

# MINUTES

## Regular Council Meeting

The Small Town with a Big Heart

# Badger Minnesota

5:00 PM - Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Via Webex (Covid-19)

The City of Badger Council met in Regular Council on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 5:00 PM in the Via Webex (Covid-19) .

### 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rinde called the meeting to order 5:01pm

a) Roll Call-

Mayor - James Rinde

Councilmembers - Stacey Lockhardt, Daegan Berger, Corey Christianson, Dan Carpenter

Staff- Hayley- Clerk; Eric, Maintenance;

Others: Allen Thompson; Randy Olson; Kevin Ricke; Jeramy Swenson; Jim Carlson

### 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance

### 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council members may add items to the agenda including items contained in the Council packets for discussion purposes or staff direction only. The Council will not normally take official action on items added to the agenda.

a)

#### RES-1-2021

Moved by Corey Christianson, seconded by Dan Carpenter, Motion to move the agenda

CARRIED. unanimously

### 4 CONSENT AGENDA

These items are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member, staff member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed elsewhere on the agenda.

a) Minutes:

Mayor Rinde made a correction to the minutes following August's meeting.

Rinde states that the meeting was closed to the public at 6:35 pm to discuss

Employee comp hour concerns. The meeting was opened back up to the public at 7:53pm and called for adjournment after discussion was finished.

b) Requisitions: **NONE**

c) Claims:

These claims include Heritage Wall claims: 17895 (\$2663.60) and 17894 (\$750.00): requesting Christine to send for reimbursement if approved for payment. Other claims include tabled invoice for Dvergsten Heating and Cooling (\$22,680.00) claim 17892.

d) Financials: receipts and disbursement registers, bank statement, schedule 1a, bank reconciliation.

e) Donations: **NONE**

f) Communications: **NONE**

g)

#### **RES-2-2021**

Moved by Corey Christianson, seconded by Stacey Lockhart, Motion made to approve consent agenda  
CARRIED. unanimously

#### **RES-3-2021**

Moved by Dan Carpenter, seconded by Daegan Berger, Following approval of consent agenda, Mayor Rinde asks for a motion to amend previous motion to hold off on paying claims 17895 (\$2,663.60) and 17894 (\$750.00) as the Heritage Wall funds are unavailable at this time. Council discusses that when funds are available, these two claims may be paid. Christine will let Hayley know when the funds are replenished.  
CARRIED. unanimously

### **5 PUBLIC FORUM/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Individuals may address the Council about any item not contained on the regular agenda. A maximum of 15 minutes is allotted for the Forum. If the full 15 minutes are not needed for the Forum, the City Council will continue with the agenda. The City Council will not take official action on items discussed at the Forum, with the exception of referral to staff or Committee for future report.

### **6 PUBLIC HEARINGS (INCLUDES UTILITY)**

### **7 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF**

a) Sherri - Heritage Wall

Balance in the Heritage Wall - \$2,366.30 - Christine is presenting in Sherri's absence.

With the funds running low, Christine requests to hold off paying the two bills in claims to be approved.

Temporary ramp will be up for this weekend for Fall Fest and will be removed after the weekend events. The dedication begins at 1:30 pm on Saturday and is requesting city officials to make an appearance.

Christine reminded council of choosing a name for the Heritage Wall after completion.

Inquiries about MNDOT or County Hwy placing a sign on Hwy 11. Council shares that our engineer is working on this project placing signs.

Council asked that the park name be moved to the Planning Commission and ideas from the Community to be discussed and named at a later date.

- b) Hayley - Clerk/Treasurer
  - ARP Funding -
  - NWCA - Low Income Water Assistance Program
  - Blight -
  - Website Design -
  - Water shut off/payment update to date -

Hayley shares the ARP funding application was submitted on 9/14. She also shared that NWCA has a low income water assistance program that the city will enroll in for low income families to receive grants on paying past due utilities.

Hayley reminded the council that blight ordinance enforcement will begin in October.

She updated the council on the website design project. This project has begun and asked that if there are any special pictures of the town or town activities that would be a good addition to the website to send them to her to send to our website designer.

Hayley updated the council about payments made to the unpaid water bills and shared that every resident has responded to the shut off notices and payments have been made and/or been placed on payment plans.

- c) Eric - Maintenance

Eric shared the boaring crew is back and will be taking more hours on his shifts if needed.

Council discussed plans for barricading streets for Fall Fest this weekend.

Council revisited comp hours with Eric and his request to be paid out 80 hours off his balance. Math errors will need to be fixed in the excel tracking sheet before paying out Comp hours per the council. Council will request to again table this comp hour payout request.

- d) Planning Commission -  
Including Lenmark Lane

Carpenter shares -

\*Ideas of possibly T&C helping build incentives for move in and welcome baskets were discussed. Hayley mentioned in Planning Commission meeting to bring this suggestion to the T&C meeting to see if they would be interested in helping with

this project. Other incentive ideas included utility credits, "town buck", business gift certificates, etc. No incentive plan has been placed in practice as of this moment.

\*Discussion was made about updating Durgin park including electric hookups, new playground equipment, winterized fixtures in the restrooms, bigger door for the restroom, setting up a fund these projects, etc.

\*Burn Pile - discussion was made to monitor the burn pile such as cameras, signs, fences, etc. A suggestion was also made to potentially invest in a mulcher.

Jeremy Swenson suggested digging a hole for easier controlled burning.

\* Tax forfeit properties - Planning Commission felt opening a bidding auction process to the residents on Lenmark Lane only. If the auction leaves unsold lots, then the general public will be invited in to place bids on the properties. Lockhart feels that this would be a good idea to auction these lots in order to make some revenue. These residents include only those that have Lenmark Lane residences.

#### **RES-4-2021**

Moved by Stacey Lockhart, seconded by Corey Christianson, Motion was made to \$300 minimum bid and opening auction to Lenmark Lane residents only.

All council voted. Daegan Berger Abstained from voting.

CARRIED. by the following votes:

Ayes: Corey Christianson, Stacey Lockhart, and Dan Carpenter

#### **RES-5-2021**

Moved by Dan Carpenter, seconded by Daegan Berger, Motion was made to clean up Durgin Park by fixing the fence and removing dead/chopped trees.

CARRIED. by the following votes:

Ayes: Dan Carpenter, Daegan Berger, Corey Christianson, and Stacey Lockhart

e) Jeremy Swenson - Fire Chief

Jeremy shares with the council that the Fire Department has been approved for the DNR 50/50 grant. Jeremy and council discuss budgeting for spending on fire equipment at an upcoming budget meeting.

Jeremy asks to put their old firetruck on bids. He shares that he will contact Hayley soon with details to send the information out to begin receiving closed bids. He also shared with the public that the Fire Department has been supplied through a grant, Grain Bin Extraction equipment. Some firemen have already received training on the use of this equipment, while the others will be receiving training on it soon.

### **8 NEW BUSINESS**

a) Snow Removal bids-

Ridge Sales bid - 2 trucks and 2 operators at \$90/hour. Jim Carlson shares that this is the same bid as last years bid.

Council discusses bringing Jim on as a part time employee to be able jump in a city truck if possible during snow removal. Jim agreed he would agree to be a part-time employee. A couple councilmen will meet with Jim to discuss wage and bring it to the next meeting.

Kevin Ricke shares the school board will be meeting to discuss purchasing a tractor for the school property snow removal. Ricke asks about collaborating on certain streets and prorated payments. Readjustments may need to be made to discuss specifics on billing at a later date.

### **RES-6-2021**

Moved by Dan Carpenter, seconded by Stacey Lockhart, A motion was made to accept Ridge Sales bid at \$90/hour for snow removal. The council agrees to discuss the offer of part-time employment to Jim and will be discussed in a later meeting.

CARRIED. unanimously

b) Community Center updates -

Lighting updates are waiting for Bergstrom to update lighting in Community Center.

Painting is complete.

Old chairs are being requested to be thrown out or given away.

c) Request for Sewer and Water -  
204 W Popular Garage

Randy Olson spoke with Eric about requesting water and sewer hook-ups to his shop. Eric and Austin will be checking into the ability to run city sewer to Randy's shop. Eric doesn't believe Olson's shop sits high enough to hook up to city sewer. Discussion was made that if city sewer is not possible, then a private in ground septic will need to be dug in. Mayor Rinde shares, that if the city cannot be provided service, an in-ground tank would be acceptable per ordinance. Council agrees.

## **9 OLD BUSINESS**

a) City Hall updates:

Allen Thompson presented the council with a bid to finish the Community Hall entry project. Thompson's bid came in at \$12,400 to install 2 stairways, box in base in entryway, build down walls by stairway and sheet rock, plaster, and frame in down stairs door and finishing around it. This bid also includes fixing sheet rock and installing oak on trim where needed. Installation of lift back on the stairways was also included.

Thompson's bid states that if we want to include paint and stain an additional \$2,400 on top of current bid of \$12,400.

Thompson says that if accepted, the project work wouldn't begin until December or January.

Christianson suggests moving forward with the \$12,400 bid and discussing over the next few council meetings adding additional costs to the bid if needed.

**RES-7-2021**

Moved by Corey Christianson, seconded by Dan Carpenter, Motion was made to accept \$12,400 bid from Allen Thompson to begin next phase on Community Hall project.

CARRIED. unanimously

**10 ORDINANCES**

**11 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

- a) Council recommended closing the meeting to discuss employee concerns and personnel discussion. The meeting was closed to the public at 6:18pm.

Council opened the meeting back up to the public at 7:20pm. Mayor Rinde recapped that the meeting was closed to the public to address employee concerns and discussion.

Council discussed plan for barricading the streets for Fall Fest on Saturday; Eric will have the road closed signs and caution tape in place Thursday afternoon to be moved into their designated places on Saturday morning; Mayor asked the council for help in blocking streets Saturday morning.

**RES-8-2021**

Moved by Dan Carpenter, seconded by Corey Christianson, Mayor Rinde asked for a motion to adjourn 7:25pm.

CARRIED. unanimously

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Mayor

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Clerk Treasurer