

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. JAMES, WATONWAN COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of St. James, Minnesota was duly held at the Community Building meeting room in said City on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Gary Sturm called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Those present: Mayor Gary Sturm, Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Gene Hildebrandt and Sue Craig (via Zoom).

Those absent: Hannah Rushing

Staff present: City Manager Amanda Glass, Deputy City Clerk Kathy Grothem, City Attorney Steve Sunde.

MINUTES

On motion by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris , the minutes of the regular meeting of January 18, 2022, were found correct as written and the City Clerk was instructed to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

AYES: Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, Paul Harris, Kathleen Hanson.

NAYS: None.

ABSTAIN: Sue Craig

Whereupon Mayor Gary Sturm declared said motion to have passed 3-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Sue Craig, the following consent items were hereby approved:

- A. Payment of Claims totaling \$643,013.65 as follows: Checks No. 66549 through 66617 and ACH 788 through 802, Pioneer Bank as listed in the Check Register.
- B. Schools, Conferences and Workshops:
 - 1. Mark Anderson – MWOA Section Meeting
 - 2. Kris Hurley and Kathy Grothem – MMCC Conference
 - 3. Officer Nestegard – Field Training Basic Certification
 - 4. Assistant Chief Anderson – Authorized Use of Deadly Force by Peace Officers

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

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LICENSES AND PERMITS

The Watonwan River Longbeards has applied for a gambling permit to have a raffle at the American Legion in April.

On motion by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the council approved the Gambling Permit.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

WATER DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO PURCHASE LAWN MOWER

Jason Monnens, Water Superintendent is requesting permission to purchase a new lawn mower. Quote received from Arnold's of Mankato for \$15,100 including trade-in is less than the budgeted amount.

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the council approved the purchase of a new lawn mower for the Water Department.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

MULTICULTURAL FIESTA REQUESTING ROAD CLOSURE

The Multicultural Fiesta committee is asking to block off 1st Avenue downtown during the event on Saturday, September 17, 2022.

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, the council approved the street closure for the Multicultural Fiesta in September.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

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FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

Amanda Glass, City Manager, provided council information regarding the need to change the date for our annual fireworks display. The company that we hire is short staffed and does not have anyone available to run the display on July 4th. We were given option to change the date to July 1, 2 or 3rd.

On motion by Councilperson Sue Craig, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the Council approved having the Annual Fourth of July Fireworks display on Saturday, July 2, 2022.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

NOAH SANDMEYER RESIGNATION

Noah Sandmeyer, Apprentice Lineman, has submitted his resignation effective February 11, 2022.

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the council accepts the resignation.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

CONSIDERATION TO POST EMPLOYMENT FOR ELECTRIC JOURNEYMAN POSITION

Amanda Glass, City Manager, provided council with a proposed advertisement for the electric journeyman position and is requesting approval of the advertisement and to post the position.

On motion by Councilperson Paul Harris, seconded by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, the council approved both the advertisement and the posting of the electric journeyman position.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

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ST. JAMES CONVENTION AND VISITOR'S BUREAU BUDGET

The 2022 budget for the St James Convention and Visitor's Bureau was presented to council.

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, the council approved the 2022 St. James Convention and Visitor's Bureau budget.

Upon voice vote it was unanimous.

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.

Kathy Grothem
Deputy City Clerk