



MINUTES

Regular City Council Meeting - 1st Wednesday

6:30 PM - Wednesday, June 7, 2023

City Hall Council Chambers

The City of Pine City Council met in Regular City Council Meeting - 1st Wednesday on Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 6:30 PM in the City Hall Council Chambers.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

3. CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

4. PUBLIC FORUM

This is an opportunity for citizens to present items to the Council that are not on the agenda. Each presentation is limited to three (3) minutes and a maximum of fifteen minutes is set aside. If your item needs follow-up from the City, Staff will arrange for that.

4.1. TERRY NEITZEL - 720 2ND AVE SW, PINE CITY, MN 55063

Mr. Neitzel addresses the Council regarding an ongoing concern with a neighboring property. The property was listed as an agenda topic for this meeting and was discussed later in the meeting.

4.2. DANIEL SWANSON - 118 6TH AVE SE, PINE CITY, MN 55063

Mr. Swanson addressed the Council on behalf of the Pine City Baseball Association regarding the updates and improvements made at the Pine City Softball Fields. He thanked the Council for all of the improvements and stated they greatly appreciate all of the work.

4.3. WAYNE OLSON - 880 MAIN ST. S., PINE CITY, MN 55063

Mr. Olson addressed the Council regarding his Fire Bill he received. He would like his bill sent to the gas company. He stated the gas company admitted the gas line was in the wrong spot and are going to move the line for him. Mayor Pederson informed Mr. Olson that his logic was good and he needed to bring the bill to the gas company. This item is to be added to the next agenda for further discussion.

5. SHERIFF UPDATE

5.1.

Deputy was present and stated there was 9 calls at Hilltop Cottages which is about the norm. He brought up that they are getting a fair amount of bear calls in town.

Mayor Pederson stated it would be a good idea to put the DNR contact phone number on the City's website for nuisance bears in town.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS / PRESENTATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

6.1. PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE 20230607-04 - AMENDING SUBSECTION (D) OF 3.28.030 CEMETERY LAND USE OF THE PINE CITY MUNICIPAL CODE.

This was a request from Public Works and Ordinance Committee. Jim France asked if this was the same as what the V.A. does. Maury stated it was and we were just clearing up the language.

6.2. PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE 20230607-05 - CHAPTER 5.12 LAWFUL GAMBLING OF THE PINE CITY MUNICIPAL CODE.

City Administrator Scott Hildebrand stated that since we don't actually report to the State and that this Ordinance has not been enforced, the language needed updating. The President, Krissy Valvoda, from Pine City Youth Hockey confirmed that everything in red was being removed and thanked the Council for updating this ordinance.

6.3. PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE 20230607-06 - PERMITTING LAND ANNEXATION

Community Development Director Mike Gainor addressed the Council regarding the roughly 60 acre parcel request for annexation to create more housing locations within City limits.

Roger Else - 925 Link Dr. SE, Pine City, MN 55063 addressed the Council and wanted to know what it was going to cost the City to bring water and sewer to the annexed property.

Shawn Linnell from Pine City Township addressed the Council regarding Freedom Road located in Pine City Township that runs along the potentially annexed property. He stated it costs the Township roughly \$4,400 a mile to maintain the road. He would like to work with the City regarding the maintenance of Freedom Road if they do put housing in. He would like to see an Orderly Annexation and be involved with any future development of the property. Linnell would also like to be notified of any meetings regarding the annexation of this property

6.4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE 20230607-07 PUBLIC CONSUMPTION

Daniel Swanson - 118 6th Ave SE, Pine City, MN 55063

Mr. Swanson addressed the Council and would like to see a permit to have alcohol in the park. He stated that alcohol should not be around playgrounds at all for sure. He stated that if you can't go to a park and not drink, you have a problem.

Mike Odell -

Mr. Odell stated he agrees with Mr. Swanson and if the City is going to allow alcohol then they should allow cigarettes and cannabis.

Adrienne Roubinek - 225 9th St. SW, Pine City, MN 55063

Mrs. Roubinek addressed the Council stating she has been involved with Art in the Park for roughly 46 years and has not had an issue with alcohol at any function. She stated she will not be the beer police at Art in the Park and will not go around asking

everyone what is in their cups or koozies. She agrees with having an ordinance in place for anything that potentially may go wrong even knowing she doesn't think anything will.

Mollie Davis - 440 5th Ave NE, Pine City, MN 55063

Mrs. Davis suggested to Council about maybe having a park or two that is alcohol free.

6.5. HIGHLIGHT PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 LMC LEGISLATIVE RECAP.

City Administrator Scott Hildebrand recommended to Council to go through the presentation that is provided. It has a lot of information regarding the cannabis legislation that was just passed.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

Councilor Ovick made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 7.1-7.12. Councilor Palmer seconded. Motion carried with Mayor Pederson and Councilors Hill, Pettie, Palmer, Ovick voting aye. None opposed.

7.1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES MAY 18, 2023 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7.2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES MAY 31, 2023 SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

7.3. APPROVAL OF CHECK DETAIL REPORT

7.4. APPROVAL OF PAYROLL REGISTER

7.5. APPROVAL OF ECMECC CONTRACT

7.6. APPROVAL OF TEMPORARY LIFEGUARD POSITIONS.

7.7. APPROVAL OF SEASONAL HELP POSITIONS.

7.8. APPROVAL OF MECHANIC POSITION

7.9. APPROVAL OF PINE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY TEMPORARY LIQUOR PERMITS - PINE COUNTY FAIR

7.10. APPROVAL OF MOBILE FOOD UNIT APPLICATION

7.11. APPROVAL OF MOBILE FOOD TRUCK APPLICATION

7.12. FREEDOM FEST FIREWORKS PERMIT APPLICATION

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING WATER METER TESTING

Mollie Davis - 440 5th Ave NE, Pine City, MN 55063

Mrs. Davis addressed the Council stating her bill is what it is. She stated that she knows of the City's Leakage Policy and assumed the City was not going to offer her that.

8.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FIRE ON THE SNAKE.

Councilor Palmer abstained due to his affiliation with the Pine City Fire Department. Hildebrand stated that if we allow one non-profit organization use our City Offices, we are going to have to be open to allowing other non-profit organization to use any and all City Offices. Fire Chief Tom Miller stated that this needs to be a seasonal thing for the Fire Department as trucks and apparatus can not be left outside in the winter. Along with if they do do this, there needs to be City employees on site for security purposes and movement of City equipment.

Moved by Councilor David Hill, seconded by Councilor Steve Ovick, The Council wants a policy in place before any organization uses City offices and they want to see it. Carried unanimously

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Mayor Pederson stated that anything the Council does is business and not personal to anyone. Councilor Hill elaborated on Mayor Pederson and also stated that Mr. Swanson needs to remember to be objective and always do what is best for the City and Community.

9.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230607-14, APPROVING PARTICIPATION IN A JOINT GRANT TO RESEARCH A POTENTIAL FIRE DISTRICT.

Fire Chief Tom Miller explained why they went with a \$50,000 instead of the normal \$35,000-\$38,000 amount. They wanted to count for inflation, but do not see it being that high. He also explained that the study will show the Council if the fire district is added or if it should stay combined along with where we are with fire calls. It is just a study that needs to be done.

9.3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230607-15 - ADOPTING THE STANDARD ALLOWANCE RECOMMENDATION FOR ARPA FUNDS.

City Administrator Hildebrand explained that the Auditors suggested the City have a Resolution in place for the ARPA Standard Allowance.

9.4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FORCED ABATEMENT

Fire and Life Safety Inspector Adam Zemek addressed the Council stating that at 11:00am on 6/7/2023 he was at the property and spoke with the residents. They stated that there was a dumpster to be delivered on 6/7/2023 but found at 6:15pm there was still no dumpster at the property. Council approved the Forced Abatement of the property and stated there needs to be a company ready to go as soon as the 30 days is up to clean up the property and charges will be assessed to the owners property taxes.

Tonya Miller - Mrs. Miller stated that the City needs to put in an ordinance or something that if there is no power, gas, water, sewer to a home, something needs to be done immediately. This is a public problem - a mental health problem.

Terry Neitzel - 720 2nd Ave SW, Pine City, MN 55063

Mr. Neitzel addressed the Council and wants to see the residents gone.

Mayor Pederson asked Adam Zemek if social services were able to help and he stated they are not since there is no children involved. Adam Zemek brought up potentially adding the Property Maintenance Code that the State of Minnesota has and that the City should adopt it with it's own revisions. Adam also stated that he contacted East Central Energy to find out what needs to be done to reconnect the electric and was informed that the wiring had been torn out and that the home would need to be state inspected to reconnect power.

Councilor Pettie inquired about animals and Council was made aware that the residents do in fact have animals and the cats are really hurting.

9.5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR BY PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works Supervisor Maury Montbriand spoke about the difference in the tractor bids. Councilor Ovick stated he would like to move forward with the bid from Stan's Equipment.

9.6. DISCUSSION REGARDING PRINTER / SCANNER CONTRACT

No action needed. This is a State account.

10. PLANNING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / ENGINEERING BUSINESS

10.1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ORDINANCE 20230518-03 - AMENDING CHAPTER 13.44.030 - MIXED USE DISTRICT - OF THE PINE CITY CODE.

10.2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 2024 STREET PROJECT (10TH STREET SW).

SEH Greg Anderson addressed the Council regarding the street improvement. Council wants to add 14th Street and street between 7th and 8th and update the Resolution

10.3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230503-13 DENYING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AT 510 2ND STREET SE AND 129 6TH AVENUE SE

10.4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230607-18 DENYING A SHORELAND VARIANCE REQUEST.

10.5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230607-19 DENYING A PARKING VARIANCE REQUEST.

10.6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESOLUTION 20230607-20 - AUTHORIZING CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT POND PROJECT.

SEH Greg Anderson informed Council that 2024 is a bonding year. June 16 is the deadline to file for outside funding from the State. SEH has staff that are free to assist with the application process and can assist City Administrator Hildebrand to get this accomplished as soon as possible.

10.7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING KAJO & GREGOR LIFT STATION PROJECT

10.8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 2023 MILL AND OVERLAY PROJECT

SEH Greg Anderson stated the bid for the entire project is in one bid. The bid came in \$100,000 higher than what was expected. Council would like to see it split up with the possibility of doing Johnson and Clark first and worry about Railroad later.

Tabled for June 22, 2023 meeting pending updated bid being split up into phases.

11. DEPARTMENT / COMMITTEE REPORTS

11.1. ADMINISTRATION

City Administrator Hildebrand brought up the 2024 budget meetings and stated he wants to do something new this year and have the department heads speak about their budgets.

City Administrator Hildebrand stated the City is still waiting for a letter of intent from the grocery store/liquor store project. He may have discussion on Friday June 9, 2023.

11.2. FIRE

11.3. FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

11.4. LIQUOR

11.5. PARKS

Councilor Hill asked the Parks and Recreation Director Brock Bloomquist how things were going. Bloomquist stated this were going good, working with kid and there schedules can be a little frustrating at times.

11.6. PUBLIC WORKS

Discussion with Hilltop workers went well and SEH Greg received what he needed.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pederson stated that Memorial Day was fantastic and he loves the new flag pole at the cemetery.

13. COUNCIL CONCERNS

Councilors would like to send good luck to the Pine City High School Track team heading to State.

Mayor Pederson and Council would like to thank Public Works for hanging of the High School Senior Banners and the new hanging flower baskets.

14. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

CAO

Mayor