

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 8, 2023

Members Present: Rick Like, Henry Veldhuisen, Jill Pieske, John Brouwer

Members Absent: Bonnie Petersen

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: Dean Larson, Hadley Resident was present for open forum.

Agenda Approval: The council was asked to review the meeting agenda and suggest any additions or corrections. Council Member Pieske requested to add DEED Small Cities Development Program under New Business. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Pieske to approve the meeting agenda, as presented. 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 Pieske and Council Member Brouwer to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from April 10, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of April Special Minutes: The council was asked to review the April special meeting minutes and suggest any additions or corrections. With no further additions or corrections, MSP by Mayor Like and Council Member Pieske to approve the special session meeting minutes from April 21, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: The Delivery expense line item was questioned by Council Member Brouwer. Riley confirmed that all Henry's Foods order delivery fees are recorded under this line item. Liability Insurance was questioned by Myron and Riley confirmed that the fund is down slightly this month due to this annual one-time payment. Myron reported that there are a couple graduations scheduled for the month of May. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Brouwer to approve the Liquor Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of General Fund: The Refund income line item was questioned by Council Member Veldhuisen. Riley informed the council that this refund resulted from aged overpayments on the Unemployment Insurance account, which he had recently cleaned up. Council Member Pieske and Council Member Veldhuisen were wondering about the results of Riley's research into FDIC Insurance limits, following the last council meeting. Riley confirmed with both the city's auditor and depository that all funds are adequately covered under the FDIC Insurance limits, with an additional level of protection under the bailment agreement, which was put into place at the end of 2022. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen 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 no delinquent accounts currently pending utility disconnection. Two shut offs occurred since the last council meeting, and both accounts have since been brought current for utility reconnection. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the Water/Sewer Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- Water & Sewer Committee: Riley reported that Darrin Haroldson, Water Superintendent, is planning to flush the water hydrants on Friday, May 19th and Friday, May 26th. All property owners have been informed of the flushing via a utility bill insert and notice is posted on the website, Facebook and on the community board.
- Streets Committee: Weston Mahon, City of Slayton Public Works Director, reached out to Mayor Like and they discussed having the vendor they use for street repairs reach out directly, so a meeting can be scheduled with their representative, in Hadley, regarding summer seal coating options. Mayor Like also reported that he has talked to Randy Groves with the Murray County Highway Department about grass tear up along CSAH29 last winter and the installation of the new Radar Speed Signs.
- Park & Recreation Committee: The public restrooms at the city park have been re-plumbed by Spartz Plumbing & Heating with Hadley Park & Rec covering the costs associated with this work. The ball field dugout is currently being worked on ahead of the Hadley Buttermakers season opener scheduled for mid-June.

Old Business:

- XCEL Energy Franchise Agreement: Riley re-added this to the agenda for additional discussion, as he received a follow-up email from Eric Pauli, XCEL Energy Customer Relations Manager, regarding the status of this agreement renewal. After additional review and discussion on the proposed XCEL Energy Franchise Agreement, the council decided it was a good idea to approve the agreement renewal. MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Pieske to adopt Resolution 23-002 "Electric Service", approving the XCEL Energy Franchise Agreement, for the stated term of 20 years. Motion carried unanimously. Riley will submit the required paperwork to Eric, along with organizing the required newspaper publishing.
- Community Center Rain Gutters: Council Member Brouwer reported that the Home Improvement Center/ABC Seamless quote received initially was for the entire building, not just the north side. There was additional discussion on possible vendors that could provide additional quotes for this project. Council Member Brouwer is going to attempt to obtain a few other quotes prior to the next council meeting.

New Business:

- 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

Bronze Sponsorship. The council agreed to continue this sponsorship for 2023. MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Pieske authorizing Riley to issue a check payable to Murray County Fair for a \$100.00 Bronze Sponsorship for the 2023 event. Motion carried unanimously.

