

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, November 14, 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, Public Works Director/City Engineer Troy Nemmers, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Chief of Police Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrlick, via telephone.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of agenda item 9.2 Discuss Change Order request from Beemer Companies and with the addition of agenda item 9.7 United Township Fire Truck Purchase Order. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Foster proclaimed the week of November 14-18, 2022, as American Education Week in the City of Fairmont.

During Public Comment, Shawn Chambers a resident of Fairmont spoke in support of the Community Center. Dale Martens a resident of Fairmont stated that he hasn't gotten answers to his questions. Mike Katzenmeyer, Chair of the Charter Commission requested that the council vote in favor of a budget increase for the Charter Commission and for reimbursement of funds expended. Jay Maynard, resident spoke in favor of the Community Center and in opposition of authorizing the request of the Charter Commission for reimbursement of funds. Julia Lutz from New Ulm spoke in favor of reinstating the Human Rights Commission. Terry Riggs voiced her concerns that there is no clarity for actual costs for the proposed Community Center.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: minutes from the October 24, 2022 city council meetings and approval of an On Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for Plaza Jalisco IV.

City Clerk Monsen presented the results of the 2022 City of Fairmont General Election. The City Council, as the canvassing board for city elections certified the names of the persons receiving votes and the number of votes received by each office voted on and specified the number of votes for and against each question voted on. Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the election results of the 2022 City of Fairmont General Election held on November 8, 2022, as presented. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Kawecki, Miller and Peters voted aye. Council Member Lubenow voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed. A copy of the Abstract of Votes Cast is attached hereto and made a part of the permanent record.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve a professional service agreement (Task Order #4) with DGR for electrical facilities upgrades. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the contract with Bolton & Menk for interim engineering services. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve reimbursing Mike Katzenmeyer \$375 for partial payment of the Charter Commission Photo Press Ad. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow and Kawecki voted aye. Council Members Miller, Peters and Hasek voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion failed.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve payment of \$90 to AdMfg for graphic design for the Charter Commission Photo Press Ad. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Lubenow and Kawecki voted aye. Council Members Miller, Peters and Hasek voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion failed.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve \$2,500 in additional funding for the Charter Commission. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Kawecki and Lubenow voted aye. Council Members Miller, Peters and Hasek voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion failed.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to approve the Fire Services Contract with United Township Coop Fire Association. Council Member Peters seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve PO 14471 to purchase a new fire truck for United Township through the purchasing cooperative. United Township will then reimburse the City for the cost of the fire truck. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Discussion regarding the Human Rights Commission Reinstatement was held at the request of Council Member Kawecki.

At the request of Council Member Peters, discussion was held about individual council member's use of staff time. Council as a whole, directed staff to follow the approved Rules of Procedure, paragraph 9.d, as adopted on March 28, 2022 and updated on October 24, 2022.

Nemmers reported that the Gomsrud Park renovation concepts will be coming to the December 12th council meeting with estimated costs. The electric meter change outs began in October and the water meter change outs will begin in December. More information on this will be coming to the public soon. Nemmers stated that this is his last meeting, and he thanked his co-workers and the council for his 14 years of working with the City.

Hoye presented the Third Quarter Financial Report.

Reynolds stated that Board and Commission appointments will be being made the end of January 2023 and that if anyone is interested in serving, they should complete an application which can be found on the city's website, and submit it. She also reminded everyone that there is only one meeting in December. The meeting is on December 12th and it will begin at 6:00 p.m. for the final budget approval.

Council Member Hasek reported that the Airport Board was updated on the renovation projects. The PUC talked about the substations and the Board of Zoning Appeals approved two requests.

Council Member Kaweck reported that library numbers are good and that the Assistant Director is getting settled in.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the Community Center Advisory Board talked about costs and options. The HRA agreed to trade in a tractor and purchase a new trailer.

Council Member Miller reported that FEDA is looking at trying to sell the Incubator building and that the remainder of the lots in Whitetail Ridge have been sold. CER will not be having a catalog in the Spring. They will be sending out a postcard and all classes will be offered online.

Council Member Peters reported that Visit Fairmont is working on many projects, including billboard advertising.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, seconded by Council Member Miller and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk