

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 9, 2021

Members Present: Rick Like, Bonnie Peterson, Henry Veldhuisen, Jill Pieske

Members Absent: John Brouwer

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

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

Welcome Guests: No guests were present for open forum.

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Henry requested that an item for property spraying be added to the agenda under new business. With no further additions or corrections, the meeting agenda was approved, as amended.

Review of July Minutes: The council was asked to review the July meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no additions or corrections, the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from July 12, 2021 were approved, as presented.

Review of Liquor Fund: The Slayton Fire Department's Street Dance was discussed and summarized as a successful event. Roughly \$6,000 in gross beer/liquor sales were brought into the Liquor Store from the event. Myron mentioned an issue with the ice machine filter clogging up again. Repairs were just required in May, 2021 to unclog the filters, but they are already clogged again. The installation of a reverse osmosis system was recommended to stop future clogging. The council was in agreeance that this would be the best route to go to avoid future clogging. Myron is going to get a quote on the cost for purchase and installation of a reverse osmosis system for the Liquor Store. MSP by Henry and Jill to allow Myron to proceed with getting the RO system quoted and installed. Motion carried unanimously. Myron also contacted Jim Michaelson following the July meeting regarding floor tile replacement in the Community Center hall, with a estimate and inspection pending. With no further questions or discussion, the Liquor Fund was approved, as presented.

Review of General Fund: Riley noted that interest earned has been included in the July financials following the renewal of CD's. With no further questions or discussion, the General Fund was approved, as presented.

Review of Water/Sewer Fund: The aged balance report was presented and reviewed. The property owned by B. Skillings is critically past-due, with no payments made on account recently. It was determined that the past-due account will be required to be brought current prior to Friday (8/13) in order to avoid a water shut-off. Rick will contact the property owner, making special mention that a \$50.00 hook-up fee will be assessed if water has to be shut off and re-connected. Riley will contact Darrin to initiate shut off for Friday (8/13) if he doesn't hear otherwise. Riley reported that the sewer hookup fees being collected each month are aligning with the amount paid to Slayton, meaning we are

successfully collecting the fees for all active sewer hookups. With no further questions or discussion, the Water/Sewer Fund was approved, as presented.

Old Business:

- Generator: There was nothing new to report related to the generator purchase at this time. Proceeding with this project is dependent on the outcome of the street repairs/parking lot resurfacing project.
- Water Testing Results/Recommendations: There was nothing new to report related to the Water Testing Results/Recommendations as the council is awaiting presentation from Darrin Haroldson and David Boucher on the current water chemicals and possible recommendations for improvement. Riley has checked in with Darrin regarding their attendance at an upcoming meeting, which is pending at this time. He is going to follow-up with Darrin again about attendance or a conference call at the September council meeting, as the chemical levels need to be accessed soon for possible action.
- Street Repair/Parking Lot Resurfacing – Engineering, Possible Grant Option: Jill and Rick had a conference call with Edward Gilmore of the USDA to see what options we have. He could essentially help us complete a USDA grant application but stated there is not grant money available for the type of project we are currently looking at. Rick questioned splitting the project into parts to see if we could get a grant for some of the project, rather than none. Jill provided Rick with Edward’s contact information and he is going to reach out to question this and obtain further details. He will also question the timeline for completing a USDA loan application, should the decision be made to go this route. There is no grant money available for streets themselves. Henry mentioned checking with a local bank on a low interest loan for the streets repair project. Jill also thought maybe the air conditioning unit could be included in the loan as a Community Center improvement, since it hasn’t been paid yet. There will be more discussion on this during upcoming council meetings.
- Map of Water Valve Shut-Off’s: Rick did not have any updates on the water valve shut-off map. He stated that he has it mapped out in his head, just not on paper. Bonnie is going to contact a representative at Finley Engineering, to inquire about their process for preparing a shut-off map.
- 2020 Small Cities Audit – Follow Up Item: Riley presented information obtained from his follow-up email discussion with Rebecca Towne, City Auditor, on the follow up item from last month. This information was discussed in detail and the council has a couple options to proceed with moving forward. There will be further discussion with the involved party at the September council meeting.
- Property/Vehicle Ordinance Violations: At the council’s request during the July council meeting, Riley drafted and sent second notice letters via certified mail to property owners Chuck Sechser and Theresa Hughes, due to a lack of response following the initial notice. Following city ordinance and in an effort to keep consistency, the property owners were allowed 30 days to respond before the nuisances were to be turned over to local law enforcement, with the possibility of citations being issued. Rick had updates to report from Chuck Sechser, following a phone conversation he had with Chuck. It was reported that Chuck’s intentions are to demolish

the structure prior to selling his property at 430 2nd Street. Chuck stated he will be in Hadley the middle of August to start tearing the structure down. Riley presented the council with an email from Theresa regarding her intentions. It was reported that Theresa intends to make the necessary repairs to the structure prior to listing her property at 351 1st Street E. She intends to get started on the repairs soon with a planned completion before winter. The council expressed their appreciation to both property owners for their responses. There was discussion on sending a follow-up letter giving each property owner 60 days to make noticeable progress on their plans. If noticeable progress is not made by the conclusion of this time period, further action will then be taken. MSP by Jill and Bonnie authorizing Riley to send a follow-up letter requesting the property owners provide the council with a progress update within the next 60 days. Motion carried unanimously. Additionally, Dean Larson's nuisance ordinance violation was again discussed for the unlicensed vehicles located on his property. Dean was sent a follow-up letter following the July meeting regarding his vehicles, with compliance being requested within 30 days. Mr. Larson was given until 8/16/21 to take ownership of the vehicles in question. If there is no response received prior to this date, the council is authorizing Riley to contact the Murray County Sheriff's Office regarding next steps.

- Storage Garage Damage: There were few updates to report regarding the damaged storage garage. Henry contracted Rick Mandersheid and Dan Haken if either contractor would have time to prepare an estimate and make the repairs, however neither has time before winter. Gordy or Jim Oslund and Jerome Schreier will be contacted next. Henry is hoping to have a formal quote for further discussion at the next council meeting.
- Community Center Air Conditioner: Rick contacted Mikes' Plumbing & Heating following the July council meeting to order the air conditioning unit. He spoke to him prior to this meeting to confirm that all parts are in except for the platform that the unit itself is mounted on. This is on backorder; however, Mike is hoping to get the unit installed as soon as this part comes in.

New Business:

- 2021 Ambulance Agreement: Riley presented the 2021 Ambulance Agreement for review and approval. It was noted that there is an ever-growing need for ambulance services in our area, and the agreement payments go into a fund for rig replacement. MSP by Henry and Bonnie to approve the 2021 Ambulance Agreement for payment in the amount of \$580.00. Motion carried unanimously. Riley will cut the check immediately.
- 2022 Preliminary Levy: Riley presented the 2022 Preliminary Levy for discussion and approval. Typically, Hadley's levy has been raised by \$2,000.00 annually, however with the impending street repair project, it was decided to set the 2022 Preliminary Levy slightly higher. This amount can be lowered if desired when approving the 2022 Final Levy. MSP by Henry and Jill to set the 2022 Preliminary Levy at \$45,000.00, up from \$40,000.00 in 2021. Riley will complete and submit the required auditor's office form prior to the deadline. Rick also plans to put together some budget information related to the levy for discussion at an upcoming council meeting.
- Smoke Free Park: A flyer was presented promoting smoke free parks. Free signage and policy work is available through SWHHS, if desired. It was noted that there haven't been any

complaints regarding smoking in the past. People are very respectful when smoking and it typically only occurs during ballgames. Smoking is not allowed inside the facilities. It was noted that there is minimal smoking on the grounds, so this mandate will not be pursued further at this time. If the need arises, an option and contact information is available.

- **Playground Grant:** Riley presented information regarding a playground system match grant that is currently open for application submission. It was determined that although a new playground would be nice, these systems are out of budget and our current equipment is serving its purpose. Information on the grant will be retained for the future, as there are local organizations that may want to partner when it comes time to replace the existing playground equipment.
- **Property Spraying:** Henry asked if the council was again interested in having him spray all city property this fall. The council agreed that this would be a good idea to stay on top of the weed control. Henry will proceed with the spraying this fall.
- **Mirror on Pole:** Jill mentioned getting the mirror previously purchased installed on the light pole across the street from the intersection to the north of the Community Center. This intersection continues to be a safety concern when vehicles are parked along Main Street in front of the Liquor Store and Community Center. Since XCEL Energy owns the poles, prior approval is required before the mirror is mounted. Riley provided Jill with contact information for XCEL Energy, and she is going to contact them for approval to the new mount mirror on the pole.
- **Clerk Update:** Riley again provided an update on progress with the new website. He has included a business spotlight questionnaire for each Hadley business, with the July utility statements. Once responses are received back, he hopes to formulate a paragraph about each business along with updated graphics highlighting the businesses of Hadley. Each council member was also provided with a council member spotlight questionnaire, requesting similar information. Likewise, a paragraph will be formulated from the responses along with updated council member headshots following an upcoming council meeting, for use in the city official bio section. Riley continues to work with Pipestone Publishing on some additional layout and logo options for the website.

MSP by Bonnie and Henry for payment of unpaid bills, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

MSP by Henry and Bonnie for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 8:45pm.

Riley Engbarth

Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk