

# MINUTES

## Regular Council Meeting

The Small Town with a Big Heart

# Badger Minnesota

5:00 PM - Wednesday, February 15, 2023

Badger Community Center 111 North Main St.

The City of Badger Council met in Regular Council on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM in the Badger Community Center 111 North Main St. .

### 1 CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Daniel Carpenter called the meeting to order at 5:02PM on Wednesday, February 15, 2023.

a) Roll Call-

Daniel Carpenter, Corey Christianson, Gretchen Lee, Daegan Berger

b) Others: Zach Tillberg, Kassi Tillberg, Amber Wojciehowski, Dennis Lunde, Jeremy Swenson, Christine Modahl, Tania Praska

### 2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda made by Council member Corey Christianson and seconded by Council member Gretchen Lee. U.C.

### 4 CONSENT AGENDA

With the addition of one more claim for Brent Walsh (Claim #18360) and the amount adjusted to \$14,018.68 and a donation from the Badger T&C for \$60.00, a motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Council member Gretchen Lee and seconded by Council member Daegan Berger. U.C.

a) Minutes: January 20th, 2023 Regular Council Meeting.

b) Requisitions: None at this time.

c) Claims: 18312-18359 @ \$13402.68 - updated and approved claims 18312-18360 @ \$14,018.68

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

e) Donations: \$5,000.00 Donation to Fire Department by Anonymous and a \$25.00 donation to Badger Fire Department from Barbara Wojciechowski. Badger T&C donated \$60.00 to the City of Badger.

f) Communications:

Letter to Members of the Council from Hoffman, Philipp, & Martell, PLLC

Gopher State Annual Notice

**5 PUBLIC FORUM/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

None at this time.

**6 PUBLIC HEARINGS (INCLUDES UTILITY)**

None at this time.

**7 NEW BUSINESS**

a) Applicants for City Council

We had three (3) applicants for the open city council position. All three (3) will be offered an interview at a special meeting on March 1st, 2023 starting at 5 p.m. These interviews will be conducted in 30 minute intervals and a decision will be made that evening.

b) Dennis Lunde for Hammer Sanitation

Discussion was held with Dennis Lunde of Hammer Sanitation on the dumpsters along the Heritage Wall fence. Lunde state he will get the situation resolved.

c) Widseth Annual Agreement Between Owner and Engineer

Council reviewed the agreement between the City of Badger and Widseth. Agreement was approved via motion made by Council member Corey Christianson and seconded by Council member Gretchen Lee. U.C.

d) Juneteeth Resolution

**RESOLUTION 2023-02-15**

Resolution to establish June 19th as a non-working holiday as passed by Minnesota House and Senate and signed by the Governor on February 3rd, 2023. The new law establishes Juneteenth as a state holiday in which public business cannot be conducted. This will start in the year 2024. Motion to approve this resolution made by Council member Daegen Berger and seconded by Council member Corey Christianson. U.C.

e) Apply to participate in LIHWAP

Zach received information at an area water meeting and discussed LIHWAP. Amber Wojciehowski was present and said she would check with NWCA as she works there. She will get with the clerk to discuss if LIHWAP is already working with NWCA.

f) Gworks taking over UBMax for utility billing

Council looked over presentation papers from Gworks. Gworks bought out our utility program and will be fazing out UBMax. Gworks has a lot to offer all in

one place for the public. Tania will reach out for more information and a quote for the March meeting. Also, Tania will bring current programs that could be replaced and their financials to cross reference.

g) Water Training/Exam & Expenses

a.) city coverage - Zach discussed the water exam he has next month and waste in July. Inquired on how to handle expenses for these trips. Council decide to have prior authorization of the hotel room and the city will pay mileage to St. Cloud and back. Food contingent on itemized receipts.

b.) Emergency contact when Zach is gone - Council member Daegen Berger volunteered to be the back up while Zach is gone in regards to any issues with the water or sewer, etc.

h) Utility billing

a.) Shut off/Turn on - \$20.00 still in effect?

b.) Late Fee's - start doing again?

Council discussed all utility fees and shut off/turn on fees. This matter will be revisited once Spruce Valley is completed with their current work on the city.

i) Change locks on city property

Council discussed that we will revisit this matter in March after we receive the safety assesement from Lawrence Wright.

j) City Clerk Notary

Council discussed that Tania, as the city clerk, should go ahead and become a Notary.

k) City Website working or explore options

This was discussed in the Gworks section of the meeting. We will discuss more at the March meeting.

l) Wiktel Fiber optics High Speed Internet

Council discussed and decided there are no charges for this so it would be a great option. Also, Tania to talk with Wiktel about estimates on adding an extension to the phone/internet to the shop and possibly to the hall if we can get a deal for adding multiple connections. Tania will bring the information to the March meeting.

## 8 OLD BUSINESS

a) City Hall updates:

Zach discussed that Brent Walsh would be coming to the community center to look at the roof with him on Thursday. Flooring throughout the community center was discussed as well. Zach to get quotes on flooring for the March

meeting. Lighting was discussed as well. Zach will make contacts and get estimates and we will revisit on everything at the March city council meeting.

b) Alert System ideas

Tabled till the March city council meeting.

c) Iworq & Ipad status

Zach discussed the hot spot is working for the most part when in the field and in the shop. Tania will look at an internet connection with Wiktel, as the tin roof creates some issues.

## 9 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF

a) Fire Department

a.) update on purchases

b.) Other news or requests

Chief Swenson was present to discuss the fire department happenings. He discussed the insurance claim on the fire hall roof.

Tania stated the fire contracts were sent out to the townships.

Chief Swenson inquired on reserves account for the fire department and Tania will get with the auditor and see what can be done.

It was discussed to ask the auditor to attend a city council meeting after the audit for more explanations on purchases and reserve account and a few other questions. Tania will get in touch with her.

Zach discussed having the vehicles sitting in the grass moved to CHS buildings as it would prevent contaminants near the wells and be better for the vehicles.

Zach had received that ok from Jim Rinde already.

Chief Swenson also inquired if there was a way to map out the fire hydrants in Badger so the Active 911 app could have that info somehow loaded on it as well. Currently Greenbush shows this information and it is really nice for other towns coming to assist.

b) T&C

Other news or requests

Kassi Tillberg was present for discussion on T&C happenings. Coming up they are doing a Mardis Gras themed event at Skippy Finns' on March 4th and an Easter Egg hunt in April. She asked if the hall could be used for the egg hunt in case of bad or wet weather. Council agreed with this request. A donation of \$60 was given to the city for a thank you to "Keep the Lights On and Heat" Fall Fest planning will begin shortly. T&C would like a member from council, fire department, and churches to represent at the planning of these meetings.

c) Heritage Wall

Will move to discuss at March's meeting - nothing at this time.

d) Planning Commission

Tania brought a drafted letter to the council for approval to send to the public in case of failure to obtain a building permit. A motion was made by Council member Corey Christianson and seconded by Council member Gretchen Lee to approve this letter. U.C.

Tania asked about an inquiry on connecting to the city sewer system. Fee would be in lieu of assessment. Council stated there would be a fee and water would also need to be hooked up. Resident would need to hire private plumber to install from house to city hook up. Also, best to wait till Spruce Valley has completed the current project before getting this going.

Motion was made to accept Tara Wiskow's resignation on the Planning Commission by Council member Daegan Berger and seconded by Council member Corey Christianson. U.C. Tania will post the opening and application for a replacement. Applications will be accepted till noon on March 13th, 2023. The Planning Commission will meet that evening to discuss the applications presented.

Council member Corey Christianson discussed the meeting with Widseth employee, Steve Emery. Steve was present to discuss options for Spruce Street and Tamarack Street improvements. A motion to start feasibility and multi step process of street structure for Spruce and Tamarack streets was made by Council member Daegan Berger and seconded by Council member Gretchen Lee. U.C.

An ordinance will possibly be drafted by the Planning Commission and brought to the city council for approval in the near future. This will be in regards to campers, RV's, and trailers in city limits.

e) Badger Area Community Fund (BACF)

Meetings will resume in March.

f) Clerk Report

Tania discussed how things were going and asked some questions.

g) Maintenance Report

Zach was present to discuss how things are going for him and things coming up. He inquired on a plow truck of sorts. Discussion will be ongoing for this.

**10 ORDINANCES**

None at this time.

**11 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None at this time.

**12 ADJOURNMENT**

Council member Gretchen Lee made a motion to adjourn at 7:55PM and Council member Daegan Berger Berger seconded. U.C.

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Mayor

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Clerk Treasurer