

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, September 26, 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 and Michele Miller were present. Council Member Bruce Peters was absent. Also in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Police Chief Mike Hunter, Planner/Zoning Official Peter Bode, Economic Development Coordinator Ned Koppen, City Clerk Patricia Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrick, via telephone.

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 employees for their years of service. Michael Heckman of the Line Department for 15 years and Dustin Schwebke from the Police Department for 15 years.

Reynolds introduced Ned Koppen as the city's new Economic Development Coordinator.

Kids Just Want to Have Fun gave a presentation on a proposed bike share program.

During Public Comment, Council Member Lubenow shared a story about his family and the Rosen Family.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: minutes from the September 12, 2022 city council meeting and payment of the September 2022 accounts payable.

Mayor Foster opened the public hearing on proposed **Ordinance 2022-12**, regulating the discharge of manure within city limits. The following people spoke in support of the ordinance: Ruth and Rob True of 1435 Holland Street; Molly Meyer of 1332 Holland Street; Kathy Gronewald of 1447 Larson Lane, Jay Maynard of 1831 Oakwood, Marlene Johnson of 1426 Holland Street and Jeff Schuett of 1306 Holland Street. Council Member Miller made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried. Council Member Lubenow made a motion to schedule a special meeting for the second reading of proposed **Ordinance 2022-12** on Friday, September 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the city hall council chambers. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Kawecki, Lubenow and Miller all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Mayor Foster opened the public hearing on proposed **Ordinance 2022-13**, regulating the sale of certain edible and beverage products infused with tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) products. Steph Johnson, Shelly Larson, Liz Wheeler, Eden Dunker, Emily Wheeler, Jazzi Lopez and Norah Heille all members or coordinators with Martin County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition spoke of the importance to regulate THC and in support of **Ordinance 2022-13**. Jeff Schuett of 1306 Holland Street questioned who would be able to get a license. Nick Bulfer of 901 Bixby Road stated that he works at Smokey Tobacco and stated that they do not allow minors in their

store and are not in the business to addict children in Fairmont. He stated he is not against the ordinance. Council Member Miller made a motion to close the public hearing. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Amended Resolution 2022-34**, adopting the proposed tax levy for 2023. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members 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 approve **Ordinance 2022-11**, repealing and replacing in its entirety Fairmont City Code, Chapter 25 Utilities, Article IX Stormwater Management. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Kawecki, Lubenow, Miller and Hasek all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to table agenda item 8.3 Charter Commission Additional Budget Request, due to the fact that it was not presented to the council prior to the meeting. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow and Kawecki voted aye. Council Members Miller and Hasek voted nay. Due to the tie vote, Mayor Foster voted nay and said motion failed. Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve the Charter Commission's request for an additional \$2,500 to be allocated to their 2022 budget. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Member Kawecki voted aye. Council Members Miller, Hasek and Lubenow voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion failed.

Nemmers reminded citizens that starting in October the City will be changing out meters and would appreciate everyone's cooperation.

Reynolds shared that on October 3, 2022, from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. an open house will be held at the Southern Minnesota Educational Campus located at 115 South Park Street for the Whitetail Ridge Twin Homes to be built. More information about the project will be shared at this meeting and they will be taking presales. Reynolds also shared that the city will be looking for community engagement on social media for the Gomsrud Park project and the Community Center and encouraged citizens to be watching for these opportunities.

Council Member Hasek stated that some sidewalks are being replaced at the Airport and some repairs are being made in the terminal. He was unable to attend the PUC meeting.

Council Member Kawecki shared that the library is looking to hire an assistant library director and that everything is going very well at the library. She also stated that the Safety Council meeting was canceled.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the Community Center Advisory Board received an update on what has been designed and is looking at what can be built within their budget of 20 million. He also reported that the Park Board is waiting for the Gomsrud Park design drawings, the shelter houses will be closing in the month of October and the Park Board passed some new park rules, which included some price increases for shelter rentals.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, seconded by Council Member Miller and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk