

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, April 10, 2023, at the City Hall Council Chambers.

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

Council Members Wayne Hasek, Britney Kawecki, Randy Lubenow, Jay Maynard and Michele Miller were present. Also in attendance: City Administrator Cathy Reynolds, Finance Director Paul Hoye, City Clerk Patricia Monsen, Civil Engineer Tyler Cowing and City Attorney Cara Brown.

City Clerk Monsen administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Ward 3 Council Member Randy Lubenow.

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

Mayor Baarts proclaimed April 2023 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month in the City of Fairmont.

Ashley Brenke with Martin County Soil and Water Conservation District presented an update on the Board of Soil and Water Resource's One Watershed, One Plan implementation for the Blue Earth River Watershed.

Reynolds gave a final presentation on the Public Works Building project and budget. The project was issued a final certificate of occupancy in April 2023 and was completed \$160,497 under budget.

During Public Comment, Terry Riggs voiced her concerns about the proposed community center. Todd Smith made a comment.

Council Member Hasek 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 March 27, 2023 City Council meeting and an Event Permit for Celestial Discs to hold a disc golf tournament at Cedar Creek Park on May 20, 2023.

Civil Engineer Cowing spoke of the Adopt-a-Drain Program. Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve the contract with Hamline University for the Adopt-a-Drain Program. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to approve the updated 2023 Council Liaison Assignments. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion and the motion carried. Council Member Lubenow will be appointed to the Park Board, HRA and Board of Equalization. Council Member Miller will be appointed to Visit Fairmont.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-16** awarding the 2023-B Seal Coat project to Pearson Bros., Inc. of Hanover, Minnesota in the amount of \$139,908.61. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Hasek made a motion to approve Exhibits B & C to the Western Area Power Association contract. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Maynard made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-17** declaring a public right-of-way at the intersection of Highway 15, Torgerson Drive and the service road. Council Member Miller seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding hiring a new owner's representative for the proposed community center. Council Member Kawecki made a motion to move forward with an RFP for an owner's representative. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion. Council Member Lubenow made a motion to amend Council Member Kawecki's motion to read: motion to negotiate to bring back Tegra under the current contract. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Kawecki, Lubenow, Maynard and Miller all voted aye. Council Member Hasek voted nay. Mayor Baarts declared the motion to amend passed. On roll call for the amended motion: Council Members Kawecki, Lubenow, Maynard and Miller all voted aye. Council Member Hasek voted nay. Mayor Baarts declared said amended motion passed.

Reynolds advised that a joint work session has been scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Southern Minnesota Educational Campus to discuss the zoning code update. This meeting will be with the City Council, Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the HRA has agreed to move forward with hiring a shared Economic Development Coordinator with the City. The HRA is working on a purchase agreement for land located by Lakeview to build twin homes. The HRA has also been working with the DNR to identify Ash trees to be removed and replacement trees to be planted.

Council Member Miller reported that FEDA is moving forward with a purchase agreement for the sale of the incubator building on Winnebago Avenue. There are twelve businesses downtown that are interested in the façade program. FEDA staff will be attending the Area Career Exploration day on April 12th at the Fairmont High School.

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


Lee C. Baarts, Mayor

ATTEST:


Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk

