

# MINUTES

## Regular Council Meeting

The Small Town with a Big Heart

# Badger Minnesota

5:00 PM - Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Badger Community Center 111 North Main St.

The City of Badger Council met in Regular Council on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 5:00 PM in the Badger Community Center 111 North Main St. .

### 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rinde called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

a) Roll Call-

D. Carpenter, J. Rinde, C. Christianson, G. Lee. Member D. Berger absent.

### 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All members and guests stood and recited the pledge.

### 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council member Christianson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Council member Lee seconded. U.C.

### 4 CONSENT AGENDA

Discussion was had on the Donations. Nathan Olafson talked on Polaris donation of \$500 to Fire Department, back on October 5, 2022. T&C will need to make an account with Polaris for donations. Polaris wanted to donate to the T&C Busch car races and there was no account set up with Polaris at the time for T&C. These funds were sent under the Badger Fire Department since they had an account. The City of Badger does not do donations but we will be issuing these funds from Badger Fire Department to T&C Busch Car account as per requested. This is a one time situation.

Tania stated claim number 18280 was removed from the claims as it was already paid.

Council member Lee made a motion to approve the consent agenda a-f with motion seconded by Council member Christianson. U.C.

a) Minutes:

Regular Council meeting November 16, 2022.

b) Requisitions:

None at this time.

c) Claims:

Claims list for approval 18279-18310 removed claim 18280 totaling \$60,238.60

Claim #18306 to be paid to Brent per benefactor from Heritage Wall donation. Motion was made to have Brent be paid with remaining money from benefactor by Council member Carpenter. Seconded by Council member Christianson. U.C.

- d) Financials: receipts and disbursement registers, bank statement, schedule 1a, bank reconciliation. Void Check#21216
- e) Donations: Thrivent/Russ J. Iverson donated \$500 to Badger Fire Department
- f) Communications:

None at this time.

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

Dale Hagen discussed adding an MIA flag at the veterans park. He talked with the people that previously did the flag poles and they will assist him in getting a 30 foot pole delivered to Badger. Local talent will be used to put the pole up. Council encouraged him to pursue. Mayor Rinde said the pole could be stored at CHS till installed.

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

- a) Utility hearing to certify delinquent

Madeline Hagen was present to talk on a previous tenant. She will pay the bill and work with previous tenant to get the money back.

Council members reviewed the outstanding delinquent utilities. Council member Carpenter made a motion to certify \$4,704.33 to the county to have placed on the tax roll. Council member Lee seconded the motion. U.C.

- b) 609 East University Ave discussion

Blight on property is approved under contingency. Action has been taken and will continue per property owner as weather permits. This blight will be revisited this spring once the snow melts.

- c) 2 closed out utility bills

Angie Gregerson discussed these 2 closed out utility bills in the amount of \$108.22. These were from rentals and property was sold. Council member Carpenter made a motion to approve the close out of these 2 bills. Council member Christianson seconded. U.C.

## **7 NEW BUSINESS**

- a) Carol's Roll Call

Dale Hagen was present to discuss what Carol's Roll Call was. The veterans were receiving Dave Frislie's Eagle statues. To preserve space, they have started a plaque with name plates and called it Carol's Roll Call. Carol Tillberg

has been doing immense research on the veterans in the area and will be responsible for the names to be put on the plaque. Her name on the plaque is very deserving as she has compiled quite the background information on many veterans. Dale Hagen will update the plates before veterans day yearly. Dale Hagen also discussed the veterans markers missing from the cemeteries. He is working to get replacements for the missing markers.

b) Property/Causalty Renewal - Bryan Modahl North Risk Partners LLC

Bryon Modahl was present to discuss our insurance renewal summary. Rates have increased due to inflation. He is working on having some vehicles removed and some added to the policy.

Sherry Kukowski discussed the Heritage Wall coverage is not enough and requested it be increased. Council suggested increasing it to \$150,000. Bryan will make the change and let us know the outcome.

COUNCIL MEMBER CARPENTER MADE A MOTION STATING ON THE LIABILITY COVERAGE WAIVER FORM. THE CITY DOES NOT WAIVE THE MONETARY LIMITS ON MUNICIPAL TORT LIABILITY ESTABLISHED BY MINNESOTA STATUES 466.04. COUNCIL MEMBER CHRISTIANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. U.C.

c) Special Assessment on Meadowlark (Nathan Olafson & Dustin Fanfulik)

Nathan Olafson and Dustin Fanfulik were present to discuss the assessment. Arbitration was discussed but the city would need documentation of proof. Olafson was just bringing this to attention for discussion. Council decided no further action will be taken unless documented proof is provided. Further steps will be taken at that time.

d) Culvert on Esther Street (Dustin Faunfulik)

Dustin Fanfulik was present to discuss he has talked with Spruce Valley. No estimate at this time but will be provided closer to spring when vendors can provide more information. Culvert will likely be replaced when they work on that area for the water project.

e) Substitute Snow removal applications

Council member Lee made a motion to approve Allen Thompson for the substitute snow removal position. Council member Christianson seconded. U.C.

f) OSHA Safety Grant

Council member Christianson discussed the OSHA Safety Grant. It was decided that Tania will contact Lawrence Wright for the 1st step in getting an assessment for this grant to update security cameras, Door with a lock on the inside for the file room, and whatever else might be suggested. Council member Christianson will attend the run down meeting once assessment is completed.

