

**WATERVILLE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
September 5, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

There was a regular meeting that the Waterville City Council held in the Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. on September 5, 2023.

Call to Order / Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Mayor Bill Conlin, Council members: Dave Wollin, Tim Smith, and Roy McIntier joined the meeting at 6:21 pm

Also Present: Administrator Teresa Hill and City Attorney Jason Moran

Absent: Council Jennifer Grobe, Mayor Conlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Announced present members of Council and Staff and then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda/Additional Items to Agenda

Motion by Smith, Seconded by Wollin we accept the agenda with the addition of 8 F voters operations technology resources Motion Carried 3-0.

Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes- August 3, 2023 and August 22, 2023 B. Approval of Disbursements 1. Electronic Fund Transfers (35471E- 35500E) \$42,146.39 2. Payroll Check Numbers (2023289-2023332) \$46,714.87 3. Computer Generated Checks and Overtime (37937-38005) \$258,903.10 C. Impress Cash Fund-\$14.57 D. 1 Day Liquor License and Exempt Grambling Request for Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Motion by Wollin, Seconded by Smith to set the Budget Work Session for Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 6:30 pm Motion Carried 3-0.

Public Hearings

Proposed Ordinance 99 Prohibiting the Use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products in Public Places Motion by Wollin, Seconded by Smith to close the regular meeting and open public hearing Motion Carried 3-0. Attorney Morran conveyed to Council and Staff the Proposed Ordinance 99 Prohibiting the Use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products in Public Places. Within this Ordinance is a list of publicly restricted places for consumption. It was requested to carve out within the ordinance to allow low-level THC products to be sold at establishments that already have been with the clarity of it only be used inside the establishment purchased or the consumer's home. The conversation took place on the time frame that the State will be issuing licenses. Council and Staff were strong-willed on the use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products can only be used within your home or the threshold of the home, and if it becomes a disturbance of surrounding neighbors, the law would be up to the discretion of the officer on duty. This is not a substance that can be used or tolerated at City festivals or functions for it would interfere with the Freedom to Breathe Act. **Motion by Smith, Seconded by Wollin to accept 2nd reading of proposed Ordinance 99 and close the public hearing Motion Carried 3-0.** **Motion by Smith, Seconded by Wollin to adopt as written Motion Carried 3-0.** **Motion by Wollin, Seconded by Smith to add all licensed daycares Motion Carried 3-0.**

Written Petitions and Requests

Resolution 2023R-027 Approving Variance Request of Geri Thienes

Motion by Smith Seconded by Wollin to adopt Resolution 2023R-027 Motion Carried 3-0.

Sixth Street Handicapped Parking

A short conversation was had on providing additional handicapped parking by the school and what was currently there. **Motion by Wollin Seconded by Smith to allow the request for two more handicapped parking west of school Motion Carried 3-0.**

Unfinished Business

Citizen Time

Mayor Conlin opened the floor to any Citizens wishing to speak. **Brenda Novack** A licensed Child Care Provider proposed to the Council that Ordinance 99 the Use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products in Public Places should have a specific cut out for her line of profession to keep all children safe within a licensed facility of care, along with any likened family daycare centers on the list of restricted areas of consumption of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) Products. Council accepted Mrs. Novack's request and stated that it would be added to the Ordinance. **Commissioner Preisler:** Brought forth to the Council the County has passed a cannabis ordinance including the unincorporated areas, which is similar to the Ordinance that was passed tonight. The County is also in heavy budget planning to be set by September 26th. The Bonding Committee for flood control

projects will be on a tour of stops on October 12th with our county and Waterville being one of the main stops. This will allow them to see where the need of holding ponds would be necessary. Also commenting on the current County Road construction projects with most of them being completed and the timeline to open Hwy 13 closer to mid-October. With this, there was discussion between the Commissioner, Council, and Staff on the condition of the State Roads and the Bridge that still needs to be addressed to improve the flow of the water. The DOT was not looking at the Bridge Project until 2030. With this discussion, there was mention of the gasoline tax, and with the gross amount of sales on electric vehicles, it could affect the monies for road construction future projects for the DOT. There was discussion between the Commissioner, Council, and Staff on the life of the LETG radio system and the possibility of a hypothetical replacement due to compatibility with platforms. Commissioner commented that the \$600,000.00 in Public Safety Funds was going to be banked for this transition of the new system so it would not come as a shock to the taxpayers. In good faith, the County will not lock into anything without talking to all chiefs and existing Police Departments to ensure that all involved will be able to have a smooth transition. Commissioner made the comment he felt the County would be in greater need of those funds, versus smaller cities. Council member: Roy McIntier joined the meeting at 6:21 pm

New Business

Coalition of Greater MN Cities

Darrin Lee from the Coalition of Greater MN Cities presented to the Council a Recap of what has happened at the Legislative sessions along with the change in the formula that presented an additional \$150 Million in increases. Making notes on a proposal for the 2024 Local Government Aid for Waterville being at \$582,724.00. Stating that the Bonding Bill session ended with PFA at \$208.2 Million, BDPI at \$10 Million, Greater MN Housing Infrastructure at \$3 Million, and Local Roads and Bridges at \$152 Million. In continued conversation on the Bipartisan support that will push for \$240 Million for the lead pipeline inventory and replacement. Mr. Lee mentioned how the DFL was geared more metro and was a challenge for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities. Mr. Lee finished his presentation with the outlook of upcoming events.

Sale of Aerators

There was a short discussion on the proposed amount of purchase for the Aerators received from Jamie Fessel. **Motion by Smith, Seconded by McIntyre to approve the sale of aerators to Jamie Fessel for \$100.00 Motion Carried 4-0.**

Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Date

Motion by Smith Seconded by McIntyre to set the truth in taxation on November 28 at 6:00 p.m. Motion Carried 4-0.

Work Session Date for Rate Study

There was additional discussion between the Council and Staff wanting to have the presenter present in person at this Work Session. Motion by Smith, Seconded by McIntyre to set the Work Session Date for Rate Study for October 17th at 6:00 pm Motion Carried 4-0.

Budget Work Session September 12, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Smith Seconded by McIntyre to set the budget work session for September 12 2023 At 6:30 Motion Carried 4-0.

Voting Operations

Administrator Hill brought to Council the Voting Operations, Technology, & Election Resources (Voter) Account Agreement. There was a short discussion on the agreement. **Motion by Wollin Seconded by Smith to move forward with the contract and have \$120.33 go to the County. Motion Carried 4-0.**

Reports

Attorney Report

Attorney Morran reiterated to Council on Ordinance 99, a mention about a possible nuisance property, the benefit side to the personal policy. With the final mention, the Police Department has been very busy.

Engineer's Report

Administrator Hill stated for the City Engineer the construction meeting on the Herbert Street Storm sewer will be held on the 13th.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Hill requested from the Council if a written report would be okay for submission as the rest of the Department Heads. The council did give their blessing to submit a report.

Council Discussion

The council acknowledged the work done by City Attorney Moran. Mayor Conlin mentioned that the new street lights are extremely bright with LED bulbs which attracts bugs in future light replacement an Amber light would be of better use with fewer bugs.

Adjourn

Motion by Wollin, Seconded by Smith to adjourn. Motion Carried 3-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

William Conlin, Mayor

Teresa Hill, Administrator-Clerk