



**CITY OF BLUE EARTH MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Blue Earth City Council convened on Tuesday, January 17, 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.

Staff: City Project Engineer, Ben Rosol; 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 Radio; Heidi Schutt, Blue Earth Library.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the Work Session and the Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 3, 2022.

Motion by Huisman, second by Hanna to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of Tuesday, January 3, 2023. The motion was passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dulas Disposal Garbage Haulers Application.

No Discussion

Kiwanis Raffle Application.

No Discussion

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

CORRESPONDENCE

No Correspondence

PUBLIC HEARING

No Public Hearings

REPORTS FROM STAFF

City Project Engineer Rosol

Project Updates

Rosol advised that the 2023 street project is in the final stages of design noting the Street Committee meeting will be held February 6th to review and to evaluate plans for 2nd Street and Gorman Street. The Committee will bring forth recommendation for the Council to review.

City Attorney Frundt

517 E 6th Street Abatement Property

Davis addressed the discussions with Tom Hennis, Faribault County Sentence to Serve Coordinator, indicating that Hennis advised crews could help with the project although due to unpredictable crew sizes he is unable to provide a time frame for completion. Davis informed the Council that staff is awaiting estimates from two other companies.

Monthly Liquor Sales

Drew questioned the decrease in profit. Kennedy indicated that she had reviewed the financials with Hanna earlier in the day and concurred that the reason for the decrease was due to the increase to supply cost and employee salary.

Monthly Library

No discussion

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Library Board Minutes 12.12.22

Economic Development Authority Minutes 12.8.22

Housing and Redevelopment Authority Minutes 12.12.22

Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Subcommittee Minutes 12.8.22

Senior Center Minutes 12.13.22

Blue Earth Airport Advisory Commission Meeting 1.25.23

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

OLD BUSINESS

Blue Earth Light and Water – Water Plant Project & Bonding

Tim Stoner, General Manager of Blue Earth Light and Water addressed the Council with a review of the project scope for the water plant project, indicating the significant value to the community, funding needs and impacts to users. Stoner hopes for the construction of the water plant facility to begin in 2024.

Motion by Hanna, second by Walter to authorize Blue Earth Light & Water to continue to pursue the project. The motion was passed unanimously.

Amended Resolution 22-29 Fee Schedule 2023

Kennedy addressed the amendment made to Resolution 22-29 2023 Fee Schedule, advising that cost was switched around with the fees for On-sale Wine Licenses and Temporary on-Sale Liquor Licenses. Kennedy recommended approval of the change.

Motion by Huisman, second by Drew to approve the amended Resolution 22-29 Fee Schedule 2023. The motion was passed unanimously.

2022 Deer Hunt Summary

Officer Haugh reviewed the results of the 2022 City Deer Hunt with the Council with a total of 117 deer harvested, 32 being does. Hunters had witnessed increased deer activity by the Wastewater Plant. Haugh reported that a couple hunter's experienced issues of tampering with deer stands. Haugh recommended trail cameras be installed in those areas, with trail cameras costing an estimated \$150.00 - \$200.00.

Motion by Huisman, second by Walter to approve the purchase of Trail Cameras to monitor hunting areas and continue with the City Deer Hunt in 2023. The motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Terms

Next, Scholtes addressed Committee Terms Limits. Kennedy reviewed the individual terms with Parks and Recreation Committee and the Street Committee being 3 years.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 23-01 Joining Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities

Kennedy reviewed Resolution 23-01 Joining Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities indicating that the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities is a nonprofit advocacy organization that's mission is to pursue policies at the state legislature. Kennedy indicated that Blue Earth would pay 25% of membership dues during the first year of membership, 50% of dues in the second year, 75% in the third year, and 100% of our dues during the third year and all years after. Kennedy indicated that the resolution is requested by the Coalition.

Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to approve Resolution 23-01 Joining Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities. The motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution 23-02 Appoint Members to Charter Commission

Scholtes brought forth Resolution 23-02 Appoint Members to Charter Commission. Kennedy reviewed the appointment of members.

Motion by Ristau, second by Walter to approve Resolution 23-02 Appoint Members to Charter Commission. The motion was passed unanimously.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS AND OTHER BUDGETORY MATTERS

Investment Schedule

No discussion

4th Quarter 2022 Donations for Council Approval.

Motion by Drew, second by Huisman to approve the 4th Quarter 2022 Donations. The motion was passed unanimously.

Year to Date Budget Summary

No discussion

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

No discussion

Administrator Report

Huisman indicated that the Humane Society building is very close to completion. Scholtes recommended having this item on the Council Agenda for possible motion on the contract agreement.

NEXT WORKSESSION ITEMS

No Work Session.

ADJOURN

Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to adjourn the meeting at 5:36 pm. The motion was approved unanimously.