

**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 City Hall Council Chambers in said City on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Jonathan Wilson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Jonathan Wilson, Gene Hildebrandt, Sue Craig, Paul Harris, Hannah Rushing, Kathleen Hanson

Absent: City Manager Amanda Glass, City Attorney Steve Sunde

Staff Present: City Attorney Mike Kircher, City Clerk Kris Hurley

MINUTES

On motion by Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 7, 2023 were found correct as written.

AYES: Councilperson Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Gene Hildebrandt, Hannah Rushing, Sue Craig

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared said motion to have passed 5-0.

CONSENT ITEMS

On motion by Councilperson Hannah Rushing, seconded by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, the following consent items were hereby approved:

Payment of claims totaling \$265,112.88 as follows: checks No. 700719 – 700808 and ACH No. 1406 - 1407 as listed in the check register.

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared said motion to have passed 5-0.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

OLD BUSINESS

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NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION 11-23-08 ACCEPTING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 125 FIFTH STREET SOUTH

Councilperson Sue Craig introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-08**, moved its adoption **“ACCEPTING CONVEYANCE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 125 FIFTH STREET SOUTH”** and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Paul Harris duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Sue Craig, Paul Harris, Hannah Rushing, Kathleen Hanson, Gene Hildebrandt

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-08** duly passed.

RESOLUTION 11-23-09 ESTABLISHING ANNUAL POLLING LOCATION FOR ELECTIONS

Councilperson Hannah Rushing introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-09**, moved its adoption **“ESTABLISHING ANNUAL POLLING LOCATION FOR ELECTIONS”** and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Kathleen Hanson duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Hannah Rushing, Kathleen Hanson, Sue Craig, Paul Harris, Gene Hildebrandt

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-09** duly passed.

RESOLUTION 11-23-10 GOVERNING WRITE-IN VOTE COUNTING

Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-10**, and moved its adoption **“GOVERNING WRITE-IN VOTE COUNTING”**, and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Kathleen Hanson duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, Kathleen Hanson, Paul Harris, Sue Craig, Hannah Rushing

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-10** duly passed.

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RESOLUTION 11-23-11 AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO THE VOTER FUNDS AGREEMENT WITH WATONWAN COUNTY

Councilperson Paul Harris introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-11**, and moved its adoption “**AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK/TREASURER TO ENTER INTO THE VOTER FUNDS AGREEMENT WITH WATONWAN COUNTY**” and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Sue Craig duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Paul Harris, Gene Hildebrandt, Sue Craig, Hannah Rushing, Kathleen Hanson

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-11** duly passed.

RESOLUTION 11-23-12 APPROVING 2024 LICENSE RENEWAL

Councilperson Hannah Rushing introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-12**, moved its adoption “**APPROVING 2024 LICENSE RENEWAL**” and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Hannah Rushing, Gene Hildebrandt, Paul Harris, Sue Craig, Kathleen Hanson

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-12** duly passed.

RESOLUTION 11-23-13 ACCEPTING THE CITY OF ST. JAMES POLICE DEPARTMENT AUDIT REGARDING PORTABLE RECORDING SYSTEM

Councilperson Paul Harris introduced **RESOLUTION 11-23-13**, moved its adoption “**RESOLUTION 11-23-13 ACCEPTING THE CITY OF ST. JAMES POLICE DEPARTMENT AUDIT REGARDING PORTABLE RECORDING SYSTEM**” and dispensed with the reading. Councilperson Kathleen Hanson duly seconded it. Upon hand vote the following voted:

AYES: Councilperson Paul Harris, Kathleen Hanson, Sue Craig, Gene Hildebrandt, Hannah Rushing

NAYS: None

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared **RESOLUTION 11-23-13** duly passed.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT – NEW HIRE

Karen Johnson has completed the hiring and background process for the police department for the position of police officer. Karen has been placed with lateral entry within the LELS pay scale serving 20 years in law enforcement, and will be starting at Step 8. Karen Johnson's anticipated start date with the department will be December 6, 2023.

On motion by Councilperson Paul Harris, seconded by Councilperson Hannah Rushing, to approve hiring of Karen Johnson as police officer on Step 8 of the LELS wage scale. Upon voice vote, it was unanimous.

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared said motion to have passed 5-0.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE AGENDA REQUEST – WILLIAM DAMON

On motion by Councilperson Gene Hildebrandt, seconded by Councilperson Hannah Rushing, allowing William Damon to address council. Upon voice vote, it was unanimous.

Whereupon Mayor Jonathan Wilson declared said motion to have passed 5-0.

William Damon addressed council with his request for a fair amendment to our current city ordinance regarding animals. He and his family would like to amend the ordinance to allow ownership of mini pigs within city limits. William provided information regarding the ordinance in the City of Madelia allowing mini pigs. Council took no action.

Motion by Councilperson Hannah Rushing, seconded by Councilperson Paul Harris to adjourn. All ayes – motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Kristin Hurley, City Clerk-Treasurer