

Hadley City Council, Hadley Minnesota

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 11, 2023

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

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

Welcome Guests: Dean Larson was present for Open Forum. Misse Swanson, Steve Wynia, Rhonda Wynia, Butch Herding, 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. Mayor Like requested to add Building Permit Request as an item of 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 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 Veldhuisen and Council Member Brouwer to approve the regularly scheduled meeting minutes from November 13, 2023, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Liquor Fund: Council Member Brouwer questioned the differences in ATM revenue and expense amounts for the month, which was explained as a monthly crossover, likely due to timing of fund replenishment. Myron reported that a refund check was recently received from Johnson Brothers Liquor Company with an incorrect mailing address, which caused a delay in receipt and processing. Riley will follow up with the vendor to ensure the correct mailing address is on file for any future refund checks. Myron also mentioned that pool and pinnacle tournaments will be starting after the beginning of the new year, along with Bingo for eight Fridays (January 12 – March 1) in the Community Center Hall, which the bar will be supplying beverages for. 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 currently noted. With no further questions or discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Veldhuisen to approve the Water/Sewer Fund, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- Water & Sewer Committee: Mayor Like reported that a representative from Bollig Engineering provided him with an update on upcoming state funded projects. At this time, they are awaiting an update from the state prior to applying on behalf of the City of Hadley.
- Streets Committee: The long awaited Radar Speed Signs have been installed, and Mayor Like mentioned that the city has some customization options available when it comes to messages and colors that display on each of these signs. Those in attendance at the meeting were asked to provide feedback and suggestions for future messages or colors to display.
- Park & Recreation Committee: On behalf of the city, Mayor Like thanked Darren Veldhuisen and Council Member Veldhuisen for their efforts in cleaning up the park trees and brush. Peschges Tree Service will be coming to town to trim any trees overhanging streets and the alley behind the Liquor Store/Community Center. If property owners have personal trees they wish to have trimmed, Mayor Like suggested they contact Peschges Tree Service soon, so they can take care of all requests when in town, likely minimizing costs to property owners for this service.

Old Business:

- Campground Commercial Utility Rate: Council Member Petersen spoke with a council member from the City of Slayton regarding their current campground commercial utility rate. The City of Slayton has different rates for summer and winter for the campground, instead of a per lot rate. In the winter, they do not bill for water, as it is disconnected, however they still bill for sewer. Due to our current debt service coverage requirements, each utility customer is required to pay water/sewer installments year round, so discussion took place regarding keeping the rate the same year round. Mayor Like suggested setting the rate one and a half times the current rate of \$70.00 for the campground. A decision on the final campground commercial utility rate was tabled until next month, however it was determined that rate will be decided upon during the next meeting.
- Pump House Insulation: Mayor Like has requested an estimate from Oslund Construction Inc. out of Slayton to insulate the Pump House. An estimate for labor and materials for this project is pending at this time.
- Community Center Insulation: Mayor Like has requested an estimate from Oslund Construction Inc. out of Slayton for insulating the Community Center, as outlined during the last meeting. An estimate for labor and materials for this project is pending at this time.

New Business:

- Dean Larson – Open Forum: Mr. Larson was present for open forum and mentioned several complaints before the council, which he felt should have been looked at as part of the nuisance ordinance review. He referenced weeds to north of ball field, unlicensed truck owned by Hadley Farmers Elevator, property by Pump House, property owned by M. Zinnel, R. Wornson's wood pile and M. Swanson's van and camper. Mayor Like responded that none of the aforementioned list was a concern by the council at this time and it was suggested that Mr. Larson work on

bringing his properties into compliance with the nuisance ordinance, instead of looking for other potential properties in violation. Mr. Larson also questioned who authorized Darren Veldhuisen to clean the grove and brush area at the park/ballfield. It was stated that this didn't require prior approval, as this is considered by the council to be a duty performed as part of Veldhuisen's mowing/lawn maintenance services for the city.

- 2024 Law Enforcement Contract: The 2024 Law Enforcement Contract with the Murray County Sheriff's Office was presented for review and requested approval by the council. After review and discussion, it was determined to accept the contract at an annual cost of \$580.00. MSP by Council Member Veldhuisen and Council Member Petersen to accept the contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Riley will issue payment and return the signed contract to Murray County next week.
- Earned Sick & Safe Time (ESST): Riley presented information regarding Minnesota's new Earned Sick & Safe Time (ESST) law that goes into effect January 1, 2024. Every city employee (with the exception of elected officials) working over 80 hours per year will now qualify for ESST at an accrual rate of 1 hour earned for every 30 hours worked. Riley presented an informational flyer on Earned Sick & Safe Time (ESST) and stated that he is in the process of putting together a policy and related forms for final council approval and distribution to all eligible City of Hadley employees. As required by the law, Riley will be notifying effected employees of the new Earned Sick & Safe Time (ESST) law with their December paychecks prior to 12/31/2023. The council requested Riley proceed with drafting the policy and related forms for review and approval at the next council meeting.
- 2023 Year-End Inventory: A year-end liquor and food inventory is scheduled to be taken on 1/1/2024 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.
- Building Permit Request: Mayor Like discussed the possibility of adding a 12x12 storage shed to his personally owned bare lot on Main Street as opposed to his residence, with council support/approval. Following discussion, MSP by Council Member Brouwer and Council Member Petersen to allow Mayor Like to add the mentioned storage shed to his bare lot on Main Street. Motion carried unanimously.

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

MSP by Council Member Petersen and Council Member Veldhuisen for meeting adjournment. Motion carried unanimously. With no further business, the regularly scheduled meeting was adjourned by Mayor Like at 6:45 pm.

Riley Engbarth

Respectfully Submitted by Riley Engbarth, Clerk/Treasurer