



**CITY OF BLUE EARTH MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Monday, March 6, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.**

The Blue Earth City Council convened on Monday, March 6, 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**

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

Absent: Councilmember Walter

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**

**MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Fiona Green, Faribault County Register; Josh Kafka, KBEW Radio; Susie Rosenau and Allen Hanson.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the Work Session and the Council Meeting of February 21, 2023, and the Special Meeting of Monday, February 27, 2023

***Motion by Huisman, second by Drew to approve the Minutes from the Council Meeting of Monday, February 6, 2023, and the Special Meeting of Monday, February 27, 2023. The motion was passed unanimously.***

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Travel Request (Blue Earth Wine and Spirits Manager)**

**Chamber Raffle**

**P Pod Permit**

**2023 Licenses with the City**

Scholtes mentioned the Legion Sunday license permit number. Staff will address the numbering of the Legion Sunday license.

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Senior Center Newsletter and Lunch Menu**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

No Public Hearings

## **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

**City Engineer**

**Project Updates**

No updates.

**Street Project Tree Replacement Reimbursement Program**

Brown brought forth the Street Project Tree Replacement Reimbursement Program and draft application, recommending a time frame to be put in place for the tree reimbursement process. Brown recommended a 12-month allowance following the Final Assessment Hearing. Scholtes recommended a 90-day allowance to submit receipts following the tree installation.

***Motion by Hanna, second by Drew to approve the 12 month and 90-day time frames. Motion passed unanimously.***

Brown indicated that Bolton & Menk would send out letters in the next couple weeks advising residents of the change.

**City Attorney Frundt**

**Ordinance for Conveyance of Real Property owned by the City (*First Reading*).**

Frundt brought forth the first reading of Ordinance for Conveyance of Real Property owned by the City. Frundt implied that the sale is for Lots 5 & Block 1 of the Prairie View Addition. Joshua Anderson and Cora Haas are requesting the purchase of the property.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to approve the first reading of the ordinance and calling for the hearing on March 20th for the Conveyance of Real Property Owned by the City of Blue Earth. The motion was passed unanimously.***

**Project 3 Sisters**

Frundt indicated that he contacted Project 3 Sister's Attorney Sarah Wilson. Prior to this contact, staff attempt to make contact with owners of the buildings failed. Frundt advised that Project 3 Sisters is willing to return the buildings to the city with the negotiation of any monies that had been put towards the buildings be reported as a donation to the city.

Huisman inquired building conditions and items the group is claiming as purchased, and the plan of action for the city once the buildings are returned.

Council directed staff to pursue the reacquisition of the property and after that then the Council would decide what the next steps would be taken once the building are returned to city ownership.

### **602 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street Property**

Huisman requested the status of the code enforcement issues of 602 E 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Frundt indicated that he had communication with Josh Stensland on behalf of the Stensland property. Stensland indicated that they are making progress but with snow on site there is difficulties meeting the deadline. Three of the vehicles have now been registered.

### **Monthly Senior Center Report**

No Discussion

### **Monthly Police Report**

No Discussion

### **REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**Library Board Minutes 1.9.23**

**Economic Development Authority Meeting 3.9.23**

**Housing and Redevelopment Authority Meeting 3.13.23**

**Rural Entrepreneurial Venture Subcommittee Meeting 3.9.23**

**Parks and Recreation Subcommittee Meeting 3.15.23**

**Senior Center Meeting 3.14.23**

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

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **City Council Meeting Dates: July 3, 2023**

Scholtes addressed the Council Meeting of July 3<sup>rd</sup> inquiring if the Council would like to hold that meeting or cancel due to how the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday falls into place that week.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Ristau to cancel the July 3<sup>rd</sup> council meeting and close City Offices. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **Putnam Park Court Redesign**

Next, Scholtes addressed the Putnam Park Court Redesign. Huisman questioned the design of the courts, implying that it consists of 9 Pickleball Courts. Kennedy mentioned that the Parks &

Rec committee is compiling a survey and perhaps it be questioned how many people actually participate in pickleball in the community. Huisman implied that he felt maybe downsizing the pickleball courts and including a skateboard ramp area would be more beneficial to those who do not participate in organized sports. Brown indicated that the map that had been shown is not a formal map of the redesign, but a rough idea of what could be done. Huisman recommended that this item be included in the spring survey and inquire if this item would be utilized.

### **Tennis Courts**

Next, Scholtes brought forth the school tennis courts and committee / school board meetings. Scholtes advised that the school did not accept the 70-30 cost split, recommending the city take another approach to the negotiations with the school. Scholtes gave the recommendation of offering the school \$330,000.00 to help cover the city portion of the tennis courts.

***Motion by Huisman, second by Hanna to commit \$330,000.00 to the tennis court project at the high school and direct City Engineer, Wes Brown to continue with the design process and Kennedy to begin work with the financing of the project upon approval of this funding from the School Board. The motion was passed unanimously.***

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Mosquito Control Agreement**

No changes to the contract. Same terms as 2022.

***Motion by Hanna, second by Drew to approve the 2023 Mosquito Control Agreement Contract with Mosquito Control of Iowa. The motion was passed unanimously.***

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

#### **Investment Schedule**

No discussion

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

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

No discussion

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

### **CITY ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

#### **Payroll Summary**

No discussion

#### **Administrator Report**

No discussion

### **NEXT WORKSESSION ITEMS**

Huisman requested a review of the Fossil Center Agreement.

### **ADJOURN**

***Motion by Huisman, second by Drew to adjourn at 6:16pm. The motion was approved unanimously.***