

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 9, 2024

Members Present: Rick Like, Bonnie Petersen, Jill Pieske, John Brouwer

Members Absent: Henry Veldhuisen

Others Present: Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer, Myron Bennett, Liquor Store Manager

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Like at 6:00pm.

Welcome Guests: No guests were present with Open Forum requests. Alan and Dawn Shumaker, Rhonda Wynia, Sharon Johnson and Muriel Pearson were present.

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Mayor Like requested to add additional discussion on Council Member Salaries under New Business. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske to approve the meeting agenda, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of November Minutes: The council was asked to review the November meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Pieske to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from November 12, 2024, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: The ATM monthly fee amount was discussed, as it was questioned what the actual fee is that customers using ATM are charged per transaction. Myron will provide Riley with his contact for the ATM, so this can be researched further. Myron questioned if an estimate had been received by Riley for the Liquor Store ice machine, as it is currently down, and he is awaiting estimate pricing for replacement vs. repair. Following discussion and the immediate need to remedy situation, MSP by Mayor Like and Council Member Pieske authorizing Myron to proceed with needed replacement, once information is received. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen to approve the Liquor Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of General Fund: Riley recapped the Property Taxes income line item and Non-Cap Assets and Repairs expense line items. Mayor Like has requested an estimate from Slayton Electric Inc. to install security lights beside the Community Center and has a follow up call with Tracy tomorrow to discuss the project further. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Pieske to approve the General Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water/Sewer Fund: The aged balance report was presented and reviewed, with one previous delinquent utility shutoff to be followed up on by Mayor Like for potential illegal reconnection, and two accounts for turnover to the Murray County Auditor/Treasurer's office for 2025 special assessment, following ordinance procedure. This turnover will be completed by Riley before the end of December.

With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to approve the Water/Sewer Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- **Water & Sewer Committee:** Mayor Like reported that the spray foam insulation project has been completed in the Pump House, and he confirmed with the city's insurance carrier that the insulation materials did not need to be fire retardant. He suggested that the vent pipes and furnaces in the Pump House be serviced by Chander Coop also for maximum efficiency, now that the insulation project is complete. With the council in agreement, Mayor Like will schedule this service directly with Chandler Coop.
- **Streets Committee:** Council Member Veldhuisen reported that the leased tractor from C&B Operations, LLC has been delivered, and it, along with Barry Hanson, Snow Removal Maintenance Worker, are ready when the snow arrives. Riley has added this leased equipment to the city insurance policy, with lease down payment and proof of insurance provided to C&B Operations, LLC. Guest Sharon Johnson also questioned the current street lighting down by the 'old park', across from Summit Lake coming into Hadley, as it is currently rather dark down there. Mayor Like stated he will look into options for the lighting in this area.
- **Personnel Committee:** There was no new information reported during the meeting.
- **Park & Recreation Committee:** There was no new information reported during the meeting.

Old Business:

- **Pump House Insulation:** As previously noted above, Mayor Like reported that the spray foam insulation project has been completed in the Pump House, and he confirmed with the city's insurance carrier that the insulation materials did not need to be fire retardant. He suggested that the vent pipes and furnaces in the Pump House be serviced by Chander Coop also for maximum efficiency, now that the insulation project is complete. With the council in agreement, Mayor Like will schedule this service directly with Chandler Coop.
- **Community Raccoon Trapping:** Mayor Like reported that he had recently checked in with Corey Johnson, who is actively trapping raccoons in Hadley currently. As of the meeting, it was confirmed that 12 raccoons, 5 opossum and 1 skunk have been trapped so far. All in attendance were both surprised and impressed by these stats and appreciation was expressed to Corey for his efforts in reducing the raccoon population in city limits.

New Business:

- **2025 Revenue Tax Levy:** Consistent with the 2025 Operating Budget discussion during the last meeting, the 2025 Revenue Tax Levy now requires final approval for the Murray County Auditor/Treasurer's office. After additional discussion, it was determined that the proposed Property Tax levy increase from \$50,000.00 to \$54,000.00 should remain unchanged. MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Brouwer to approve setting the final 2025 Revenue Tax Levy at \$54,000.00. Motion carried unanimously. Riley will complete the necessary

paperwork for submission to the Murray County Auditor/Treasurer's Office, prior to the 12/31/2024 deadline.

- 2024 Year-End Inventory: A year-end liquor and food inventory is scheduled to be taken on 1/1/2025 at 9:00am and those council members that can attend to help are encouraged to do so. The inventory usually only lasts 1-2 hours. Riley will work with the city's auditor to coordinate her attendance and is providing Myron with last year's inventory sheets ahead of time, for revisions and pricing.
- Council Member Salaries: Mayor Like wished to propose a new allocation method for Council Member Salaries when the new rates go into effect on 1/1/2025. He doesn't feel it is currently ideal that members do not receive any compensation when they are unable to attend the monthly council meeting, when they are also still doing work on behalf of the city throughout any given month. He proposed for consideration that 60% of the monthly salary be paid for monthly tasks and 40% of the monthly salary be paid for meeting attendance. The council members agreed with this proposal. Following discussion, MSP by Mayor Like and Council Member Brouwer authorizing Riley to allocate 60% of Council Member monthly salaries to monthly tasks and 40% of Council Member monthly salaries to meeting attendance, effective 1/1/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen for payment of unpaid bills, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Brouwer for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 6:46pm.



Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer