

**Harris City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, February 10, 2025**

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. **Roll Call:** City Clerk Shannon Geier conducted roll call. Present were Mayor Randy Carlson, Councilmember Craig Moline, Councilmember Chell Borash, Councilmember Al Siedow, and Councilmember Garret Pearson. Geier announced that a quorum was present.
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** Siedow made a motion to approve January 13, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes and Accounts Payable. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Public Comment:** None.
- VI. **Regular Agenda:**
  - A. **Fire Department** – Fire Chief Drew Chapeau was present to review the written report. Other items discussed were:
    - The heavy rescue has been sold, part of the money will go to pay off the purchase of St. Croix’s truck. Siedow made a motion to make the final payment of \$25,000 to St. Croix Falls for the purchase of their truck. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
    - M Health Fairview Job Care sent a bill for \$503 for physical pre-employment when it should have been a return-to-work evaluation for C. Paulson. Siedow made a motion to pay the bill. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
    - The Fire Department is requesting a change from Lakes Medical Director to MJM Medical Director Consortium to act as medical director for the Department. Moline made a motion to approve the change and authorized the City to sign an agreement with MJM Medical Director Consortium to act as medical director for the Fire Department. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
      - FD Vehicle Inventory – A list of all Fire Department vehicles, along with pictures, will be sent to City Hall for insurance and identification purposes.
      - EAM Inspection results – Informational.
  - B. **2025-02 Additional Dwelling unit and summary** – Moline made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-02, an amendment to Chapter 154 entitled Zoning adding section 154.34 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) and approving a summary publication of same. Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
  - C. **2025-03 Definition of Accessory Dwelling unit 154.07** – Siedow made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-03, an Ordinance amending 154.07 (A) to add “other than

Accessory Dwelling Units as defined in section 154.34 shall not be less than 400 square feet.” Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- D. **Jessica Strand – buck thorn at School House Park** – Jessica Strand, 6977 443<sup>rd</sup> St., was present to request approval to cut buck thorn at Schoolhouse Park. She works in land management as a project manager and has experience of disposing of buck thorn. During the winter months she volunteers to clear buck thorn from neighboring properties. Pearson made a motion to approve her request. Moline seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Geier will provide the City Volunteer Form for her to sign.
- E. **Public Works Employee position update** – Thirteen applications have been received to-date. After the application period closes each council member will review the applications and pick their top six. Then the personnel committee will interview those six. The Council will perform the final interviews.
- F. **Maintenance Account Balance** – George Valvoda with PeopleService is requesting authority to purchase items for the Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant including a magnetic locator and a phosphorus tester. The funds for these purchases would come from the balance in the maintenance account left over from the contract year of approximately \$3400. Pearson made a motion to approve the purchases and spend down the maintenance account funds. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- G. **Reminder for Engineers meeting dates** – Engineering firm presentations are scheduled for February 11 and 12 from 3 – 5 p.m.
- H. **Attorney information** – Proposals for legal services were received from Miller & Stevens, Flaherty & Hood, and Squires, Waldspurger & Mace. Siedow made a motion to hire Miller & Stevens to represent the City of Harris for civil municipal legal services. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- I. **SBR Gear box for wastewater** – The purchase of an SBR gear box was originally approved for \$1,000 but the price had increased to \$1,210. Pearson made a motion to approve the additional \$210. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- J. **Chisago County Historical Society Digital Memories Trail** – Informational.

VII. **Staff/Department Reports:**

- A. **Public Works** – Public Works employee Alan Teich reported that Knife River billed Harris for product he had not ordered. Teich researched and confirmed that the bill was for North Branch.
- B. **PeopleService Report** – Written report.
- C. **Chisago County 2024 Sheriff’s 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Newsletter and statistics** - Written report.

D. **Clerk's Report** - Written report. This year's Clerks Academy will be held at the Earl Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center in May. Rooms are currently being booked for the stay. Carlson made a motion to authorize Geier to reserve a room. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

E. **Mayor and Council Reports** - Written report.

VIII. **Adjourn:** Pearson made a motion to adjourn. Borash seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. There being no further business, Mayor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

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City Clerk – Shannon Geier

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Randy Carlson - Mayor

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Date Approved

Approved