

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 14, 2025

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

Members Absent: Henry Veldhuisen

Others Present: Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer, Missy Biren, Farmers Agency of Avoca, Inc. Insurance Agent

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Like at 6:30pm.

Welcome Guests: Rhonda Wynia was present with an Open Forum request. Dawn Shumaker and Allan Shumaker were also present.

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Council Member Brouwer requested to add Community Center Brick Repairs, under New Business. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen to approve the meeting agenda, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of March Minutes: The council was asked to review the March meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from March 10, 2025, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: Riley noted receipt of invoice from Slayton Building Materials, Inc. for a door closure that Myron recently purchased, with approval for payment. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Brouwer to approve the Liquor Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of General Fund: Riley noted that the first 2025 Local Government Aid payment was received during March and that the LMC 4M Fund continues to perform well with several hundred dollars of dividends paid each month. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen to approve the General Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water/Sewer Fund: Guest Wynia questioned utility rates for bare lots and it was confirmed that all property owners pay debt service charges each month, regardless of vacancy or occupancy, if a hookup is present on the property. The aged balance report was presented and reviewed, with no immediate shutoffs noted. 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: There was no new information reported during the meeting.

- Streets Committee: Council Member Petersen mentioned feedback from Snow Removal Maintenance Worker Barry Hanson, that when snow was present the loader bucket was not working for snow removal, and that Barry would like the council to consider the purchase of a blade for the next snow season. Council Member Petersen will advise Barry to meet with Council Member Veldhuisen to discuss concerns and start the estimate process.
- Personnel Committee: Riley noted that the annual liquor store employee Serving Alcohol training recertifications are in progress, targeted to be completed by the end of May, 2025.
- Park & Recreation Committee: Mayor Like noted that the park was recently cleaned by volunteers with the Hadley Lions Club, and the council wished to extend their thanks for this effort. Riley will also be sending a thank you to the club in appreciation for this work in our community.
- Hadley Community Center Improvement Committee: Guest Rhonda Wynia was present to update the city council on discussions that had taken place amongst the committee following her presentation at the last council meeting, including a couple of projects that the committee is wanting to move forward with, effecting overall Community Center appearance. This is some water damage to the hallway ceiling and accompanying roof repair needed. Council Member Petersen stated that she had Barry Hanson come and look at the exterior roof, to see if any leaking could be pinpointed. It was discovered that the bolts are lifting causing gaping holes, and several were moved to different areas with existing holes caulked. It was requested that Council Member Petersen see if Barry is interested in checking the entire roof with this process. The front hall entrance door and side entrance doors are slated for replacement, depending on funds remaining after ceiling repairs are completed. Rhonda also noted that Hadley Lions volunteers got together one afternoon to clean and organize the kitchen, and Kathy recently cleaned the walls. The Hadley Lions Club stores several items in basement, including 3.5 years of used pull tab inventory and other related items that are required to be kept. Rhonda was requesting approval to purchase additional shelving for Hadley Lions Club storage. Following discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Pieske to allow the Hadley Lions Club to purchase and install additional shelving in basement. Motion carried unanimously. An issue with power for roasters, etc. during large events is also on the improvement list, with potential re-wiring or additional power installation under consideration by the improvement committee. A security light outside the back service entrance door and fixing the light sensor in the men's room are first, to be handled by Slayton Electric, Inc. MSP by Mayor Like and Council Member Pieske to proceed with the installation of a light at back entrance and repair light sensor in men's restroom, splitting the cost with the Hadley Community Center Improvement Committee, up to \$800. Motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- Street Lighting Billing & Service: Mayor Like reported that he spoke with Xcel Energy following the last meeting and confirmed that they only need to add light fixtures, as the areas for installation consideration already have poles installed with transformers on them. He confirmed that there would be no additional cost to installation other than monthly charges. The

installation choices previously discussed were recapped, so Mayor Like could get back in touch with Xcel Energy to schedule this work.

- **Water Policy:** After speaking with residents, hearing concerns, advising with the city attorney, and considering all options, Mayor Like chose to withdraw his suggestion from last month and would like the City of Hadley to continue pursuing the ordinance guidelines and accompanying violations to their fullest extent.
- **2023/2024/2025 Murray County Ambulance Contract:** Mayor Like is still working on contacting our Murray County Commissioner, Mark Carlson, to attend a future meeting for additional discussion on this contract, prior to any payments being issued, so this item of business was again tabled with no additional discussion taking place during the meeting.
- **2025 Community Spring Cleanup Week:** Riley presented a draft flyer and nuisance ordinance reminder ahead of this years Community Spring Cleanup Week, which is scheduled for May 9th - 19th, 2025, for city residents to dispose of unwanted items. He was looking for council member input and approval to include these handouts with the May utility statements, as a way to notify all residents of this event. Mayor Like requested the poster be modified to include a notice about the dumpster being under surveillance for misuse. MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen authorizing Riley to include information on the 2025 Community Spring Cleanup Week with the May utility statements, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

- **2025 Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting:** Chad Benda and Selina Lopez-Cardenas from the Murray County Assessor's Office were present prior to the regularly scheduled council meeting for the annual Board of Appeal & Equalization Meeting. They provided materials and answered questions related to property transactions. Currently, Mayor Like and Council Member Pieske have completed the online equalization training, which permits the meeting to be held in Hadley. With no property owners present to dispute 2025 values and no additional questions, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske to approve all 2025 assessor and auditor values as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Being there was no further business to discuss, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pieske for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. This meeting was concluded just before 6:30pm.
- **Presentation & Review of 2025 Insurance Policies:** Missy Biren with Farmers Agency of Avoca, Inc. was present review the City of Hadley's 2025 Insurance Policies. She began by discussing the annual liability waiver, to not waive the statutory limits, which requires council approval. After discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen to approve the 2025 liability waiver, not waiving the tort limit, which reduces the amount the City of Hadley can be sued for. Motion carried unanimously. Missy also reviewed the coverages and limits received from the LMC Insurance Trust.
- **Donation/Sponsorship Request:** Riley presented a mail donation/sponsorship request from the Murray County Fair, for council review. In prior years, the City of Hadley has done a \$100.00 sponsorship. The council agreed to continue this sponsorship for 2025. MSP by Council Member

Petersen and Council Member Brouwer authorizing Riley to issue a check payable to Murray County Fair for a \$100.00 Patron Sponsorship for the 2025 event. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2025 City Mowing: Riley requested discussion and re-approval on mowing services for the 2025 season. The past several years Darren Veldhuisen out of Slayton has been hired and the council has been pleased with his work and pricing. MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Petersen to continue working with Darren Veldhuisen for maintenance and mowing of the road ditches and city park for the 2025 mowing season. Motion carried unanimously.
- Fund Balance Spreadsheet – Quarter 1 Review: The council was presented with the quarterly fund balance spreadsheet for review. No questions or concerns were noted following this review.
- Community Center Brick Repairs: Council Member Brouwer requested that all present council members take a look at the existing brick outside the Community Center, as there are spots that are deteriorating and could be in need of repairs. Following council inspection, it was decided that the input from a professional bricklayer was needed to make the best decision on how to proceed with such repairs. Local bricklayer Gene Gustaf is going to be contacted to see if he would be willing to take a look, provide an estimate and make the necessary recommendation, before any repair work is authorized or completed.

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

MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Pies for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 8:13pm.



Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer