

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, July 24, 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, Jay Maynard and Michele Miller were present. Council Member Randy Lubenow was absent. Also in attendance: Director of Public Works/Utilities Matthew York, Police Chief Mike Hunter, Economic Development Coordinator Ned Koppen and City Attorney Cara Brown.

Mayor Baarts announced that agenda item 10.1 2710 Albion Avenue License Agreement and item 10.2 Interim City Administrator Update needs to be removed from the agenda.

Council Member Kawecki made a motion to pull agenda item 7.B.1 Accounts Payable July 2024 from the agenda. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion failed. Council Member Maynard made a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of agenda items 10.1 and 10.2. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Koppen introduced John and Matt Siggerud from Emerald Fire, who gave a presentation on Emerald Fire and the plans they have for operations in Fairmont.

Mayor Baarts Shared that Visit Fairmont has some moveable structure signs to help promote Fairmont. They are currently being displayed at the Best Western property on Torgerson Drive. Mayor Baarts also gave a list of all events happening in Fairmont the next two weeks.

During Open Discussion, Jason Sorenson voiced his concerns about the effects of THC infused edibles and cannabis on our youth. Richard Detert addressed the council with concerns about Public Utilities policy changes. Rin Porter representing the Fairmont Human Rights Commission Planning Committee asked that the council please include a Human Rights Commission in the upcoming budget. She encouraged citizens to attend the Latin Festival scheduled for this weekend on Downtown Plaza. Garth Carlson with Carlson Walters Group advised the council that his attorneys have sent a data request to the city for possible future legal action.

Council Member Maynard 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 July 10, 2023 City Council meeting; July 2023 accounts payable; Event Permit for Fairmont Rotary to hold Rotary Beats & Brews Bash on September 16, 2023; Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for Rotary International; Event Permit for Fairmont Police Department to hold Fairmont Night Out on August 1, 2023; Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for St. John Vianney Church; Event Permit for the Cedar Creek Disc Golf Association to hold the Cedar Creek Open on August 10-23, 2023; and Purchase Order 14776 Library Roof Project.

Council Member Maynard made a motion to approve **Ordinance 2023-02** an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2021-02 Establishing a Rural and Urban Service District Within the Municipal Limits of the City of Fairmont. Council Member Miller seconded the motion. After discussion, Council Member Maynard amended his motion to approve **Ordinance 2023-02** an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2021-

02 Establishing a Rural and Urban Service District Within the Municipal Limits of the City of Fairmont with removing parcels 230370730 and 230371000. Council Member Miller accepted the amendment and seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Hasek, Kawecki, Maynard and Miller all voted aye. No one voted nay. Mayor Baarts declared said motion passed.

Mayor Baarts and Council Member Miller stated that the potential interim candidate pulled his application and the Mayor will send the council his email for their information. They also reported that GovHR has fourteen potential applicants for the city administrator position. Mayor Baarts will be contacting GovHR to find out the proposed timeline and process and will update the council when the information is received.

York reported that the overlay projects are ongoing.

Council Member Hasek reported that Bergan KDV, the city's auditors presented the annual report to the Public Utilities Commission.

Council Member Lubenow stated that the Park Board approved a pollinator garden to be placed at Amber Lake Park.

Council Member Maynard stated that there was no quorum at the Airport Board. The airport will be doing an aerial survey for obstruction removal of trees at the northern end of the main runway. The survey will be done this summer while the leaves are on the trees, and the removal will be done in the winter. The airport is currently working on a master plan with the FAA. Work on the terminal is to begin this week. The joints on the cross-wind runway are in need of repair. The Fly-in Breakfast was a success.

A motion was made by Council Member Hasek, 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