

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting – October 11, 2022

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in-person in said city on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. Council members present: Mayor Mike Baustian, Kim Lape, Brian Sievert and Jeff Leslie (7:06 a.m.); Employees present: Clerk-Treasurer Cortney Kounkel, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Maggie Erickson, Public Works Superintendent Brian Thode; Pipestone Star's John Draper; Community Members: Tim Houg and Deb Plahn; Absent: Council member Dee Arp;

Mayor Baustian then called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

Community Concerns:

Nathan Moshier had requested to be placed on the agenda regarding late charges on his sewer, water, garbage bill. Moshier was not in attendance;

Jeff Carstensen had requested to be placed on the agenda regarding his water usage. Carstensen contacted Kounkel and requested to be taken off the agenda;

Motion by Lape, second by Sievert to approve the minutes from the September 13, 2022 Council Meeting, all ayes, carried;

Review and approve the September claims to date: Pipestone Publishing, Notice of Filing/Sealed Bid Notice/Fall Bridal Edition, \$651.00; Nordic Solar HoldCo, LLC, Geronimo Energy Contract, \$3,741.62 (2 months); League of MN Cities, 2022-2023 Membership Dues, \$837.00; Visa, Fence at QCC, Shop Supplies, \$1,979.22; Peak Pros, Inc., Townhome Roof Replacement, \$58,897.29; Motion by Sievert, seconded by Lape to approve the September claims to date, all ayes, carried;

Receipts noted in September: Ambulance MM Account, Transfer to General Fund, \$15,000.00; S. Williamson, Ambulance Donation, \$1,200.00; League of MN Cities, Townhome Roof Replacement Reimb, \$58,897.29;

DELINQUENT SEWER/WATER/GARBAGE:

A brief discussion regarding the delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage accounts occurred. The Cold Weather Rule goes into effect October 15, 2022 to April 16, 2023;

Wellness Center/QCC: Angel Garcia was in attendance to approach the Council as he would like to replace some of the equipment at the Wellness Center. Garcia stated that a couple of machines that were donated are on their last leg and are taking up too much room. Garcia proposes to sell the unused/worn equipment little by little. Garcia would like to see a rowing machine for shoulders, back, triceps and biceps. This rowing machine also helps strengthen cardio and is good for the upper and lower back. The cost of the new machine is approximately \$1,000.00. Garcia proposed another piece of equipment which was valued around \$350.00. Motion by Lape, seconded by Sievert to purchase the Echelon (rowing machine) and put the other unused/worn equipment for sale, all ayes, carried;

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 2022 Small Cities Development Program Quarterly Project Report was presented for the Council to review. As of this date, no homes have been completed;

The League of MN Cities Worker's Compensation Loss Control Survey was presented for the Council to review;

Motion by Leslie, seconded by Lape to approve Resolution 22-284, the CenterPoint Energy Franchise Contract on a 5 year term, all ayes, carried;

OLD BUSINESS:

The ballfield road was again addressed. The idea of placing a fence to bar people from using the road as well as asphaltting the gravel road was discussed. Councilmember Lape displayed a drawing on where the fence would be located. This would prevent any from accessing the yard waste site from town. They would have to use the gravel road to the east of the ballfields. Thode documented 20-25 cars using the road from Friday evening to Monday morning. Most of the vehicles went to the yard waste site and back out so they were counted twice. It was then mentioned that only 20% of the residents within the vicinity of the ballfields have complained about dust while almost 100% of West Jasper has complained in the past regarding dust control. The ballfield gravel road is not an incorporated street. There are numerous alleys that could benefit from being asphalted or even graveled. It was also mentioned that the City of Jasper received a discounted price on the dust control chemicals used and has worked better once we received a little rain. Dust control will be discussed next spring;

After last month's request from Sam and Chris Harris to house ducks on their property zoned as R-1 (Residential); the City of Jasper Animal Ordinance was visited. If the Jasper City Council chooses to allow ducks in residential areas, it would open up to the possibility of having other livestock within city limits. Motion by Lape, seconded by Sievert to continue the City of Jasper Animal Ordinance the same and not allowed livestock classified animals in areas zoned as Residential, all ayes, carried. Kounkel will send a notice to Harris's to remove the ducks from the property within 10 days;

The Replacement of the Jasper Letters at the Boy Scout Display was discussed. Deb Plahn, Lions Club Secretary stated that the Jasper Lions Club would be willing to donate to this cause;

The Luverne Area Community Foundation – Max Your Community was again discussed. Ideas received at the City Office were as follows:

- Daktronics Sign;
- Ballfield Park Equipment;
- Ballfield Benches;
- Lighting for Basketball/Volleyball Court at City Park;
- Splash Pad on East Side of Park;

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Land use permits issued in September are as follows: Josh Swank, 419 4th Street East, Install Chain link Fence; Jeff Enger, 320 2nd Street East, Build Carport; City of Jasper

The aforementioned minutes have been drafted for approval.

(QCC), 415 2nd Street East, Install chain link Fence; Jose Miguel DeLoera, 112 8th Street East, Install Wood Fence;

Thode informed the Council that the stop signs were ordered for placement on 2nd Street near Robert Avenue as requested at the last Council meeting;

ITEMS ANYONE WANTS TO ADD TO THE AGENDA:

Thode completed most of the spraying for weeds recently;

City Wide Clean-Up was scheduled for Saturday September. This clean-up was much slower than the one in the spring. It was decided to only schedule a Spring Clean-Up next year;

The Quartziter Club has requested permission to block off Poorbaugh Avenue from 2nd Street to the Alley on October 22, 2022 for their Trunk-or-Treat event. Permission granted;

The garage located on the tax forfeited property in Rock County will be removed by November 1, 2022. The house will be demolished once the garage is removed. The property will be used by the City for storage. A fence will be placed around the area;

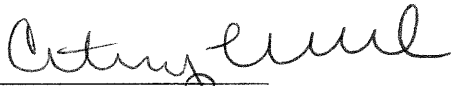
Trinidad Garcia requested that information regarding the Luverne Area Community Foundation should be placed on social media and information included in the SWG bills. The information should include what the program is for and why the program is important to our community. This may generate more ideas from the community on what the grant money can be used for;

Mayor Baustian requested that Kounkel look into increase the Verizon Tower Rental Fee as discussed a couple months ago. Kounkel will make a call to American Tower to discuss an increase;

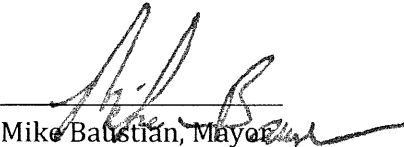
Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

Lape motioned to adjourn, Leslie seconded. All ayes, regular meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.;



Cortney Kounkel, Clerk-Treasurer



Mike Baustian, Mayor