

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA
Monday, January 24, 2022

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 David Fitzpatrick, Member Amanda Ninneman and Member Brad Rykhus. Council member(s) absent: Member Robert “Bob” Klug. City staff present: Casey Klug, public works/zoning director; Stephanie Mann, finance officer. Visitor(s) present: Greg Skauge, Kole Skauge, Taylor Skauge, Richard’s Sanitation, LLC; Craig Moorhead, *Caledonia Argus*; Charlene Selbee, *Fillmore County Journal*.

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 10, 2022 regular City Council meeting
- b. Approve Amendment #2 for Grant Contract Agreement #CDAP-17-0038-O-FY18 (for Small Cities Development Program)
- c. Approve \$2,000 contribution to Houston County Attorney’s Office for victim/witness services provided by Michelle Herman in 2022
- d. Approve proposed Education Affiliation Agreement for Health Occupations between the City of Caledonia (Ambulance Department) and Gundersen Lutheran Administrative Services, Inc.
- e. Approve proposed Program Addendum between the City of Caledonia (Ambulance Department) and Gundersen Lutheran Administrative Services, Inc.
- f. Accept resignation of Josh Meyer as emergency medical technician (EMT) for Caledonia Ambulance Department, effective January 17, 2022
- g. Accept resignation of Sarah Barnes as emergency medical technician (EMT) for Caledonia Ambulance Department, effective January 18, 2022
- h. Approve hiring Travis Skorstad as emergency medical responder (EMR) for Caledonia Ambulance Department
- i. Approve hiring Elizabeth Stoltz as emergency medical responder (EMR) for Caledonia Ambulance Department

PRESENTATION:

- a. Greg Skauge, Richard’s Sanitation, LLC
 - i. Proposal to amend contract between Richard’s Sanitation and City of Caledonia to change fee structure from per bag charge to flat monthly fee for plastic trash can: Skauge asked if the council had any questions in regards to the proposed changes. Mayor Schroeder asked about the term of the new agreement and a possible change from 10 years to 5 years. Skauge would like to see a 10-year agreement to be able to keep the price down. In regards to future rate increases, Skauge said it would possibly be 1-3% annually. Skauge said the city would need to bill residents \$80 if totes were damaged or not returned; this charge would not done by Richard’s

Sanitation. Skaug also reminded the council that the proposed monthly contract cost is only good for 30 days and he received the quote on January 6th. He would need to get a new price after the 30 days. Mayor Schroeder said they would not make a decision now but will let him know after consulting our city attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PUBLIC WORKS/ZONING DIRECTOR:

a. Updates

i. Shade tree program: Public Works/Zoning Director Klug reported that tree order forms will be in the utility bills for February. The city did not offer the program in 2021. Due to a shortage of trees, the turnaround will be quick in order to get an order placed. Shade tree orders forms are due back to city hall by February 11th.

ii. Construction of new wastewater treatment facility: Klug reported that the contractor was working on submittals for the project in preparation for moving forward in the spring.

iii. Construction of Well House No. 8: Klug reported that there has not been a lot of activity due to the cold weather and waiting for parts.

iv. DNR Water Permits: Klug reported that he will be working on gathering data for two DNR reports that are due in the next month or so. The reports detail out all of the water pumped, sold, and any unaccounted in 2021.

v. Business route signs: Klug reported that the State of MN will be installing business route signs on the highway but we will need to install signs in the city. He is looking at including some wayfind signage also that will help with landmarks in the city such as parks, etc.

vi. Electrical outage: Public Works/Zoning Director Klug discussed the electrical outage on Friday, January 21st. City electric Line Foreman Matt Blocker was notified by Dairyland Power that they were having issues that affected the power in the city and were working to resolve the problem. City staff immediately shut down each well and lift station, and also de-energized the city until the issue was resolved by Dairyland Power. After the outage, Klug reported that we did have a few issues at the WWTP that city staff had to fix after power was restored.

CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Consideration of key provisions of tentative labor agreement between City of Caledonia and Law Enforcement Labor Services for 2022-2023: Mayor Schroeder highlighted changes to the LELS agreement from mediation on January 14, 2022. Mayor Schroeder, Member Rykhus and City Clerk/Administrator Swann participated in the mediation. The highlighted changes being a wage increase of 2% in 2022 and 3% in 2023 and an increase in standby pay from \$4.35 to \$5.00 per hour. There was also discussion of opening up the Local 49 labor agreement to change their 2% wage increase to 3% for 2023 to ensure consistency and uniformity in the City's step structure. Member Schroeder moved to approve the tentative LELS labor agreement for

2022-2023. Member Rykhus seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

b. Discussion re proposal to amend contract between Richard's Sanitation and City of Caledonia to change fee structure from per bag charge to flat monthly fee for plastic trash can: Mayor Schroeder asked if everyone agreed that this issue come back to a future meeting after City Clerk/Administrator Swann talks to our city attorney and has them draft a revised contract. Other members agreed and no action was taken by Council.

c. Review of proposed revisions to municipal auditorium usage policy and municipal auditorium usage and key agreement: Public Works/Zoning Director Klug reported that we have been having some issues with key holders in the auditorium using the gymnasium after hours and not reserving or paying for use of the facility. Due to the issues, Klug is suggesting to re-key all the doors but have the two side doors only be accessible for key rental. Klug also discussed the need to increase the key deposit from \$20 to \$100. Finance Officer Mann pointed out the hourly increase in fees by \$5 for each category. Council reviewed the highlighted changes in the policy made by City Clerk/Administrator Swann. Member Ninneman would like to see the policy not necessarily prohibit all food in the gym but have a clause such as "upon approval" so that we are not limiting ourselves. Member Ninneman moved to approve the proposed revisions to the auditorium usage policy with the addition in regards to the consumption of food and beverages and also the additional expense to re-key the doors. Member Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

d. Review of quote from Dunn Blacktop Company to construct tennis court and two pickle ball courts: Council reviewed a quote from Dunn Blacktop for the asphalt surface portion of the project. The quote was for the original layout and not the revised layout that was discussed recently. A new quote would be needed if we are going to go ahead with the revised layout. Mayor Schroeder would like to further discuss the layout that is best for the project and also have more definite funding in place. Other council members agreed. No action was taken by the Council.

e. Overtime Report: Members reviewed the overtime report for the pay period December 27, 2021 – January 9, 2022. No further action was taken by the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022, 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 of the motion, and the motion was declared carried to adjourn at 7:04 p.m.

DeWayne "Tank" Schroeder
Mayor

Adam G. Swann
City Administrator/Clerk