

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, July 11, 2022, 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, Police Chief Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrck. Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers and Finance Director Paul Hoye were absent.

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

Richard Bradley of 601 Shoreacres Drive and Bill Cieslinski of 517 Independence Drive representing Citizens 4 A Strong Fairmont gave a presentation on repurposing the Southern Minnesota Education Campus building into a Fairmont Community Center.

During Open Discussion, Jay Maynard of 1831 Oakwood and John Madsen of 912 Home Street spoke in favor of the proposed plan by Citizens 4 A Strong Fairmont. Terry Riggs of 210 South Elm Street asked about bonding for the proposed Community Center. She also praised Trevor Boehne and all his work with the Center Creek Disc Golf tournament. Council Member Lubenow of 217 South Hampton stated that he attended the campground meeting hosted by Carlson Waters Group and he hopes the City and Carlson Walters Group work together to find a solution for the access to the proposed campground. John Walters from Carlson Walters Group gave an update and thanked Council Members Lubenow and Hasek for attending the informational meeting. Council Member Peters stated that if you leave him a voice message with no name, it is meaningless to him.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: minutes from the June 27, 2022 city council meeting; Event Permit for Play4ACure Softball tournament to be held August 5-7, 2022 at the Winnebago Sports Complex; Event Permit for the Martin County Library to hold Library Family Event on August 10, 2022 on Second Street; Event Permit for Trevor Boehne to hold Cedar Creek Open Disc Golf Tournament August 12-14, 2022 at Cedar Creek Park.

Reynolds shared that there would be a community center stakeholder meeting with the Architect on July 14th to look at concepts and options. Regarding the proposed charter amendments, the ballot questions for the proposed amendments were finalized and submitted to the Auditor/Treasurer today. The due date is July 12th. Copies of the submitted questions have been provided to the council. The City sent letters to all owners of farm property in the city limits regarding the interim emergency ordinance which was passed June 27th. Meetings will be held the end of July to get input for the permanent ordinance. A work session has been planned for July 25th from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in room 012 of the Southern Educational Campus. This will be a joint work session with the City Council, Planning Commission, and the Board of Zoning Appeals to discuss the Zoning Code update. This meeting will not be televised but is open to the public. On August 8th there will be a budget work session. Janelle Schomberg has been hired in the Finance Department as Utility Customer Service Representative, Julie Zarling has been

promoted to the Assistant Finance Director position and Cole Emler has been hired as the new accountant.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the HRA has decided to continue their contract for another 40 hours with the individual who has been helping them with housing development. They also discussed sharing a Community Development Director with the City. The HRA would pay 40% and the City would pay \$60%. The HRA gave their preliminary approval of this partnership.

Council Member Peters reported that the BZA granted a small variance for the Habitat for Humanity house located at 512 Elm Street.

At 6:15 p.m., Council Member Miller made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subdivision 3(b). Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The council opened the closed meeting at 6:22 p.m. At 7:06 p.m., Council Member Miller made a motion to return to open session. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Peters, seconded by Council Member Hasek and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk