

CITY OF ONAMIA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Regular Meeting Minutes – January 10th, 2024

Council members present: Bill Hill, Randy Anderson, Joe Boeringa, Sandy Nelson. Marge Agnew/Mayor.

Other staff present: City Clerk-Treasurer/Michelle Peterson. Fire Chief/Bruce Peterson. Public Works/Josh True. Public Works Supervisor/Gene Falconer. Police Chief Mattison

At 6:00pm the regular meeting was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. A **motion** was made by Joe Boeringa to **approve** the December 13th, 2023, regular meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Bill Hill. AIF, motion carried.

Public Hearing: The public hearing was opened at 6:35pm for public comment. No public comment was heard.

Marge Agnew: Anything else about the MN Public Code?

No response from the public.

Marge Agnew: I need a motion to adopt the MN Basic Code, and Tobacco Ordinance.

Sandy Nelson made a motion to adopt the MN Basic Code, Tobacco Ordinance and close out the public hearing. Joe Boeringa seconded the motion, AIF, motion carried.

Presentation of Claims: Council waited until the end of the meeting to approve the presentation of claims.

- A. The council reviewed the final unaudited balances to the 2023 budget. The council would also like to do a 5% water & sewer increase for the 2025 budget. This will be discussed in more detail during the budget talks in June or July of this year.
- B. Joe Boeringa made a motion to approve all the financials and claims presented. Sandy Nelson seconded, AIF, motion carried.

Open Forum – (5-minute limit) *Requests to be on the agenda.

- A. None.

Presentation of Audits, Petitions, Bonds, Insurance, Legislative Announcements, Complaints, and Requests.

- A. None.

Reports of Officers, Council Committees, Departments, Commissions.

Engineer – Short Elliott Hendrikson, Jeff Ledin

- A. Water Treatment Plant Project Engineer, Jeff Ledin, explained to the council that the Amendment to Engineering Services has to do with inflation and having to pay the staff at Short Elliott Hendrickson more money to retain their staff.
 - a. Bill Hill stated that he appreciates all the funding that Short Elliott Hendrickson has got for the city, but he doesn't agree with the 20% increase in wages that S.E.H. is requesting in the amendment.
 - b. Sandy Nelson requested that Jeff Ledin investigate if there were any other grants that would help with the cost of the requested increase.
 - c. Gene Falconer suggested that perhaps the water reserve fund could help cover the cost.
 - d. Jeff Ledin suggested that the city may be able to use the Contingency portion of the project funds to pay for the increase in Engineering fees.
 - i. Marge Agnew stated that she would like to wait and see what USDA thinks before they make a final decision on the project amendment.

Police Department: Police Chief Mattison presented.

- A. As of January 5th, the police department has already recorded 41 ICRs.
- B. Still looking for a new officer.
- C. Chief Mattison has been notified of another upcoming State Security Audit. The department is lacking in physical security. Chief Mattison is working with City Clerk Peterson on controlled entries, window films, cameras, a lock box for the firewall, and panic buttons.
- D. Due to the state changing its seal and flag, all agencies will have to make a change to anything that has the old state flag or state seal. The change can be displayed starting March 1st, 2024, and has a deadline of January 1st, 2025.
- E. Motorola finally sent the upgraded police & fire radios.
- F. Chief Mattison presented MN Stat. 624.7175, a procedure to establish guidelines for storing firearms when required by an Extreme Risk Protection Order. Marge Agnew made a motion to approve the new policy, Sandy Nelson seconded, AIF, motion carried.

Fire Department: Fire Chief Bruce Peterson presented.

- A. The fire department has been working with Source Well to find competitive bids for turnout gear. Dinges Fire Company came back with the lowest price for turnout gear and was also the only quote that the fire department was able to bring to the meeting. The fire department needs 19 sets of turnout gear, which would come to a total of about \$70,870.00 for coat, pants, and helmet. Randy Anderson made a motion to approve the quote from Dinges Fire Company, Sandy Nelson seconded, AIF, motion carried.
- B. Chief Peterson will have the final specs for the addition to the fire department building at the February council meeting. The fire department would like to start advertising for bids once the final plans are approved by the council.
- C. The fire department will hold their election of officers at their next meeting.
- D. Call numbers will be sent out to townships soon. The annual township meeting on fire calls will be held in February or March before the council meeting.

- E. Due to the lack of ice from the unseasonably warm temperatures, there will not be a fishing tournament on the lake this year.
- F. Joe Boeringa made a motion to **approve Resolution 2024-01B**, a donation from Sunrise Banks in the amount of \$2,000.00 for a new LUCAS Machine, Sandy Nelson seconded, AIF, motion carried.

Maintenance: Public Works Supervisor Gene Falconer presented.

- A. True asked the council their thoughts on purchasing a tire changing machine and a hoist for the public works department. The council discussed; no decision was made.
- B. Josh True asked the council their thoughts on if the maintenance department should look to purchase a new loader in 2025 or lease a loader. The council discussed; no decision was made.
- C. Public works wants to purchase new Christmas decorations. 2023 was the last year the electric company will be putting decorations up for the city. The council discussed; no decision was made.
- D. Public works are still looking at finishing the trim work in city hall in the spring. They would also like to replace the windows at that time. Marge asked public works to get the council some bids for windows in City Hall.
- E. The maintenance department would like to see some garage space and a wash bay added onto the proposed salt shed. Maintenance would like to see the salt shed go up by Well #4 or on the south side of the current maintenance shop. The maintenance would like to have Keith Vanderpol design the garage. The council discussed; no council decision was made.
 - a. Maintenance will send out a letter to TJ, letting him know that since he didn't complete the police garage by the end of December, as agreed upon, the city will not be building the police garage at this time.

Water/Sewer: Public Works Supervisor Gene Falconer presented.

- A. Public works asked for permission to upgrade the lift station to a transducer style system and change the alarms. Point Watch has been prone to failure due to grease. The council discussed and would like to know if there will be a penalty for backing out of Point Watch; no council decision was made.
- B. Water Treatment Plant will be starting in a few weeks.

Planning & Zoning: Public Works Supervisor Gene Falconer presented.

- A. The planning committee will lose three members this year.
- B. Gene asked the council to allow Scott Saehr from Saehr Consulting to redo the zoning map for the planning committee. Joe Boeringa made a motion to approve of Saehr Consulting redoing the zoning map, Marge Agnew seconded, AIF, motion carried.
- C. Officers were elected for the planning committee at the Monday, January 8th meeting.

Parks:

- A. Joe Boeringa let the council know that the ice rink will be open on Monday, January 15th. He has talked with Shar Hartlieb, and she can work Monday-Friday 4:00pm-6:00pm & Saturday-Sunday 12:00pm-6:00pm.

- a. Marge Agnew reminded maintenance that the light at the skating rink still needs to be fixed.
- B. Gene Falconer reminded the council that the Water Treatment Plant Project does not include rebuilding the tennis court.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

- A. Randy Anderson made a motion to **approve** the tobacco license for Lacs Time Liquor and Dollar General, Joe Boeringa seconded the motion, AIF, motion carried.
- B. Marge Agnew made a motion to **approve Resolution 2024-01A**, Annual Appointments and Designations, Bill Hill seconded, AIF, motion carried.
- C. Marge Agnew made a motion to **approve** the December 2023 water/sewer adjustment report.
- D. The Civic Association turned in their Liquor License & Gambling Permit for Onamia Day's in June. Bill Hill made a motion to **approve** the permits on the condition that they pass the background check with the Police Department. Sandy Nelson seconded the motion, AIF, motion carried.

Clerk's Report:

- A. Clerk Peterson let the council know that the annual clerks' conference will be held the week of March 19th and she is planning on attending the conference.
- B. The Wahkon City Council would like to know if Onamia wants to be on the resolution opposing the new MN State Flag. The council agreed that they would like to be on the resolution.
- C. Gworks is now giving the city a start date of March. City Clerk Peterson let Gworks know that they will have to reimburse the city some of the funds that have been sent to them for not upholding their end of the agreement. Quinton Randel let the clerk know that the finance team will be reaching out to her soon.
- D. Clerk Peterson let the council know that the city had received a letter indicating that CenterPoint energy's gas rates will be increased.

Other:

- A. Joe Boeringa asked the council if they knew when food would be distributed from Second Harvest. Randy let Joe know that nothing will be distributed in January or February.
- B. There have been issues with Jim's Mille Lacs Disposal. If problems continue, Marge would like Jim & Roxy to come to a council meeting so that the council can voice citizens' concerns with the garbage.
- C. Pre-construction notice scheduled for Friday, January 26th, 2024.

Adjourn: At 8:32PM a **motion** to adjourn was made by Joe Boeringa, seconded by Randy Anderson. AIF, motion carried.

Dated on this 7, day of February 2024
January 10, 2024 – Regular Meeting Minutes

APPROVED on this 14th day of February, 2024.

Marge Agnew – Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Peterson, MCMC Clerk-Treasurer

CERTIFIED BY VOTE:

Motion: _____

Second: _____

<input type="checkbox"/>	MARGE AGNEW	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	BILL HILL	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	RANDY ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	SANDY NELSON	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	JOE BOERINGA	<input type="checkbox"/>