

MINUTES

Regular Council Meeting

The Small Town with a Big Heart

Badger Minnesota

5:00 PM - Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Community Center

The City of Badger Council met in Regular Council on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM in the Community Center .

1 CALL TO ORDER

Acting Mayor Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

- a) Roll Call- D. Berger, D. Carpenter, C. Christianson, S. Lockhart, E. Dunrud, A. Gregerson, J.Wynne. Absent: J. Rinde.

2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council member Christianson made a motion to approve the agenda council member Berger seconded the motion. U.C.

4 CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Berger made a motion to approve the consent agenda (a-f) council member Christianson seconded the motion. U.C.

- a) Minutes: Regular council meeting dated Jan. 20, 2021.
- b) Requisitions: None submitted for packet.
- c) Claims: 17677- 17690 total \$30,180.88.
- d) Financials: January 2021 receipts and disbursement registers, bank statement, schedule 1a, bank reconciliation.
- e) Donations:
- f) Communications:

5 PUBLIC FORUM/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

None at this time.

6 PUBLIC HEARINGS (INCLUDES UTILITY)

- a) DEED Small Cities Grant-

A public hearing was opened at 5:10 by the Mayor to gather citizen comments and input regarding a Small Cities application that is being submitted by The City of Badger. City Consultant John Wynne discussed the proposed application and answered questions.

John explained that the meeting was being held to discuss and gather citizen input on community development and housing needs in Badger; including the needs of very low and low income persons. John explained that housing rehabilitation needs were significant in the community and that the Small Cities application was proposing to rehabilitate up to 12 low income owner occupied houses in Badger. John also indicated that the proposal also includes the rehab of 3 commercial building. He indicated that the overall cost would be up to \$515,600 and that the grant application would request up to \$465,600. Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) would come from other resources (Northwest Minnesota Multi-County HRA and NWCA).

John indicated that once the project was approved that the City would have 30 months to complete it. He indicated that an environmental review would have to be completed prior to initiating project activities. He stated that Northwest Community Action (NWCA) would administer the project and oversee project activities. He indicated that NWCA is an experienced administrator and has experienced staff who will carry out the project. NWCA staff has completed six projects in the past in the communities of (1) Argyle/Stephen, (2) Warren/Argyle/Stephen, (3) Kelliher, (4) Roosevelt, (5) Hallock and (6) Lancaster. Five of these projects contained housing rehabilitation components, three contained commercial rehab activities. John indicated that as part of the environmental review process that the City would have to comply with historic requirements. To comply with this the State Historic Preservation Office would be contacted for comments prior to rehabilitating any older houses.

Council member Berger made a motion to approve the Local Government Resolution, Conflict of Interest, Citizens Participation plan and Slum and Blight Resolution motion was seconded by council member Carpenter. Member Christianson abstained from voting due to any future conflicts being a business owner. All other members in favor.

The Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 5:25 PM.

7 NEW BUSINESS

- a) All School 2021 - Council members discussed the upcoming all-school reunion and decided that due to the upcoming water project and possible covid restrictions that it will be put off for 2021 and will look at what 2022 will look like this summer.
- b) Water bill relief- Council discussed if any relief should be given to those that are running extra water and council looked at the cost and felt that it doesn't warrant relief at this time.

8 OLD BUSINESS

- a) City Hall updates: none at this time
- b) Utility late fees- Members discussed and will reinstate the late fees and disconnects Effective May 1, 2021.
- c) Community Center & Covid-19- Council discussed and only essential services will still be allowed. Members will review again next month.

9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF

- a) Eric brought up summer help and that he would need 2 seasonal helpers this year with the upcoming water project. Council members would like Clerk Gregerson to start advertising for the positions the same as last year.
- b) Eric also brought up that he needs a jack and stands for the bobcat and figures it will cost around \$500. Council member Berger made a motion to approve the request for a Jack and stands member Lockhart seconded the motion. U.C.
- c) Fire Department- Daegan updated the council on a few trainings that are upcoming for them including CPR, Fire school, Med Compass, and life flight. The FD is also requesting to order a couple new suits. Council member Christianson made a motion to approve a couple new suits and helmets if needed council member Lockhart seconded the motion. U.C.
- d) Wall- Clerk Gregerson brought up an email from Sherri just asking about the sign along the highway and Corey was going to get ahold of Dustin to find out any info on it.
- e) Planning Commission- Dan reviewed with the council the last meeting and that at the next planning meeting they are going to discuss reviewing the cities comprehensive plan.
- f) Parks Committee- Dan Carpenter will contact people about the committee and set up a meeting.
- g) Clerk Gregerson reported she is looking at the middle of March time frame to get together with the auditor and plans to start moving back to the office towards the end of March.
- h) Council members would like to invite Hammer Sanitation to the next meeting to come up with ideas and solutions on how to make the area behind them look more appealing and to discuss the amount of garbage that is dumped by out of town people.

10 ADJOURNMENT

- a) Council member Lockhart made a motion to adjourn at 6:49pm motion was seconded by Christianson. U.C.

Mayor

Clerk Treasurer