parks Department is preparing the parks to open in May.

Reynolds reported that the City sold all five lots which the City received on tax forfeitures and demolished the dilapidated homes on. The City only has one remaining lot, which has a legal description issue which is being worked on. This final lot will be sold as soon as the legal description is defined.

Reynolds stated that the City has a new survey on the website and Facebook on parks and recreation usage. She encouraged everyone to take the survey. A Spanish version of the survey will be added by the end of this week.

Reynolds reported that the facilitator group of the Downtown Revitalization Committee met and discussed goals. The group plans to attend events being held throughout the city to get community feedback on the goals of the plan. The committee is encouraging community participation.

Mayor Foster reported that the HRA approved quotes for general maintenance at Friendship Village.

Council Member Hasek reported that the Public Utilities Commission is planning on moving their meetings from the second and fourth Tuesdays to the first and third Tuesdays.

Council Member Kawecky reported that the Planning Commission approved a home occupation permit for a massage business.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals approved a non-conforming deck permit.

Council Member Miller reported on all the class offerings of Community Education and Recreation for Spring and Summer.

Council Member Peters reported that FEDA approved another Federal Cares Act loan. The Child Care loans have changed to be completely forgivable loans after one year of being in business. If interested, please contact Linsey Preuss. Discussion was held regarding the defederalization of the FEDA revolving loan funds.

Peters also reported that Visit Fairmont is still looking for video and photos of Fairmont, as they redesign their website.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, seconded by Council Member Miller, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

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Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk