

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY JANUARY 11, 2024
5:30 P.M.
COMMUNITY CENTER**

CALL TO ORDER:

MAYOR STROM CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:30

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: MAYOR TOBY STROM, LUKE SYVERSON AND BETH HAGEN
LUKE BURD AND JORDAN GUNUFSON

MELISSA FINSETH – CLERK/TREASURER

REBECCA BOEHRNSEN - LICENSED ASSISTED LIVING DIRECTOR FOR POPLAR MEADOWS

GUESTS: BRUCE AND DEBBIE HAAVEN, CLYDE KRINGLEN, MICK EVENSON, BETTY
TANGEN, PHIL LEE, LARRY AND ORLETT HEDLUND, RON LEMER AND ARLENE EGGERS

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

QUORUM WAS MET.

AGENDA ADDITIONS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- a. DECEMBER 12, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY LUKE SYVERSON AND SECONDED BY LUKE BURD TO APPROVE THE
DECEMBER 12, 2023 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES WITH ONE AMENDMENT.
THE CITY CLERK INADVERTENTLY LISTED LUKE BURD AND JORDAN GUFUFSON AS
ABSENT INSTEAD OF PRESENT AT THE DECEMBER MEETING. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

- b. DECEMBER 12, 2023 TRUTH IN TAXATION MEETING MINUTES

MOTION BY LUKE SYVERSON AND SECONDED BY JORDAN GUNUFSON TO APPROVE THE
DECEMBER 12, 2023 TRUTH IN TAXATION MEETING MINUTES. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

PUBLIC CONCERNS:

THE QUESTION WAS RAISED BY BRUCE HAAVEN, ON BEHALF OF THE GUESTS, WHAT THE COUNCIL INTENDED ON DOING WITH THE HOUSES THAT ARE IN DISREPAIR WITHIN THE CITY - PAUL LINDSETH'S HOUSE IN PARTICULAR. MAYOR STROM STATED THAT PAUL LINDSETH IS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING DUMPSTERS LINED UP SO THAT HE CAN BEGIN DEMOLISHING THE PROPERTY. THE CITY CLERK CONFIRMED THAT PAUL LINDSETH HAD CONTACTED THE OFFICE THE MORNING OF JANUARY 11, 2024 WITH HIS PLAN.

AS FAR AS THE OTHER PROPERTIES AROUND TOWN, MAYOR STROM STATED THAT IT'S NOT A QUICK OR CHEAP PROBLEM TO SOLVE ONCE THE LAWYERS GET INVOLVED. THE CITY CLERK ALSO RESPONDED BY SAYING THAT PAST LETTERS WRITTEN TO THE PROPERTY OWNERS END UP RETURNED UNANSWERED. A GUEST SUGGESTED THAT SHERIFF DEPUTIES GET INVOLVED TO HAND-DELIVER THE LETTERS INSTEAD.

IT WAS SUGGESTED BY A GUEST THAT THE CITY CLEANS UP THE PROPERTIES, WHICH MAY INCLUDE DEMOING THE HOUSES, AND THEN BILLS THE OWNER. ANOTHER SUGGESTION WAS THAT THE CITY PURSUES A CONVEYANCE DEED WHERE THE CITY DOES THE WORK TO CLEAN UP THE PROERTY AND THE OWNER SIGNS OVER THEIR DEED TO THE CITY. LUKE SYVERSON STATED THAT HE WOULD AGREE TO THE LATTER OPTION.

THE CITY CLERK STATED THAT LETTERS WILL BE WRITTEN. COUNCIL WILL NEED TO INFORM THE CLERK HOW THEY WANT THEM DELIVERED.

MEDA AND POPLAR MEADOWS :

a. RENTAL STATUS

REBECCA BOEHRNSEN REPORTED THAT POPLAR MEADOWS CURRENTLY HAS TWENTY-SIX RESIDENTS. THERE IS ONE 1 – 1 BEDROOM AVAILABLE FOR RENT.

b. APPROVE POPLAR MEADOWS MONTHLY BILLS

MOTION BY BETH HAGEN AND SECONDED BY LUKE SYVERSON TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,279.25. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

c. DEBT PAYMENT

REBECCA BOEHRNSEN REPORTED THAT NO DEBT PAYMENT WILL BE MADE THIS MONTH.

d. THREE PAYROLLS IN FEBRUARY

REBECCA BOEHRNSEN ASKED THE COUNCIL FOR FUNDS, FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND, TO HELP COVER THE THREE PAYROLLS AND EXPENSES IN FEBRUARY. EACH PAYROLL IS ROUGHLY \$30,000.00 AND THE REVENUES FOR FEBRUARY WILL NOT BE ENOUGH TO COVER ALL EXPENSES. SHE ASKED FOR \$80,000.00, BUT AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, LUKE SYVERSON MOTIONED FOR \$40,000.00 TO BE GIVEN. BETH HAGEN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH WAS PASSED UNOPPOSED.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. LINDSETH PROPERTY

THIS WAS DISCUSSED DURING THE PUBLIC CONCERNS PORTION OF THE MEETING.

b. EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME – FIRE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY CLERK INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT MEMBERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DO NOT QUALIFY FOR EARNED SICK AND SAFE TIME UNDER THE STATE'S DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY STANDARDS. NO RULING WAS NEEDED ON THIS ISSUE.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. 2024 LIST OF COMMISSIONERS

MOTION BY JORDAN GUNUFSON AND SECONDED BY BETH HAGEN TO APPROVE THE LIST OF COMMISSIONERS FOR 2024. PASSED UNOPPOSE. THE FULL LIST WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

b. 2024 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

MOTION BY LUKE BURD AND SECONDED BY LUKE SYVERSON TO APPROVE THE 2024 COUNCIL MEETING DATES. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

c. SET DATE FOR TOWNSHIP MEETING WITH FIRE DEPARTMENT – FEBRUARY

COUNCIL SET THE DATE FOR THE COMBINED COUNCIL, TOWNSHIP AND FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2024 AT 6:30.

d. RESOLUTION – POLAR BEACH SNOWMOBILE CLUB

JORDAN GUNUFSON MOTIONED TO ACT AS THE LEGAL SPONSOR FOR THE APPLICATION FUNDING TO THE STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAIL MAINTENANCE OF SNOWMOBILE TRAILS MANAGED BY POLAR BEACH SNOWMOBILE CLUB. ALL MEMBERS VOTED YES. RESOLUTION PASSED.

e. WEATHER SIREN QUOTE

COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE WEATHER SIREN QUOTE PROVIDED BY STONE'S MOBILE RADIO INCORPORATED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,891.66. LUKE SYVERSON ASKED FOR ANOTHER QUOTE TO COMPARE PRICING. THE CITY CLERK WILL ASK ROGER'S TWO-WAY RADIO TO PROVIDE A QUOTE.

f. 2023 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

MOTION BY LUKE SYVERSON AND SECONDED BY BETH HAGEN TO APPROVE THE 2023 AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM HOFFMAN, PHILIPP & MARTELL, PLLC. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY BILLS:

MOTION BY LUKE SYVERSON AND SECONDED BY LUKE BURD TO APPROVE THE MONTHLY BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$27,796.06. PASSED UNOPPOSED.

COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS:

JORDAN GUNUFSON ASKED THE COUNCIL WHAT THE PLANS ARE FOR THE REESE PROPERTY ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF HIGHWAY TWO. DISCUSSION WAS HAD THAT WE WOULD GET MOORE ENGINEERING TO PLOT OUT A PORTION OF THE PROPERTY.

NOTICES & CORRESPONDENCE:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION BY LUKE SYVERSON AND SECONDED BY LUKE BURD TO ADJOURN AT 6:55. PASSED UNOPPOSED.