

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY AUDITORIUM
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
Monday, January 25, 2021

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 Auditorium.

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 David Fitzpatrick, Member Robert “Bob” Klug, Member Amanda Ninneman, and Member Brad Rykhus. City staff present: Casey Klug, public works and zoning director; Adam Swann, clerk/administrator. Visitor(s) present: Eric Lynne, Donohue & Associates; Craig Moorhead, *Caledonia Argus*.

CONSENT AGENDA: Member Rykhus moved to approve the consent agenda. Member Ninneman seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed. The consent agenda comprised the following items:

- a. Approve minutes from January 11, 2021 regular City Council meeting
- b. Approve \$2,000 contribution to Houston County Attorney’s Office for victim/witness services provided by Michelle Herman in 2021
- c. Approve increase in monthly household solid waste fee from \$3.65/mo. to \$3.90/mo. based on \$.25/mo. increase in fee charged to City by Houston County, effective bills issued February 1, 2021
- d. Approve proposal from WSB & Associates, Inc. to provide a geotechnical evaluation for the future well house #8 building at a cost of \$3,300
- e. Approve application from K Brothers Restaurants, LLC (d/b/a Rustic Tap) for optional 2 A.M. on-sale liquor license
- f. Approval of proposed Resolution 2021-01: A Resolution Updating Signatories for City Bank Accounts

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATION:

- a. Eric Lynne, P.E., Donohue & Associates, Inc.
 - i. Project update re engineering design and bidding services for wastewater treatment facility: Lynne briefly summarized the purpose of the new wastewater treatment facility, explaining that the new facility was needed because the existing facility was outdated and not meeting total nitrogen discharge limits. Lynne provided Council with an overview of the proposed site plan, building layouts, and elevations. The main buildings included the preliminary treatment building, equalization and wet well building, selector and oxidation ditch, final clarifiers, solids building, administrative building, and cold storage building. Lynne explained that proposed project would reuse the existing SBR tank as an equalization and wet well building. Lynne summarized the tasks that had been completed so far on the project and the next steps. Lynne reported that the current schedule was to advertise for bids in June 2021, award a bid in July 2021, start construction in July 2021, and end construction in March 2023.

PUBLIC WORKS/ZONING DIRECTOR:

- a. Updates:
 - i. MDH annual water report: Public Works/Zoning Director Casey Klug reported that he was working on the City’s annual water report to the Minnesota Department of Health.

ii. Pool gutter replacement project: Klug reported that Ricchio, Inc. had mobilized at the pool but due to the cold weather was doing work that could be done inside, such as preparing the concrete forms.

iii. Ice skating rink: Klug reported that the ice skating rink was going to be available soon near the Veterans Memorial Park baseball and softball fields. Klug reported that there was not going to be staffing at the warming house, so skaters would have to bring their own skates.

CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR:

a. Updates

i. N. Warrior Ave. extension: Clerk/Administrator Swann reported that City Engineer Matt Mohs had given a presentation to the School Board about the proposed N. Warrior Ave. extension. Swann reported that the School Board members had been generally favorable towards the project, although a few members expressed concern about truck traffic near the school. Swann further reported that the School Board would formally discuss whether to support the project during its next meeting in February.

ii. Future of former Hauser property at 119 S. Kingston St.: Swann reported that the County Auditor's Office was moving forward with finalizing the tax forfeiture process for the property at 119 S. Kingston Street. Swann further reported that the County Auditor's Office had requested that the City provide a declaration of its intent for the property. Swann reported that the issue would be on the next Council agenda for discussion.

iii. Meeting with public safety committee: Swann reported that he and the Council's Public Safety Committee—i.e., Mayor Schroeder and Member Rykhus—had met with Chief Zehnder to discuss the pros and cons of raising wages for causal part-time police officers and adding a permanent part-time police officer. Swann reported that the issue would be on the agenda for a future Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Discussion re request from ABLE, Inc. to provide Auditorium key to private citizen: Member Ninneman moved to provide ABLE, Inc. with a key to the municipal auditorium so that ABLE's clients could walk or use the facility. Member Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

b. Discussion re sidewalk reimbursement program: Member Rykhus moved to approve the proposed revisions to the sidewalk reimbursement program, which included, but were not limited to, raising the cost permitted per sq. ft. from \$3.50 to \$7.00.

c. Discussion re remote participation by City Council members in Council meetings: Council discussed City Attorney Mike Flaherty's legal memo analyzing the options for Council members to participate remotely in Council meetings. Clerk/Administrator Swann reported that Council members could participate via Zoom or similar program, with certain conditions, but the Council would have to relocate its meetings from the auditorium to the Council Chambers because the auditorium did not have WiFi. Member Klug expressed that if he was unable to attend a meeting in person during the next few months, it was not necessary for him to participate via Zoom so long as he received the Council packets and was kept informed of City matters. By consensus Council supported keeping the meetings in the City auditorium for the next few months during the pandemic.

d. Distribution of Council laptops: Clerk/Administrator Swann and Public Works/Zoning Director Casey Klug distributed the new Council laptops to the City Council members. Mayor Schroeder noted that a copy of the City's computer use policy was included in the Council packet.

e. Report by Member Klug on library: Member Klug reported that he had attended the recent Library Board meeting. Member Klug reported that the Dolphins group contacted the Library Board and suggested the Library Board should find a new location for the library. Member Klug reported that the hope was that someone would be willing to donate a building to the library in exchange for naming rights or that there would be a grant available. Member Ninneman added that the library could do more programming if they had additional space.

f. Overtime report: Members reviewed the overtime report for the pay period December 28, 2020 – January 10, 2021. No further action was taken by the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Rykhus, seconded by Member Ninneman. All members present voted in favor, and the motion was declared carried to adjourn at 7:19 p.m.

DeWayne “Tank” Schroeder
Mayor

Adam G. Swann
Clerk/Administrator