

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, January 23, 2023, at the City Hall Council Chambers.

Mayor Lee Baarts called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Council Members Deb Foster, Wayne Hasek, Britney Kawecki, Jay Maynard and Michele Miller were present. Also in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Chief of Police Mike Hunter, City Clerk Patricia Monsen, Economic Development Coordinator Ned Koppen, Civil Engineer Tyler Cowing, City Engineer Wes Brown and City Attorneys Chris Hood, Cara Brown and Lacy Schumacher, via telephone.

Council Member Foster made a motion to approve the agenda with moving consent agenda item 6.C.2 to new business item 9.5. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mayor Baarts proclaimed February 7-14, 2023 as congenital Heart Defect Awareness week in the City of Fairmont. Hailee Greeley was present and spoke.

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

During Public Comment, Darlene Lutz and Terry Riggs expressed their concerns with a new community center. Steve Hawkins spoke in support of a community center. Richard Bradley thanked the council for the proclamation and stated that he was born with a heart defect.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried. Items on the Consent Agenda were: Minutes from the January 9, 2023 city council meeting; January 2023 accounts payable; Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for Martin County Chapter Pheasants Forever and Authorization to purchase a pickup truck for the Engineering Department.

Mayor Baarts opened the public hearing for a liquor license violation review for Walmart. No one was present to speak at the hearing. Mayor Baarts closed the public hearing. Council Member Maynard made a motion to adopt amended **Resolution 2023-04** imposing a civil penalty upon Walmart. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Foster made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-07**, approving the labor contract with LELS for January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-08**, approving the labor contract with AFSCME for January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Civil Engineer Tyler Cowing presented the proposed 2023 Improvement Program. Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-05**, ordering the preparation of the engineering report for the street improvements. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Foster made a motion to adopt the park policy. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve the selection of Lockridge, Grindal, Nauen, PLLP as lobbyists and to enter into a contract with them for the community center local option sales tax and state bonding requests. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried. Council Member Hasek abstained from the discussion and from the vote, as he had a conflict of interest.

Council Member Foster made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-06**, approving the labor contract with IBEW for January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve a self-propelled paver in an amount not to exceed \$140,000 for the Street Department. Council Member Foster seconded the motion and the motion passed with a majority of the votes.

At the request of Council Member Kawecki, the following discussions were held: water treatment/wastewater, tree waste site, food trucks allowed at the parks and beach sand/volleyball courts. No direction was given to administration on these topics.

At the request of Council Member Maynard, a discussion was held regarding the Community Center Advisory Board. The majority of the council did not want any action taken on this topic.

Reynolds thanked the Streets and Parks Department for their work with snow removal this year. They have been busy moving snow and clearing catch basins. Reynolds reported that the final work has begun for the lime pond decommissioning. The AMI project began on January 4th for the water meter installations and that they are moving along well.

Hoye presented the December 31, 2022, investment report.

Reynolds stated that she will be attending the Collation of Greater Minnesota Cities Legislative Action Day in St. Paul on Wednesday, January 25th. She will be meeting with our State Representative and State Senator to talk about the Local Option Sales Tax, and State Bonding Bill from 2022, which did not get passed.

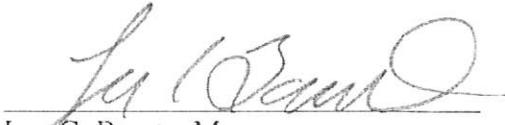
Council Member Hasek reported that LTD Broadband gave a presentation to the PUC about putting an antenna on one of our water towers. They also approved that if a resident had no electrical service, they would not be charged a minimum charge.

Council Member Kawecki reported that the library is doing very well. They are looking at replacing the roof of the library. They also got a new scanning system for checking out books and this will be being implemented in March.

Council Member Maynard reported that the Airport Board meeting was held to update new members.

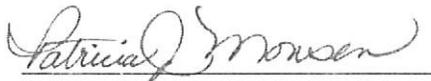
Council Member Miller reported that CER classes have been very well attended. In May the new CER catalog will be send out. She stated that CER is looking for coordinators for T-ball and flag football.

A motion was made by Council Member Maynard, seconded by Council Member Hasek and carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.



Lee C. Baarts, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk