

**Minutes from the Regular Meeting Center City Council
August 1, 2023**

Mayor Behnke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Council Members Present: Mayor Jill Behnke, Council Members: Mark Wolcott, Lloyd Vetter, Ryan Pease and Garrett Boulineau

Others Present: City Clerk Dana Miron, Public Works Supervisor Eric Garner, Attorney Ted Alleigro, City Engineer Marcus Johnson, Chisago County Press Denise Martin, Tom Bui, Mark Baumann

Consent Agenda: August Agenda, Minutes Regular Council July, July Claims. Motion by Pease and seconded by Wolcott to approve the consent agenda with addition of Docks to New Business. Ayes-5 Nays-0
Motion carried

OPEN FORUM:

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Old Jail Demolition:** Public Works Garner stated that the monument from in front of the old jail has been successfully moved across the street. Residents there are happy to have it.
2. **AT&T:** PW Garner reports that the generator has been set. Excel will be out to add meter and gas line. Fencing will need to be installed.
3. **Hursh Iron Works:** Attorney Alleigro stated that it appears the business will be moving out of the current location, nothing final yet.
4. **Initiative Foundation:** The Initiative Foundation has requested a donation of \$260 in the 2024 budget. Council Wolcott suggested again that this will be discussed at the next budget meeting.
5. **Lake Shops: Patio** Council discussed possible land exchange with Tom Bui and the next steps to be taken so that he may build a patio on the south end of his existing building.
6. **Utility Connection: 340 Summit** Mayor Behnke summarized the discussion that took place at the planning commission meeting, Kirvida owns this property and is entitled to hook up to the existing connection.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Scheduled Budget Workshop:** Council Wolcott stated that a budget workshop for the 2024 budget should be scheduled prior to the September council meeting. Council agreed to meet on August 29th at 6:30 pm.
2. **Lions Hwy 8 Sign:** PW Garner explained that the Lion's would like to add a sign below the City population signs on both the east and west ends on highway 8. Motion to approve allowing the Lion's to place the sign by Pease and seconded by Wolcott. Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.
3. **DNR Water Restrictions:** Mayor Behnke stated that the DNR has put restrictions in place within Chisago County just days ago. PW Garner stated that he has received no notifications. Mayor Behnke instructed Clerk Miron to find out more. Motion by Wolcott and seconded by Boulineau to implement any required state restrictions and notify residents as needed. Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.
4. **Bolten & Menk Grant Writing:** Engineer Marcus Johnson presented with a grant writing proposal of an estimated \$7000. The LRIP grant application would be for the construction plans for Grand Avenue. Motion by Behnke and seconded by Vetter to allow Bolten & Menk to write and submit the grant application. Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.

5. **Docks:** Mayor Behnke explained that resident Todd McBride had contacted her about an opportunity to acquire additional docks. The dock is approximately 66'x44' with railings and ramp. McBride acquired the docks at a price of \$10,400. Council Wolcott and Vetter expressed concern and would like to see funding in place before commitment. Mayor Behnke described plans for the cost of the dock being acquired by community donations much like the previous dock. Motion by Pease and seconded by Vetter that subject to securing adequate financing the city would like to pursue the additional dock. Ayes – 4 Nay -1 Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **Fire Department:** Nothing at this time.
2. **Public Works:** Garner stated that Center City Days appeared successful, all cleaned up and put away.
3. **Clerk/Treasurer:**
 - A: Website: Council will review the information and discuss at September meeting.
 - B: LMC Clerk workshop: Workshop is for new clerks only and includes 6 hours of online class before 2 days in person in St. Paul September 7 and 8. Cost is \$250. Motion by Wolcott and seconded by Pease to approve. Ayes – 5 Nays – 0 Motion carried.
4. **Personnel:** Nothing at this time
5. **Planning Commission:** Met for discussion only on the 340 Summit and 280 Andrews
6. **Wellhead Protection:** Nothing at this time
7. **Ordinance Committee:** Meeting set up for August 31 at 9 am.
8. **Budget Committee:** Wolcott updated council, budget meeting coming up later in August.
9. **HPC:** No meeting but there was a historic walk during Center City Days.
10. **Parks:** Mayor Behnke said that \$40 was raised with the cribbage tournament and \$380 with the car show. Will meet again in September or October.
11. **Library:** Met and discussed budget.
12. **Sewer Board:** Council Vetter stated that things are running smoothly. On going projects are moving along.
13. **Highway 8:** Council Wolcott stated that there is some concern about 'jake braking' near the round-about with Pleasant Valley Road. Unsure if this will require signs or any enforcement.
14. **EDA:** Meeting was canceled due to National Night Out events.
15. **Visitor's Bureau:** Representative openings for Taylors Fall and Lindstrom. Budget was reviewed, looks good.
16. **Beyond the Yellow Ribbon:** Reviewed events coming up; Frankenstein and 911 ceremony in Chisago.

MOTION by Pease and seconded by Boulineau to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Attest

City Clerk

Mayor