



**CITY OF BLUE EARTH MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.**

**The Blue Earth City Council convened on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the Blue Earth City Council Chambers.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Scholtes called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers Huisman, Hanna, Ristau, McNerney, Drew, Walter, and Honorary Councilmember Davis Present.

Absent: Councilmembers Erichsrud, Cassem and Cole.

Staff: City Engineer, Wes Brown; City Attorney, David Frundt; City Administrator, Mary Kennedy.

**DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**

Quorum present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Scholtes led the Pledge of Allegiance

**CHANGES TO AGENDA**

No Changes

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Fiona Green, Faribault County Register; Josh Kafka, KBEW; Roger Davis and Corey Walter.

**Dead End Street**

Scholtes brought forth an email he had received regarding the dead end on north Nicollet Street, indicating that someone had mistakenly taken the street and had gotten stuck on the railway. Holland reviewed Google maps and it's clearly marked as an unnamed street, with Holland proposing moving of the dead-end sign for better visibility. Scholtes recommended directing Kennedy to contact Google Maps for the request for the removal of the street, informing the Council that there is no guarantee it would be removed from the Google maps GPS system.

### **City Attorney Frundt**

City Attorney Frundt addressed the Oath of Office for new Councilmembers and Honorary Councilmember Davis.

#### **Oath of Office:**

Ann Hanna

Daniel Ristau

Jacque Drew

Michael McNerney

Stephanie Walter

#### **Honorary Oath of Office:**

Cass Davis

All new members signed the Oath of Office.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the Work Session and the Council Meeting of Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of Monday, December 19, 2022. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mayor Scholtes reviewed the City Council Meeting date changes due to Holidays.**

Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> (Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>)

Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> (Presidents Day Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>)

Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> (Juneteenth Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>)

Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> (Labor Day Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>)

***Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **2023 Local Board of Appeals and Equalization**

Scholtes addressed the 2023 Local Board of Appeals and Equalization letter, noting that the meeting time is set for April 10<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Walter to approve the 2023 Local Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting set for April 10<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.***

Scholtes advised that there is an online training available for the certification process, and that Kennedy would assist those interested.

***The motion was passed unanimously.***

#### **B&B Recycling Schedule 2023**

No Discussion

## **Senior Center Newsletter**

No Discussion

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

No Public Hearings

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

### **City Attorney Frundt**

#### **516 E 6<sup>th</sup> Street Update**

Frundt gave an update on the nuisance abatement at 517 East 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Frundt advised that the property hearing took place on December 27<sup>th</sup>, after which the City would be allowed to enter the property to remove the remaining items. Frundt recommended taking inventory of what is remaining and possibly contacting Sentence to Serve to assist in the final clean up.

### **City Engineer Brown**

#### **Project Updates**

Brown addressed the 2023 street project with the finalization of the design & plans of the project, advising that the next step in the process would be holding the bid letting in March.

### **Monthly Senior Center Report**

No Discussion

## **REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Library Board Meeting 1.9.23**

**Economic Development Authority Meeting 1.12.23**

**Housing and Redevelopment Authority Meeting 1.9.23**

**Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Subcommittee Meeting 1.12.23**

***Motion by Ristau, second by Huisman to approve the reports from the Boards and Commissions. The motion was passed unanimously.***

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Personnel Policy Update**

Kennedy reviewed the Personnel policy memo with the Council, recommending that the policy include Christmas Eve Day as holiday to reflect LELS and AFSCME Holiday schedule.

***Motion by Ristau, second by Walter to approve the recommendation that the policy include Christmas Eve Day as holiday to reflect LELS and AFSCME Holiday schedule. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **Blue Earth Light and Water – Water Plant Project & Bonding Bill**

Scholtes recommended holding off on the Blue Earth Light and Water – Water Plant Project & Bonding Bill until January 17<sup>th</sup> Council meeting when Tim Stoner could be present.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Mayor Appointment of Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees**

Scholtes reviewed the 2023 Boards & Commissions memo with the Council, appointing each Councilmember to their respective Board and Committees, also with the appointing of Dan Ristau as Vice Mayor.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Drew to approve the Mayor Appointment of Boards, Commissions, and Standing Committees. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **Appointment of Official Newspaper for Publication as the Faribault County Register, First Bank Blue Earth as Official Depository, and CarlsonSV as Auditor.**

Mayor Scholtes addressed the Appointment of Official Newspaper for Publication as Faribault County Register, First Bank Blue Earth as Official Depository, and CarlsonSV as Auditor.

***Motion by Ristau, second by Walter to approve the Appointment of Official Newspaper for Publication as the Faribault County Register, First Bank Blue Earth as Official Depository, and CarlsonSV as Auditor. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **Faribault County Register Article – Library**

No Discussion

## **TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND OTHER BUDGETORY MATTERS**

Investment Schedule

## **PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND APPROVAL OF CLAIMS AND APPROPRIATIONS**

### **Consideration of Payment of the Bills**

***Motion by Hanna, second by Huisman to pay the bills. The motion passed unanimously.***

## **CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

Payroll Summary

Administrator Report

## **NEXT WORKSESSION ITEMS**

January 17, 2023 Work Session: Investigation Training with Faribault County Chief Deputy Scott Adams (3:30 pm)

Huisman requested additional Work Sessions on Housing.

## **ADJOURN**

***Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to adjourn the meeting at 5:22pm. The motion was approved unanimously.***