

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL  
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA  
March 27, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Following due call and notice thereof, Mayor DeWayne “Tank” Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Schroeder led the Council, City staff, and visitors in stating the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Council members present: Mayor Schroeder, Member Ryan Stenzel, Member Amanda Ninneman, Member David Fitzpatrick, and Member Bob Klug. City staff present: Jake Dickson, City Clerk/Administrator, Casey Klug, Public Works/Zoning Director, Stephanie Mann, Finance Officer. Visitor(s) present: Charlene Selbee, *Fillmore County Journal*, Rachel Stock, *Caledonia Argus*, Bob Burns, Fred Kruckow, Kari Neumann, Polly Heberlein, Jean Kinneberg

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Member Klug moved to approve the March 13, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Member Ninneman, motion passed 5-0, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Member Fitzpatrick moved to approve the consent agenda. Member Klug seconded the motion. Five members present voted in favor of the motion and the motion passed. The consent agenda comprised the following items:

- a. Approve Lifeguard Hires
- b. Approve Temporary Liquor Licenses – Houston County Fair
- c. Approve Sign Permit – 115 Minnesota 44

PUBLIC COMMENT: Caledonia Resident Fred Kruckow spoke to the City Council regarding the existing Agricultural Zoning moratorium, possibilities of constructing a shed on vacant land, and concerns about stormwater in farm fields.

PUBLIC WORKS/ZONING DIRECTOR

Updates: Public Works/Zoning Director Casey Klug updated the City Council on tree trimming, the Wastewater Treatment Plant, liquor store floor repairs, and the Well No. 6 repair.

CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

Updates: No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Sprague Woods Joint Powers Agreement: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson presented the Joint Powers Agreement between ISD#299 and the City of Caledonia for use of the Sprague Woods as a school forest. Dickson reported that the agreement had been reviewed and needed only minor changes. Member Klug suggested striking item 4B that gives priority booking to ISD#299, reasoning that the woods is still a

- City park open to all. Motion made by Member Ninneman to Approve the Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Caledonia and ISD#299 as Amended, Striking Item 4.B. Motion seconded by Member Fitzpatrick. Motion passed 5-0, motion carried.
- b. Agriculture Zoning Study Report: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson presented a report on the study performed during the Agricultural Zone Moratorium set to expire on March 28, 2023. Dickson presented, for first read, two draft ordinances. Ordinance 2023-02 adopts a new zoning map with all Agricultural parcels rezoned to residential. Ordinance 2023-02 repeals the section of code that deals with Agricultural zoning, removing the zone from the City of Caledonia. Member Ninneman asked how rezoning would affect building a shed on the Kruckow property mentioned in public comment. Public Works/Zoning Director Klug answered that, regardless of zoning, a shed would likely be considered an accessory structure which must have a primary structure. Resident Fred Kruckow asked for clarification on what he could do if the ordinances are changed. Member Fitzpatrick asked for next steps, Dickson stated that a Public Hearing is scheduled for April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM.
  - c. Financial Reports: Finance Officer Stephanie Mann reported financials through February 28<sup>th</sup>. Presented reports included cash, investments, and budget to actuals. Mann reported a total cash and investments balance of \$7,283,325.28

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Fee Schedule Amendment – Electric Vehicle Charging Rate: Electric Department Foreman Matt Blocker presented an update to electric vehicle charging on the City electric system. Blocker stated that there is a pending request for a new service to charge an electric vehicle at a residence and that the Electric Department proposes installing a new meter that can charge different rates depending on times of day. Blocker proposed amending the Fee Schedule to include an Electric Vehicle charging rate of \$.067/kwh during non-peak times and \$.20/kwh during peak times and a \$4.00/month base rate. Blocker stated that there are rebates available with these variable meters. Motion made by Member Klug to amend the Fee Schedule to include Electric Vehicle Rates as written, seconded by Member Fitzpatrick. Motion passed 5-0, motion carried.
- b. 2023 Seal Coat Bids: Public Works/Zoning Director Klug presented bids received for seal coating in summer 2023. Klug reported that he would like to cap seal coat spending at \$70,000 for 2023 to prepare for other emergency projects. Klug recommended awarding the bid to Fahrner Asphalt Sealers with a not to exceed price of \$70,000. Klug stated that both bids are from companies the City works with regularly. Motion made by Mayor Schroeder to Award a Bid to Farhner Not to Exceed \$70,000, seconded by Member Ninneman. Motion passed 5-0, motion carried.
- c. County Parking Lot: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson reported on the planned Houston County Parking lot improvement project. Dickson reported that the Houston County project was bid and awarded, meaning that the work cannot be assessed by the City but both property owners on the one affected block of Washington Street are willing to petition the City to perform the work. Dickson stated that the City could choose to wait on the paving, but that it would likely be more expensive in the future. The City Council agreed to have property owners petition the City for paving, Dickson will bring petitions to the next City Council meeting.

- d. Approve Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk Hire: City Clerk/Administrator Dickson reported on the upcoming vacancy, advertisement, and interview process for Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk. Dickson stated that the Personnel Committee recommends hiring Traci Ward effective April 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion made by Member Fitzpatrick to hire Traci Ward as Accounts Payable/Payroll Clerk at Pay Grade 4 Step 4, effective April 10<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Member Ninneman. Motion passed 5-0, motion carried.
- e. Overtime Report: February 20<sup>th</sup> through March 5<sup>th</sup>: The City Council reviewed the Overtime Report from February 20<sup>th</sup> through March 5<sup>th</sup>. No action was taken at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:00PM

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Ninneman, seconded by Mayor Schroeder. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion was declared carried to adjourn at 7:15p.m.

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DeWayne "Tank" Schroeder  
Mayor

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Jake Dickson  
Clerk/Administrator