

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CALEDONIA CITY COUNCIL  
MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM  
CALEDONIA, MINNESOTA  
Monday, April 12, 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. Council members absent: None. City staff present: Casey Klug, public works/zoning director; Adam Swann, city clerk/administrator. Visitor(s) present: Donese Becker, Caledonia Township supervisor; Melissa Bowen; Lynn Colsch; Doug DeWall, Caledonia Township supervisor; Holly Felton; Eric Lynne, P.E., Donohue & Associates; Craig Moorhead, *Caledonia Argus*; Eric Schmitt; Matt Schuldt; Charlene Selbee, *Fillmore County Journal*; Wylie Steele; Dennis Torgerson

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 March 22, 2021 regular City Council meeting
- b. Approve hiring Russell Thies as lifeguard for Caledonia Aquatic Center for 2021 summer season at a rate of \$10.75/hr.
- c. Accept letter of resignation from Randy Spruill as part-time liquor store clerk, effective March 24, 2021
- d. Approve request from firefighter Austin Goergen for one-year leave of absence from Caledonia Fire Department
- e. Approve proposal from Braun Intertec to provide pre-demolition hazardous building inspection services for wastewater treatment facility at a cost of \$2,711
- f. Approve purchase of battery-powered jaws of life from Great Plains Fire Co. at a cost of \$33,573
- g. Approve purchase of additional “jaws of life” tools from Great Plains Fire Co. at a cost of \$10,624
- h. Approve payment application no. 3 from Ricchio, Inc. in the amount of \$48,450 for work performed on Caledonia Pool Gutter Replacement Project
- i. Approve quote from La Crosse Glass Co. and La Crosse Overhead Door Co. to provide labor and materials for installation of new steel door at Street Division building for the cost of \$3,153
- j. Approve quote from La Crosse Glass Co. and La Crosse Overhead Door Co. to provide labor and materials for installation of new steel door at liquor store for the cost of \$2,465
- k. Approve proposed Cooperative Agreement between City of Caledonia Ambulance Service and City of Houston Ambulance Service for provision of advanced life support intercept service

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PUBLIC WORKS/ZONING DIRECTOR:

a. Updates

i. Completion of City sidewalk on N. Gjere Ave.: Public Works/Zoning Director Klug reported that the City had hired Meyer Concrete to install the pedestrian ramps and last 30 feet of City sidewalk on N. Gjere Ave.

ii. Shade tree program: Klug reported that the City's primary tree supplier had moved to Oregon and trees from other suppliers were scarce and expensive, so the plan was to accept tree orders in fall 2021 and deliver them in spring 2022.

CITY CLERK/ADMINISTRATOR

a. Updates

i. Fire Department performance on April 5, 2021: Clerk/Administrator Swann commended the performance of the Fire Department on April 5, 2021. Swann reported that the Fire Department responded to two calls at approximately the same time, including a 40-acre forest fire near Zenner's Pond, which required firefighter response from 2:12 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Swann recognized the 20 firefighters who helped fight the forest fire, including the following: Randall Ashbacher, Dylan Becker, Alex Betz, Tom Esch, Zach Gengler, Jerry Holter, Fire Chief Kevin Jacobson, Jason Klug, Ben Logging, Emily Logging, Patrick Molling, Michael Nelson, Adam Peterson, Chris Schansberg, Kevin Schmidt, Benny Stutzman, Logan Thiele, First Assistant Chief Jeff Winjum, Troy Winjum, and Police Chief/Second Assistant Fire Chief Kurt Zehnder.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a. Discussion re future of Green Acres Drive: Clerk/Administrator Swann reported that he had spoken with Caledonia Township Supervisor Robert Ellenz, who had told him that Caledonia Township was agreeable to splitting 50/50 the cost of repairing Green Acres Drive in the City. Swann further reported that according to Supervisor Ellenz, Caledonia Township wanted to use either Griffin Construction Co., Inc. or Zenke, Inc. to do the work because they would complete the project the fastest. Public Works/Zoning Director Klug reported that the quotes from Griffin Construction and Zenke were the lowest once the quantities of rock and sub cut were equalized among the four quotes. Member Klug moved to accept the repair quote from Griffin Construction Co., Inc. and to approve the proposed intergovernmental agreement between the City of Caledonia and Caledonia Township to cooperate on improvement of Green Acres Drive. Member Rykhuis seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Public hearing re plans and bid specs for new wastewater treatment facility: At 6:06 p.m. Member Fitzpatrick moved to adjourn the regular City Council meeting to hold a public hearing on the plans and bid specs for the new wastewater treatment facility. Member Rykhuis seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed. The public hearing convened at 6:06 p.m.

Eric Lynne, P.E., of Donohue & Associates was present and provided Council with an overview of the history of the project and summarized the current plans and specs. Lynne asked Council if they wanted to upgrade the aesthetics of the cold storage building by adding decorative stone and/or siding to the base steel siding. The consensus of the Council was to keep the basic building design in order to save money. Lynne reported that the current estimated construction cost was \$15,500,000, which included a 10% contingency of \$1,390,565. The estimated construction cost did not include the engineering fees. Lynne reported that the new wastewater treatment facility was expected to be completed and operational by May 2023.

Dennis Torgerson, a resident of N. Sunnyside Dr., was present, but he did not have concerns about the appearance of the cold storage building or discuss concerns about the project as a whole.

At 6:45 p.m. Member Ninneman moved to close the public hearing and reconvene the regular City Council meeting. Member Rykhus seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed. The regular City Council meeting reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

b. Consideration of proposed project manual and bid specs for new wastewater treatment facility: Member Rykhus moved to approve the proposed project manual and bid specs as presented by Eric Lynne, P.E., of Donohue & Associates. Member Ninneman seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

c. Consideration of proposed Resolution 2021-07: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Caledonia to Apply to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for a Loan of \$950,070 for the Construction of Well House No. 8: Council reviewed Proposed Resolution 2021-07. Member Ninneman requested that section 16(d) on page 13 of the PFA application be updated to reflect the new water reconnection fee of \$100. Clerk/Administrator Swann reported that the change would be made. Mayor Schroeder moved to approve proposed Resolution 2021-07, a resolution authorizing the City of Caledonia to apply to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for a loan of \$950,070 for the construction of Well House No. 8. Member Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

d. Discussion re removal of triangular sign posts/structure in North Park: Council discussed removing the triangular sign posts/structure in North Park because the maps that were supposed to be attached to the posts were not going to be completed and the structure had been installed at least 6-7 years before as part of a Caledonia Area Convention and Tourism Bureau project funded by an Arlin Falck Foundation Grant. The consensus of the Council was that the City should contact the Caledonia Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee and ask them if they had a use for the sign posts. The issue would then be discussed further at a future Council meeting.

e. Discussion re future of Sprague Woods: Council discussed whether the City should sell Sprague Woods for commercial development. The consensus of the Council was that the City should have a public hearing re the future of Sprague Woods during the Council meeting on May 10, 2021.

f. Prepaid claims: Council reviewed the prepaid claims for the period March 10, 2021 – April 9, 2021, which totaled \$318,879.57. Member Klug moved to approve the prepaid claims as presented. Member Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

g. Claims payable: Council reviewed the claims payable for April 2021, which totaled \$193,047.10. Member Rykhus moved to approve the claims payable as presented. Member Ninneman seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion passed.

h. Overtime Report: Members reviewed the overtime reports for the pay periods March 8, 2021 – March 21, 2021 and March 22, 2021 – April 4, 2021. No further action was taken by the Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. The Houston County fluorescent light bulb collection was scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at each of Houston County’s five supervised drop-off locations.

b. The next regular Council meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. The Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting was scheduled for April 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting would take place at the beginning of the regularly scheduled City Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Council, a motion to adjourn was made by Member Fitzpatrick, seconded by Member Rykhus. All members present voted in favor of the motion, and the motion was declared carried to adjourn at 7:52 p.m.

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DeWayne “Tank” Schroeder  
Mayor

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Adam G. Swann  
Clerk/Administrator