

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, November 28, 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, Randy Lubenow, Michele Miller and Bruce Peters were present. Council Member Britney Kawecki was absent. Also in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Chief of Police Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia Monsen and City Attorney Mark Rahrlick, via telephone.

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

During Public Comment, Resident Beth Kloeckner spoke in support of the community center. Resident Terry Riggs expressed empathy for the council's hard decisions on the community center.

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 November 14, 2022 city council meeting; payment of the November accounts payable; Purchase Order 14479 for Stella-Jones in the amount of \$48,379, poles for the line department; housing demolition funds for 819 Reiman Court; and approval of **Resolution 2022-39**, premises permit for charitable gambling at Fairmont Brewing Company.

Council Member Peters made a motion to approve **Resolution 2022-40** approving the language to amend the charter and directing staff to take the necessary actions to implement the change. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to authorize moving forward with the design and purchase of a new ice compressor mechanicals, up to \$2,000,000, with the remainder of the sales tax proceeds to be placed in reserves for lakes, parks, trails, other recreational amenities and upon a contract with a community center operator, upgrades to the Southern Minnesota Educational Campus for the purpose of a community center. Council Member Peters seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Miller and Peters voted aye. Council Member Lubenow voted nay. Mayor Foster declared said motion passed.

Hoye stated that the December 12, 2022, council meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will be the 2023 budget meeting. He also stated that the Public Utilities Commission has proposed rate increases for water, sewer and electric for 2023.

Reynolds stated that the City Engineer/Public Works Director's position has been posted and will be closing on December 6th. She also stated that there are openings on city boards and commissions and if anyone is interested, they should complete an application, which can be found on the city's website, and submit it.

At 6:24 p.m., Council Member Miller made a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03, Subd. 1(b) for discussion of labor negotiation strategies. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The closed session began at 6:30 p.m. Council Member Peters made a motion to return to open meeting. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried. Council returned to open meeting at 6:43 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Miller, seconded by Council Member Peters and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Deborah J. Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk