

Council President Unruh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll showed Councilpersons DeGross, Kletscher, Lee, Ross and Sandow were present. Also present were CT Rosenow, Fire Chief Holden, Marge Quale, Barb Hagstrom, Lois Kilde, Dave Jennings, Daisy Jennings, Tom Aebly, Amy Roemhild, Randi Hansen, Kristin Newton, Mary Ann Knops, Jeannine Larson, Clifford Larson, Julie Lee, Norm Hagen, Al Schrank, Bob Swanepoel and Carlton DeWitt.

DeGross moved and Lee seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Voice vote carried.

Lee moved and Kletscher seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2022 Regular meeting. Voice vote carried.

Kletscher moved and DeGross seconded a motion to approve disbursements. Roll call vote carried with all councilpersons present voting yes.

In Public Comments, Unruh read the comments submitted by Carlton DeWitt and Sandy Peterson. DeWitt's topics included a request to the council to require city employees to be members of the fire and ambulance departments and to proactively look for members available to respond during daytime hours, stating his support for the purchase of a new pumper for the fire department, and requesting the Model T fire truck be restored to drivable condition to use in parades and other functions and not sold while he is alive. DeWitt stated he is willing to pay for the repairs of the truck and requests "I would like my last ride from the church to the cemetery in that Model-T".

Peterson's comment was in support of the senior center.

There was no summer rec report.

There was no Library report.

A written Public Works report was submitted.

A written Police report was submitted.

Clerk-Treasurer Rosenow stated tax bills and utility bills will be sent out within the week.

In the Mayor's report, Council President Unruh re-iterated that the increase in recycling charges that were approved at the November meeting were to help cover costs of running the recycling center that were not being met and that even with the increase it is still less expensive to residents than hiring a private service for trash pick-up.

In Old Business, Cedar Corporation informed the council that title work showed a portion of 4th St and an alley on the old school property would need to be discontinued prior to surveying and putting that property up for sale. Discussion regarding how to section off the old saddle club property showed concerns about access to the property, easements that may be needed and buildable terrain on a portion of the land. After much discussion Cedar was instructed to mark potential property line divisions and then have council and public works employees look at the proposed splits prior to setting survey points. Lee moved and Ross seconded a motion to move forward with the discontinuance of 4th St and the alley on the old school property. Voice vote carried.

In New Business, lengthy discussion was held regarding the ADRC's use of the community center space to host the senior nutrition program. The City has provided this space free of charge since 1975 and budgetary concerns led to a proposed rental fee of \$500/month be instituted for the program. Tom Aebly, Al Schrank and Kristin Newton all spoke on behalf of the program and asked the council to reconsider the amount of rent being proposed stating the ADRC did not have that kind of money in their budget to support the payment. Items of discussion included the cost of cleaning, electricity, heat and general maintenance, other suitable spaces to host the program, as well as the quality of cleaning being done by the program currently. Unruh pointed out that the City Council fully understands the importance of the program and supports hosting it but can longer afford to do it without recouping some of the cost to City taxpayers. Lee moved and Ross seconded a motion to enter into an agreement effective from January through December 2023 with a payment of \$250.00/month and for the City and ADRC to work on a mutually agreed upon cleaning checklist for the facility. In discussion, Sandow asked for the motion to be amended to re-visit the agreement period if the cleaning checklist is not being completed satisfactorily. Lee stated he was not willing to amend his motion and the original motion was on the table. Roll call vote showed all councilpersons voting yes.

Fire Chief Holden presented the council with some run charge comparisons from other area departments and recommended no changes be made to the run charges at this time. Holden felt it would be a good idea to revisit the charges in July or August and discuss them with the participating townships at that time in order to make changes prior to budgets being set for the next year.

Ambulance Co-Director Lee updated the council that the amount of the Flex Grant the ambulance service has received has been changed to a total of \$127,100 and the deadline to spend the money is October 24, 2023.

Lee moved and Sandow seconded a motion to renew the building inspector contract with Weber Inspections for 2023. Voice vote showed all councilpersons voting yes.

Sandow moved and Kletscher seconded a motion to approve the 2023 fee schedule. Voice vote carried.

At 9:12 p.m. DeGross moved and Ross seconded a motion to enter into closed session per Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) Compensation and Evaluation: Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee subject to the jurisdiction or authority of governing body; discussion regarding employee wage/benefit adjustments. Roll call vote showed councilpersons DeGross, Kletscher, Lee, Ross, Sandow and Unruh voting yes.

At 9:30 p.m. DeGross moved and Ross seconded a motion to reconvene to open session. Roll call vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

Kletscher moved and Lee seconded a motion to approve Christmas bonuses for City employees and Fire and Ambulance department heads. Voice vote showed all councilpersons voting yes.

DeGross moved and Kletscher seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. Voice vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon L Rosenow
Clerk Treasurer