

The minutes of the Fairmont City Council meeting held on Monday, October 9, 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: Interim City Administrator Jeff O'Neill, Finance Director Paul Hoye, Director of Public Works/Utilities Matthew York, City Clerk Patricia J. Monsen, Police Chief Mike Hunter, Planning and Zoning Official Peter Bode and City Attorney Cara Brown.

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

During Open Discussion, Ken Craig expressed his concerns with the location of the proposed new government center and urged the city council to vote no to the rezoning request. Todd Smith questioned the Hockey Association's presentation from the September 25, 2023 city council meeting.

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 September 25, 2023, City Council meeting; Approval to declare vehicles and equipment surplus for the purpose of selling or disposing; Confirming that the City of Fairmont does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04 for a League of Minnesota Cities Liability Coverage Waiver Form.

Council Member Lubenow made a motion to adopt **Resolution 2023-36**, a conditional use permit for a water oriented accessory structure at 635 Pioneer Drive. Council Member Hasek seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Council Member Miller made a motion to approve **Resolution 2023-37**, approving Minnesota Laws 2023 Regular Session, Chapter 64, Article 10, Section 24, requesting a local option sales tax for up to \$20,000,000 to construct a community center and ice arena. Council Member Maynard seconded the motion. On roll call: Council Members Kawecki, Lubenow, Maynard and Miller voted aye. Council Member Hasek voted nay. Mayor Baarts declared said motion passed.

Council Member Maynard made a motion to approve Amendment #1 to the Agreement for Professional Services between the City of Fairmont and Bolton & Menk, Inc. dated July 6, 2021, for additional design and bidding services for the Dryer and UV project at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Council Member Lubenow seconded the motion and the motion carried.

York reported that the Park Department is busy closing parks. The Adventure Playground at Gomsrud Park will be closed for a week for the repair of the play surface. He reminded citizens that if they have not gotten their water meters changed out, they need to call the City right away and make arrangements.

O'Neill thanked the City for the warm welcome and is looking forward to working with the City.

Mayor Baarts gave an update on events happening in the City for the next two weeks. He also thanked the Fire Department for their open house this past weekend.

Council Member Kawecki reported that the Planning Commission recommended the approval of a conditional use permit for MAF Holdings II, LLC for a retail tire and tire installation shop. They also approved the rezoning of the entire parcel of 800 E. Margaret Street to be rezoned to B-3 General Business.

Council Member Lubenow reported that the HRA approved purchasing an attachment to their side by side for snow removal and a jetter clean machine. They discussed the need for repairs to the infrastructure. The HRA has some money available for new housing.

Council Member Maynard reported that FEDA approved the purchase agreement for the Meschke property on County Road 39. FEDA will be partnering with Martin County EDA to market Fairmont through Retail Coach. FEDA has also entered into a listing agreement with Remax for the Whitetail Ridge lots still available.

Council Member Miller reported that Visit Fairmont is looking for a new director.

A motion was made by Council Member Maynard, seconded by Council Member Miller and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 p.m.



Lee C. Baarts, Mayor

ATTEST:



Patricia J. Monsen, City Clerk