

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

August 25, 2021

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Patrick J. Milliren

Roll Call: Present – Council Members Gilles, Hartung, Hooker, Roesler, Schneider, and Schofield. Also: Administrator Rasmussen, Public Works Director Gilles, Police Chief Ridgeway, and Fire Chief King were also in attendance. Absent: City Clerk Morgan, and Ambulance Director Miller. Due and proper notice of meeting was confirmed.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Council Member Hartung and seconded by Council Member Roesler to adopt the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment: None

Scheduled Appearances: None

Consent Agenda: The City Council Members reviewed the Regular Council Meeting minutes from August 11, 2021, Bartender Licenses for Jacob D Putz for Rooster Tail Bar and Grill. Motion by Council Member Hartung, seconded by Council Member Schneider to approve the Regular Council Meeting minutes from August 11, 2021, Bartender Licenses for Jacob D Putz for Rooster Tail Bar and Grill as presented under the Consent Agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Business Agenda - Mayor's Report: Mayor Milliren gave an update of City events including the White Sidewalls appearing at Music in the Park this evening, the recent golf outing to benefit future pool replacement, and provided an explanation regarding his request for Fire Chief King's ladder truck presentation being on tonight's agenda.

Administrators Report: The City Administrator provided an update regarding the City receiving its full payment as part of the recent long-term borrowing and debt refunding, and a rough timeline regarding budget meetings for City departments. He also noted there would be an Economic Development meeting and agenda item for the 9/8/21 council meeting to discuss the golf course request for a RLF loan for kitchen remodeling.

Public Safety – Police Department: Chief Ridgeway provided an update on the new police vehicle, proposed Trunk or Treat event on 10/31/21, and the training status of recently hired parttime police officers.

Fire Department: Fire Chief King noted that several members of the department would be providing coverage to the Arcadia fire department on 8/28/21 so that their members could attend the funeral of their fire chief. He also provided an update on the drone project with Pepin County.

Fire Chief King provided a presentation regarding the need for a ladder truck, similar to the presentation he provided to the Public Safety Committee last month. His presentation outlined that this would be a medium-duty ladder truck, with an engine that would replace the current 1993 joint City/Rural engine. He also highlighted area businesses (City & Rural) and past calls that would have potentially benefitted from having a ladder truck.

The ladder truck is currently estimated to cost \$1,250,000 and take about one year to build. Chief King noted that there would be an estimated 2% increase effective January 2022. Preliminarily, it was estimated that the Durand/Rural Relief Association would provide \$100,000 towards the purchase, and the City of Durand & Rural Fire would split the difference of \$575,000 each.

City Administrator Rasmussen provided an update of discussions between Chief King & Don Hartung of Rural Fire discussing a more equitable split of future costs along the lines of 30/70 City/Rural, which reflects both the allocation of City/Rural equalized valuation and call volume. Those discussions will continue in the near future.

Ambulance Department: No updates.

Public Works/Utilities: Engineer's Report: City Engineer Kiviniemi was present to discuss the 3rd Avenue, Drier, Laneville Street project, specifically updates regarding curb & gutter installation, the first course of asphalt on the 3rd Avenue portion, and estimating that the final course of gravel would be laid on the Laneville section in approximately four (4) weeks.

Public Works/Utilities: Public Works Director Gilles provided a summary of issues noted in the recent State pool inspection. Most issues were minor, and the two (2) larger issues regarding self-closing doors leading from the locker rooms and water turnover in the pool were likely going to be exempted by the State.

Vouchers: Motion by Council Member Hartung, seconded by Council Member Hooker to approve the vouchers presented #27162 - 27209 in the amount of \$929,753.73. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried

The next meeting is the Regular City Council Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm., with an Economic Development meeting beforehand at 5:30 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Gilles at 7:42 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Scott Rasmussen, City Administrator