

## **Watson City Council Meeting Minutes**

June 13, 2023

Present Mayor: Todd Tongen. Council Members: Carter Lokken, Nathan Jordahl, Cheryl Bjornstad, Todd Vogel, City Clerk: Alan Marohl. Autumn Lee with Sunshine and Whiskey. One Resident.

Mayor Tongen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Motion to approve the agenda with additions by Tongen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

**Motion to approve May 9th, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.**

Financial Report:

- Cash Balances

**Motion to approve monthly claims by Tongen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vogel m/s/p unanimously.**

- Utilities – Delinquent accounts were sent disconnection notices.

Old Business:

- ServLine – Minnesota Rural Water is offering two insurance options through its partners. First, is the Service Line Warranty program. This is a program offered to homeowners that can cover external water, sewer, or in home plumbing lines. Watson would enter into a three-year marketing agreement with Service Line to allow use of the city logo and name to be used on advertising materials. The second is Servline Leak Protection. This insurance covers excess water charges. Watson would decide on either a 500, 1000, or 2500 coverage option and make it available to residents through their utility bill. Council tabled the item to have more time to read through the proposal.
- MN Basic Code – The basic code update requires council to look through past ordinances and decide which to bring forward with the update. They will otherwise be repealed. There are also optional chapters to include in the basic code that council must act on to be included. Council will wait to have more information on certain chapters before making any decisions.

New Business:

- Scott Winters Wage – Council is pleased with Scott Winters performance and have decided to give him a raise.

**Motion to increase Scott Winters wage to \$17.00 an hour by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lokken m/s/p unanimously.**

- Tax Forfeited Property – The parcel of land located at 330 2<sup>nd</sup> St has been reclaimed by the county. Council would like to see the building on the property removed as it is dilapidated. Alan was asked to check with Countryside Public Health to see if there are grants available to remove the building. Alan will also check into the option of having it used as a practice burn for a fire department as a means of removing it. If council does not reclaim the property for the city within 60 days, it will be auctioned by the county.

- Curb Removal at Salty Heifer's – Autumn Lee is asking for permission to remove a portion of curb outside of her stores entrance. She has permission from MNDOT but also needs a letter from the city approving it.

**Motion to allow the removal of curb and gutter outside of the Salty Heifer's Off Sale by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

Maintenance Report:

- Speed Bump Signs – Council discussed what type of speed bump sign they would like. It was agreed to purchase a rectangular one that specified a 5-mph limit. Council would prefer a double-sided sign, if they are available.

**Motion to purchase speed bump signs and required poles by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.**

- Parking line Paint – Paint is needed to restripe the parking lines and handicap spot along main street.

**Motion to purchase one gallon of each yellow, blue, and white, striping paint by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

City Clerk Report:

- CD Options – Council looked over different CD rates offered by Minnwest bank.

**Motion to purchase a \$13,000 Classic 9-month Special CD with the park funds by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.**

**Motion to purchase a \$25,000 Classic 9-month Special CD from the street maintenance savings.**

- Fire hall Insurance – Alan spoke with the insurance agent to understand how the premium was calculated. The total cost including in the building, siren, and contents was \$687,018. Alan was asked to check what the deductible is and if changing it would affect the premium.
- Honkers Repairs – The benches at the ball diamond are deteriorated and becoming dangerous. Tongen will ask the Honkers coach if they plan on doing any repairs.
- Community Center Curtains – Council chose a pair of beige curtains to be hung up in the community center.

**Motion to purchase two sets of curtains and rods by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

Public Comments:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Clerk, Alan Marohl