- g) Zach Comp time request - would like to cash out 80 hours

Motion to grant request of 80 hours comp time paid to Zach was given by Council member Lee and seconded by Council member Carpenter. U.C.

- h) Certified Levy for taxes payable 2023

Angie Gregerson discussed certified tax levy for 2023. Council member Carpenter made a motion to set the 2023 Tax Levy at \$160,402.29 and motion was seconded by Council member Christianson. U.C.

- i) Polling place designation for 2023

Council member Christianson made a motion for RESOLUTION NO. #1-23. Council member Lee seconded the motion. U.C.

- j) Minnesota Rural Water

Zach and Tania discussed their visit with Dan from MN Rural Water. Discussion had on signing up for the PFAS Cost Recovery program thru the National Water Association and the MN Rural Water Association. Council decided to have Tania get the sign-up going.

## 8 OLD BUSINESS

- a) City Hall/Community Center updates:

No updates at this time.

- b) Snow plowing policy

The snowplowing policy, which was adopted September 18, 2019, is attached to agenda just to inform it is in place.

- c) Iworq update

It was discussed to look into a new IPAD from Verizon for Zach with wireless internet abilities to use the program in field. Tania and Zach will get with Greenbush employees in mid January to discuss best practices in the use of IWORQ for better understanding to utilize for the City of Badger.

- d) Water Project Updates

Dustin Fanfulik was present to discuss any updates. At this time the water project is on schedule or slightly ahead. New meters are going out for bids this winter. Meters will be going inside and outside of homes in the City of Badger. The contractors will install them. Zach discussed Well 1 being closed and a new one drilled by Spruce Valley this summer nearby.

Discussion on Spruce Street with Dustin as well. A survey will be done if the City wishes to pursue the 60/40 split on assessment with the citizens of Spruce

street. The earliest this road repair could start is early fall 2023. Discussed resurfacing other streets to bundle to help with costs.

## 9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF

- a) Fire Department:  
Roof estimate

The League of Minnesota Cities claims adjuster, Mark Nygaard approved Allan Monsrud Construction's bid in the amount of \$18,450.00 in the repair of the fire hall roof.

- b) Maintenance report:

Water freezing awareness - Zach discussed citizens should leave a little water trickling during these cold months to prevent frozen pipes. More information will be sent out in the January newsletter on ways to prevent frozen pipes in the winter months.

Minnesota pump works quote - Zach discussed the replacement of a part from MN pump works for the sewer pump. Stacey and Zach will install when we have warmer weather and save about \$2500 in travel/installation.

Snow Plowing - There are citizens piling snow on corners and on city property. Please stop as this creates more work for the maintenance department. The city employees removing snow are doing the best they can with all the snow fall happening lately. Action may be taken if needed for those citizens not complying.

- c) Clerk Report : Quotes for Alerts update - Tania will get a powerpoint presentation ready for the council to review in January from 3 different vendors. Discussion will take place further at the January meeting.
- d) Town & Country/Heritage wall : Refurbish Christmas lights

Sherri Kukowski discussed her term as President of the T&C will be done at the end of December 2022. Kassi Tillberg will be the new President as of January 1st, 2023.

2nd & 4th graders helped on judging the Christmas lights contest. 1st place commercial was the Cafe at \$200. Jay & Ardell Smith received 1st place at \$200. Mark & Renae Rhen received 2nd place at \$100. Ducer & Leanne Berger received 3rd place at \$50.

T&C asked to refurbish the Christmas lights on the poles around town. T&C will provide a lift for take down and putting up for the maintenance worker convenience. T&C will provide the man power to refurbish these decorations and the City will help with the financing to replace lights, etc. These will be hung in the basement of the Hall for storage to keep them looking nice. Motion made to have T&C refurbish Christmas decorations made by Council member Christianson and seconded by Council member Carptenter. U.C.

Sherri Kukowski brought up there is a pole that was knocked out of place at the Heritage wall during snow plowing of the Border Bank parking lot. This will need to be repaired this spring.

Sherri Kukowski donated the Christmas lights at the Heritage Wall. Discussion was had on the Highway 11 signs pointing to the Heritage Wall. This will be further pursued by Tania and updated at the January Meeting. Discussion was had on the finishing of the Heritage Wall. The electrical portion is completed and waiting on Brent Walsh to finish up the remainder of construction. A letter will be given to Brent from council stating he has till April 30th, 2023 to finish wall or we will have someone else finish it, weather permitting. Brent will also be given the choice to step down from finishing so we can find someone else to finish up. He will not receive the final \$500 until it is completed by him. Motion to send letter to Brent on finishing project by Council member Carpenter and seconded by Council member Lee. U.C.

e) Badger Area Community Fund

No updates at this time.

f) Planning Commission

Planning Commission nominated Corey Christianson as the new president. Motion to recommend Corey Christianson as the the planning commission President made by Council member Lee and seconded by Council member Carpenter. U.C.

Questions were asked on ordinances and policy's on using hay bales for winter insulation. Planning commission will explore ordinances throughout the coming year and bring to council. Council member Christianson attended a grant seminar and he stated there are lots of grants out there. All federal level and a lot for small towns. More discussion will be had on these grants another time.

**10 ORDINANCES**

None at this time.

**11 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

Council member Lee made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 PM with a motion to second by Council member Christianson. U.C.

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Mayor

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Clerk Treasurer

