

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, October 24, 2022, at the City Hall Council Chambers.

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

Council Members Britney Kawecki, Randy Lubenow, Michele Miller and Bruce Peters were present. Council Member Wayne Hasek was absent. Also in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers, Police Captain Eric Tonder, Economic Development Coordinator Ned Koppen, Planner/Zoning Official Peter Bode, City Clerk Patricia Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrack, via telephone.

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

Mayor Foster proclaimed November 10, 2022, as Community Education and Recreation Day in the City of Fairmont. CER Director Stephanie Busiahn was present and advised that CER is celebrating their 50th year in Fairmont and will be hosting an open house on November 10, 2022, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at their office located in the Southern Minnesota Educational Campus.

Community Development Coordinator Ned Koppen presented the Third Quarter Community Development Report.

During Public Comment, Keith Kearney a resident of Fairmont encouraged the city council to approve his request for a boathouse. Dale Martens a resident of Fairmont spoke. Ramon Ramirez, a resident of Fairmont voiced concerns for the Latino Community. Jonathan Melendez, a non-resident of the City of Fairmont stated that the City is not prepared for people who speak a different language. Richard Bradley, a resident of the City of Fairmont encouraged citizens to vote no on the Charter amendments and urged the city to extend the hours of the proposed community center's open house. Randy Lubenow a resident of the City of Fairmont spoke and Jay Maynard a resident of the City of Fairmont spoke.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: minutes from the October 10, 2022 city council meetings, payment of the October 2022 accounts payable and appointment of Chris Pierce to the FEDA Board.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to deny the Conditional Use Permit for a boathouse at 221 Krahmer Drive and direct city staff to amend the zoning code to a 10' setback from the ordinary high-water level for boathouses. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to deny the Conditional Use Permit for a boathouse at 420 Lake Aires Road and direct city staff to amend the zoning code to a 10' setback from the ordinary high-water level for boathouses. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the updated council policy. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Nemmers stated that the Fall leaf pickup begins in Section 1 of the City on October 31st and the tree dump will be closing for the Winter on December 1st.

Reynolds stated that some board and commission members' terms will be expiring the end of January 2023 and that citizens who are interested in serving on a board or commission should complete and submit an application. There will be a Community Center open house on November 2nd from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at SMEC. The design team will be present to answer any questions. There will be a joint work session on November 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the SMEC building. The city is hoping to live stream this joint meeting.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the Community Center Advisory Board reviewed the drawings and cost estimates. Lubenow also reported that the parks are closed, and lighting will be coming to Veteran's Park soon.

Council Member Peters reported that FEDA held a special meeting on the sale of Whitetail Ridge lots.

At 6:28 p.m., Council Member Miller made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, Subd. 3(b). Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Kaweck, Lubenow, Miller and Peters voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

The closed session began at 6:33 p.m. During closed session, Council Member Miller made a motion to authorize the City Attorney Mark Rahrck to sign a settlement agreement and any associated documents. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

At 6:37 p.m., Council Member Miller made a motion to return to open meeting. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Peters and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk