

## Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

### Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 12, 2025

Members Present: Rick Like, Bonnie Petersen, Henry Veldhuisen, John Brouwer

Members Absent: Jill Pieske

Others Present: Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer, Myron Bennett, Liquor Store Manager, Rebecca Towne, Kinner & Company Ltd

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

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

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Council Member Veldhuisen requested to talk about City Sheds, the Lawn Tractor, and Brush Site Concerns, all 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 April Minutes: The council was asked to review the April meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Petersen to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from April 14, 2025, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: The Repairs expense line item was questioned, to which Riley confirmed that two invoices from Spartz Plumbing & Heating, Inc. for repairs to the faucet and restroom urinal make up the total repairs questioned. Myron noted an upcoming busy month with several graduation parties and a wedding reception booked in May. 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: With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the General Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Water/Sewer Fund: The aged balance report was presented and reviewed, with no immediate shutoffs noted. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Brouwer to approve the Water/Sewer Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Committee Reports:

- Water & Sewer Committee: Discussion took place regarding the ongoing issue of several unlawful utility reconnections that have now taken place over the past couple of months at 331 1<sup>st</sup> Street E, Hadley. There is an ongoing issue of the water at this property being turned on with

the curb stop cap being tampered with, following city personnel disconnection due to a delinquent balance. Mayor Like and Riley have both spoken with the Murray County Sheriff's Office concerning this and a case has been started, however the city was advised to secure the shut off cap, if possible, to prevent further unlawful activity/theft of service from occurring. Following extensive discussion on options and alternatives, it was decided the best course of immediate action was to proceed with having Hadley Steel, Inc. weld the curb stop cap on to prevent it from being accessed at this time, with a MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen authorizing this work. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor Like will contact Hadley Steel, Inc. to initiate the service call. He also mentioned that Nobles Cooperative had recently contacted him concerning a used generator that they are intending to sell, to see if the City of Hadley was interested in purchasing at a reduced cost of \$3,000.00 with an additional estimate of \$3,500.00 for wiring by Slayton Electric, Inc. Following discussion, it was decided not to proceed at this time, as a new one is sought if the money is going to be spent on this equipment.

- Streets Committee: Council Member Petersen reported that she had been approached by Snow Removal Maintenance Worker Barry Hanson with a suggestion ahead of the upcoming snow removal season. He said the pusher and bucket were not ideal for moving snow this past year and requested that the city look into purchasing a snowplow blade to be used on the tractor. He would like to be involved in the conversations on it, once an estimate is received. Council Member Veldhuisen offered to check into the options for this with C&B Operations, LLC.
- 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:

- Street Lighting Billing & Service: There was no new information reported on this item of old business during the meeting, as installation is currently pending by Xcel Energy at this time.
- 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.
- Community Center Roof Repairs: Council Member Petersen has talked with Barry Hanson, who is willing to do the work on behalf of the City of Hadley, however he could not give a cost estimate as it will depend on how many areas are in need of repairs once he begins. The council felt these were repairs the needed to be dealt with, to prevent further damage to the ceilings inside the Community Center.
- Community Center Brick Repairs: Council Member Petersen reported that she spoke with Gene Gustaf, who was previously recommended for the repairs. He can crack fill the areas of concern, however noted that it will be difficult to match bricks perfectly to due age of existing brick. It was noted that there appeared to be some extra matching bricks in the basement of the Community Center, which may be able to be used for some of the repairs. Council Member Petersen will get back in touch with Gene to let him know of the discussion had on repairs.

## New Business:

- **Presentation & Review of 2024 Small Cities Audit:** Rebecca Towne from Kinner & Company Ltd was present to present a draft of the 2024 Small Cities Audit for the City of Hadley. She distributed copies of her report for each council member and reviewed it with the council in detail, answering questions as needed. There were minimal changes noted from the prior year. Rebecca noted that the City of Hadley again had an unmodified opinion for the year, which is the highest level of opinion that an entity can receive. She also commented that Riley keeps very clean and thorough books throughout the year, and this is aiding with the efficiency of the audit process. It was noted to keep an eye on the general fund cash position during the year. Following review and discussion, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen to accept the 2024 Small Cities Audit, as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Riley will sign the required paperwork to approve the audit and return this information to Rebecca via email following the meeting.
- **Gravel Road Dust Control:** Guests Steve & Rhonda Wynia were present to discuss gravel dust control for Heritage Trail, as it has become a concern with increased traffic on their road now. In speaking with several people in the area, SW Dust Treatment Inc. of out Springfield, MN was recommended for application of calcium chloride dust control as done in several neighboring cities, counties and townships, so Rhonda contacted them for an estimate on their road, based on measurements taken for the area. An estimate was presented for \$1,332.80 for Heritage Trail, and she was looking for council approval, in addition to an option for 50/50 cost sharing, with half of the cost to be covered by the City of Hadley. Following discussion, it was mentioned that if one road in town is going to be done, the other two should also be considered, with the same agreement set forth above. With agreement, MSP by Mayor Like and Council Member Veldhuisen to authorize SW Dust Treatment Inc. to proceed with applying dust control to Heritage Trail, Summit Lane, and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, with the City of Hadley to cover the total cost of the project upfront. Motion carried unanimously. The City of Hadley requests donations from residents on these roads to help offset the costs associated with the project.
- **City Sheds:** Council Member Veldhuisen mentioned that the garage door opener on the new shed is not working properly, with the cable continuously coming undone. He had Barry Hanson look at it to determine that the garage door doesn't appear to be installed correctly, with the door slightly bent. With this being a general maintenance issue, MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Brouwer to authorize Barry Hanson to proceed with the necessary repairs. Motion carried unanimously. He also requested approval to put gravel in front of the garage in the city park, as he is not going to be able to get grass to grow there with the amount of traffic in and out of this garage. Following discussion, MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Petersen to proceed with this maintenance also. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Lawn Tractor:** Council Member Veldhuisen looking for council member input on looking into a replacement lawn tractor for the current model, as it has been needing continuous costly repairs. He was considering a trade or sale, as it has over 1,000 hours and the labor and repair

costs are exceeding the value on it. With council support, he is going to look at options for a replacement tractor ahead of the next meeting.

- Brush Site Concerns: Council Member Veldhuisen noted that misuse of the brush site has again been observed recently, with boards, construction debris, nails, etc. found at the brush site. This is unlawful and could result in the city losing their brush site as a result of DNR enforcement, if not dealt with. He questioned if the camera is installed at the brush site, and requested it be re-installed as soon as possible. The camera was being used to monitor the dumpster for Community Spring Clean Up Week, so the purchase of a second camera was recommended.

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

MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Veldhuisen for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 8:05pm.

*Riley Engbarth*

Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer