

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

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 Officer Paul Hoye, Police Chief Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen and Attorney Mark Rahrick.

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

The City recognized the following employees for their years of service: Ricky Pierce, Street Department, 35 years; Wade Williams, Line Department, 20 years; Bryan Boltjes, Police Department, 20 years; Luke Schultz, Park Department, 15 years; Lily Paine, Police Department, 5 years; Cole Stangler, Engineering Department, 5 years.

Chief Hunter introduced the new Community Services Officer, Brad Buhmann. Chief Hunter also shared that Officer Dustin Schwebke has now been moved to Patrol Officer and Officer Jason Christenson has been moved to Investigator.

Economic Development Coordinator Linsey Preuss presented the 2021 Q1 Community Development Report.

During Public Discussion/Comment, Lois Johnson of 601 Shoreacres, #108; Kathy Eyerly of 443 Lake Park Boulevard; Jim Barker of 109 Sisseton and Jay Maynard of 1831 Oakwood Drive all spoke in opposition of a City owned campground at the Day Farm.

John Walters of Sherburn, MN (Carlson Walters Development Group) stated that they have been working with City staff to move forward with their campground on the north end of George Lake and that there is no need for a city campground.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes from the June 28, 2021 City Council Meeting; Event Permit for a private wedding event to block a portion of 13th Street on July 24, 2021; Event Permit for Martin County Humane Society, Walk for Animals on September 12, 2021 at Cedar Creek Park.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2021-02**, an ordinance amending **Ordinance 2020-08**, establishing a rural and urban service district within the municipal limits of the City of Fairmont. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow, Miller, Peters and Hasek all voted aye. Council Member Kawecki voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Martin County regarding the Justice Center. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Miller, Peters, Hasek, and Kawecki all voted aye. Council Member Lubenow voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve an Order relating to property located at 403 5th Street East. This Order provides notice that the property owner has thirty days to provide a plan to repair or demolish the structure with the work to be completed within 90 days. If this is not completed, the city can file the Order with the Court seeking a judgement allowing the city to demolish the structure pursuant to Minn. Stat. 463.15 to 463.26. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow, Miller, Peters, Hasek and Kawecki all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve **Resolution 2021-38**, creation of a Community Center Advisory Board. Council Member Kawecki seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Miller, Peters, Kawecki and Lubenow all voted aye. Council Member Hasek voted no. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve the appointments of Michael Edman and Brandon Edmundson from the Community Center Committee; Kyle Gustafson and Mike Anderson from the Fairmont Youth Hockey Association; and Mat Mahoney from the Fairmont School District to the Community Center Advisory Board. Council Member Kawecki seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Peters, Hasek, Kawecki, Lubenow and Miller all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Miller made a motion to appoint Council Member Lubenow and Council Member Miller as liaison to the Community Center Advisory Board. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. Staff assigned to the Board will be City Administrator Reynolds.

The City posted a request for qualifications of interested firms for the design of a city owned campground. The City received three responses and after evaluation, staff's recommendation to council is to authorize staff to contract with Bolton & Menk. Much discussion was held. Council Member Lubenow made a motion to table this matter until we get some answers to other proposed campgrounds. This motion failed for lack of a second. Council Member Peters made a motion to authorize staff to contract with Bolton & Menk for a campground design in an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00. This motion also failed for lack of a second.

Nemmers gave a construction update. Work on Fairlakes Avenue continues. Contractors are finishing the underground utilities and street grading has started. The Grant Street watermain project is underway. Decommissioning of the lime ponds is finishing with Phase 1 and will be moving into Phase 2. The Margaret Street/I-90 trail is being finalized and should be open in the next couple of weeks. The Public Works Facility will begin framing next week. Construction on the Amber Lake Park parking lot and boat ramp will begin mid to late July.

Mayor Foster reported that the HRA heard informational presentations from Carlson Walters Development Group and the University of Minnesota Affordable Housing Initiative.

A motion was made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Hasek, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk