MINUTES

Regular Morning Meeting

10:00 AM - Thursday, September 21, 2023
City Hall Council Chambers

The City of Pine City Council met in Regular Morning Meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the City Hall Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pederson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pederson and Councilors Ovick, Hill, and Palmer were all present. Councilor Gina Pettie was absent.

CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Hill made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilor Ovick second the motion. Motion carried with Mayor Pederson and Councilor Palmer voting aye.

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.

PUBLIC HEARINGS / PRESENTATIONS / CORRESPONDENCE

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

Mr. Neitzel addressed the Council regarding an ongoing concern with a neighboring property. He was provide an update from our Fire and Life Safety Inspector and Planning and Zoning Department.

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

Mr. Swanson addressed the Council regarding an ongoing concern at 600 2nd Ave SE regarding overgrowth of plants and trees of a neighboring property. It has become a safety concern and would like the trees and shrubs cut back. Public Works Supervisor stated he will look at it and get it taken care of.

CONSENT ITEMS

Councilor Palmer made a motion to approve the consent items as presented. Councilor Ovick seconded the motion. Motion carried with Mayor Pederson and Councilor Hill voting aye.

a) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

b) APPROVAL OF CHECK DETAIL

c) APPROVAL TO HIRE - DEPUTY CLERK POSITION

City Administrator Scott Hildebrand introduced Marcy Peterson to the Council. The Council asked a few questions and stated they look forward to working with her.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

a) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED AGREEMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

The Council asked that the Agreement be finalized and brought back to Council for approval.

b) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ELECTION FUNDING REQUEST.

Motion made by Pederson to approve the County's Election Funding request, second by Ovick. Motion carried.

PLANNING / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT / ENGINEERING BUSINESS

a) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AFP #1 FOR THE 2023 MILL AND OVERLAY PROJECT.

Pederson made a motion to approve AFP #1 for the 2023 Mill and Overlay Project, second by Ovick. Motion carried.

FINANCE REPORT

a) YTD REVENUE - EXPENSE REPORT

b) YTD EXPENDITURES BY DEPARTMENT

c) DISCUSSION AND UPDATE REGARDING DEBT ISSUE FOR 2022 ROAD PROJECT AND EQUIPMENT

Hildebrand present to the Council on their upcoming options regarding a Bond Abatement instead of an Assessment Bond. Pederson is waiting to hear back on his questions to Jason. The Council is looking to see if there are any other resources to pay for the projects that are in the works or completed already. Hildebrand stated that this is like a balance beam. If the fund balance is too high, there is no funding. If the fund balance is too low, there is no funding. It needs to be just right to get State funding.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

a) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20230921-27 PROPOSED 2024 HRA LEVY

Motion by Palmer to approve the HRA Levy upon the Committee and the City promoting the new funding options that may be coming, second by Pederson. Motion carried.

b) DISCUSSION REGARDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET
A. FIRE DEPARTMENT
B. PUBLIC WORKS
C. FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY
D. PARKS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

c) DISCUSSION REGARDING ARPA FUND USAGE

The Council discussed the options that the ARPA funds could pay for and what they have paid for.

d) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED 2024 GENERAL FUND BUDGET.
A. IT SERVICES

Hildebrand provided and update that he has a bid for another company and will be obtaining more with the RFP that will be put out in 2024.

e) DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20230921-28 APPROVING THE 2024 PROPOSED GENERAL FUND BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY AND SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE 2024 GENERAL FUND AND PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Hildebrand and the Council had a discussion on the 2024 Proposed General Fund Budget and Property Tax Levy. Motion to approve the Property Tax Levy at $2,243,073 by Pederson, second by Ovick. Motion carried with Councilor Hill voting aye and Councilor Palmer voting nay.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pederson stated there is a meeting on September 24, 2023 at 6:00pm regarding the Recreation Center at Pizza Pub.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 12:04 pm by Pederson, second by Ovick. Motion carried.

CAO

Mayor