- DEED Small Cities Development Program: Council Member Pieske reported on the research she did on the DEED Small Cities Development Program. It was noted that the application process for this begins in November, 2023. There are several steps involved in the initial process, including a Community Interest Survey, Map Conditions, Preliminary Application and Grant Writing upon approval. DEED writes to the city regarding approval amount, if approved, which would be followed by a final application, contract, etc. The estimated amount of time from start to finish is estimated at 30 months, and estimated costs would be \$1,800.00 for the pre-application, \$2,800.00 for the final application and \$3,800.00 for fund distribution. Some of the eligible funding areas include Owned and Rented Housing, Commercial and Community Center (non-operated by a government entity). Following discussion, it was decided that the process and costs outweigh the benefits of the program, so the program will not be pursued at this time.
- Campground Utility Rate: Council Member Brouwer started a discussion on the commercial utility rate specific to the campground now that additional campsites are being added. Council Member Veldhuisen thought it would be a good idea to compare rates for commercial property with the City of Slayton, prior to setting a new rate for the campground. Council Member Veldhuisen is going to check with the City of Slayton to confirm what their commercial rate is, so further discussion has been tabled for the time being.
- Hadley Baseball Association 501(c)(3) Liquor License: Council Member Veldhuisen questioned if a Liquor License needed to be discussed and approved for the Hadley Baseball Association/Hadley Buttermakers for the 2023 season. Mayor Like confirmed that this was approved indefinitely when last discussed, and Riley read the following proceedings from the July, 2022 Council Meeting minutes: "Mayor Like informed the council that the State of Minnesota has legalized baseball associations to legally sell alcohol at their events. The Hadley Baseball Association, which is a registered 501(c)(3) is requesting a liquor permit from the City of Hadley to continue selling alcohol during baseball functions, indefinitely. After discussion on the benefits the Buttermakers bring to Hadley, MSP by Council Member Pieske and Council Member Veldhuisen to issue the Hadley Baseball Association a permit to sell alcohol during baseball functions, with no fee attached. Motion carried unanimously."
- Dean Larson – Open Forum: Mr. Larson was present with a couple of items to mention before the council. He again mentioned his clogged water filters and again asked if the city's insurance policy will cover his replacement filters. Mayor Like has previously confirmed that this will not be covered by the city's insurance policy, so a claim is not necessary. Replacement filters are considered part of homeownership maintenance and are not city responsibility. Mayor Like will reach back out to MN Rural Water to see if a meeting can be arranged with Mr. Larson, so his water concerns can be addressed. The baseball dugout replacement project and backhoe work was questioned, as Mr. Larson was wondering why everything pertaining to this project wasn't first approved before the council. Mayor Like explained that there is an understanding between

the City of Hadley and Hadley Park & Rec/Hadley Baseball Association, that repairs and maintenance for the park/ballfield is taken care of by Hadley Park & Rec/Hadley Baseball Association, with the associations covering the costs incurred for the project(s) that take place. Mr. Larson asked why he wasn't notified of the special session meeting that took place during the month, to which Mayor Like and Riley responded that notice was posted on the Community Center door for the required three days ahead of a special session meeting. Mr. Larson previously emailed a request to be notified of all special meetings, however this was overlooked for this meeting. Mr. Larson was also wondering if Hadley Farmers Elevator Co was going to receive a letter about the pile of rotten corn currently sitting on their property. The council has not received any other complaints about this and with the frequency and volume of corn that goes in and out of the elevator property, they did not see an issue warranting a letter for ordinance violation. Mayor Like noted that he was not in support of sending a letter in this regard. Council Member Veldhuisen offered to follow up on the situation with Hadley Farmers Elevator. Mr. Larson was informed that he is not to be taking the physical public copies from each meeting out of the meeting room, pursuant to Minnesota Statute section 13D.01, subd. 6. These copies are only available in the meeting room for inspection by the public.

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

MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Brouwer for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 7:25pm.



Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer