

HARRIS CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 12, 2023

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Carlson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- 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 Diane Miller, Councilmember Al Siedow, and Councilmember Garret Pearson. Councilmember David Maack was absent. City Clerk Geier announced a quorum is present.
- IV. **Consent Agenda:** Siedow made a motion to approve the May 8 Regular Meeting Minutes, May 4 and May 24 Special Meeting Minutes, and Accounts Payable. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- V. **Public Comment:** None.
- VI. **Regular Agenda:**

A. **Fire Department** – Reviewed written reports.

Chief Chapeau advised the Council that he did not need approval on the purchase of polo shirts as they have already been ordered. The purpose of the new shirts is for the fire department to look cleaner and more professional when holding events throughout the City. Also, it appears that Harris Fire will receive a FEMA grant for SCBA that requires a 5% match of the approximate \$200,000 award. Chapeau asked about the garbage between the Fire Hall and Cold Storage and was told that Public Works is gathering materials to haul in for scrapping. Chapeau advised the Council that the fire department will burn the brush pile on south side of cemetery as a training function this fall.

Deputy Chief Gabi Streater was present to discuss additional items. They have been cleaning out the fire hall and there are old wood cabinets with formica tops to dispose of. October is Fire Prevention month, and the Awards Ceremony is scheduled for September 30. They will need funding for these activities plus purchase of lifesaving awards. The fire department would like to place a hiring banner on the ballfield fence and asks Council to waive fees. Siedow made a motion to approve the hiring banner on ballfield fence and waive fees. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

- B. **Harris Club** - Streater stated that the Fire Relief is funding fireworks for Harris Days and is requesting approval of the application. The 15-minute event will be held at Schoolhouse Park. A discrepancy was noted in the application packet that referenced Stark Field as the location, and a diagram of the ground at which the display will be held was missing. Pearson made a motion to approve the fireworks contingent upon correction of the application packet to show Schoolhouse Park as the location and receipt of the missing diagram. Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Streater then asked if

the City could get electric to Railroad Park and sweep the sidewalks and streets before Harris Days. Carlson will contact Dan with Weber Electric for an estimate on electricity. Carlson suggested the City rent a sweeper attachment and he will use his own bobcat to sweep the sidewalks and streets.

Andy Kurkowski from the Fuse was present to advise the Council he will be catering food and alcohol during the concert/street dance at 439th and Ginger Ave. He will fence off an area and serve potatoes and cans of beer.

- C. **Trailer on Johnson Property** – Because the Clerk’s computer is down, all estimates may not have been received. Siedow made a motion to table until estimates are received, and property owner has been contacted about the cost and about other abandoned items on property. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- D. **Old PW Mower** – Carlson stated the mower transmission is shot. Previous repair estimates ranged from \$3,000 to \$5,000. Siedow asked that this item be tabled to allow him time to research. Carlson made a motion to table. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- E. **Gravel Bids** – Because the Clerk’s computer is down, all estimates may not have been received. Pearson made a motion to approve the quote from Bjorklund for delivery of 2,000 yds Cl 5 gravel, divided equally, to 470th, Holman Ave., Evergreen Ave, and east end of 420th at a cost of \$18.64/yd or to accept any lower quote received once the Clerk’s computer is back on-line. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- F. **Update on Water Tower and Harder Paving** – The state bonding bill has passed so Harris will be receiving a grant for the water tower rehab, and MSA is checking with the contractor for a start date. The Harder Avenue paving project is scheduled to begin the week of July 10.
- G. **Review Ordinance 2023-04 THC Products** – Councilmembers are asked to review the proposed ordinance and forward any comments to the City Clerk as soon as possible. The Planning Commission is holding a public hearing on Monday, June 26.
- H. **Update on CR 40 & 59** – Chisago County Public Works has notified the City of Harris that the 460th Street (CR 40 & 59) reconstruction project is scheduled to begin the week of June 12.
- I. **PFAS Cost Recovery Information** – A PFAS cost recovery action has been filed against the global manufacturers of the PFAS forever compounds. Carlson made a motion to sign and submit the required documents to put the Harris Wastewater Treatment Plant on the PFAS cost recovery rolls. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- J. **Chisago County Senior Care Center** – The Chisago County Senior Center submitted a contract for health, social, or recreational services to be provided for older adults. The service contract had a suggested dollar amount of \$200. No action was taken at this time.

- K. **Chisago County Public Input needed on Hazard Mitigation Plan** – The Chisago County Office of Emergency Management is working to update the County’s Hazard Mitigation Plan and wants to hear from the public. The Chisago County News Release requesting feedback from residents and businesses will be posted.
- L. **Tobacco License Renewal** – Miller made a motion to approve the tobacco license renewals for The Fuse, Harris Stop, Harris Bottle Shop, and Dollar General. Siedow seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- M. **Sale of PID 14.00387.00** – John and Renee Quigley have offered to purchase this parcel from the City for \$400 because it is attached to their property. The parcel is small, wetland, not buildable, and of no use to the City. Siedow made a motion to approve the sale. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- N. **Windows at Legion** – Carlson is in the process of getting estimates for the basement windows. Siedow stated that the upstairs windows are also bad and need to be replaced or, at a minimum, the sills need to be repaired/replaced.
- O. **Track off Falcon Ave.** – Complaints have been received concerning an ATV track at 5404 441st St. A letter will be sent advising the homeowner that the track is in violation of the Harris Code of Ordinances, Chapter 72.
- P. **Codifying our Ordinances with American Legal** – Carlson made a motion to approve codifying the Ordinances and for online updates at a cost not to exceed \$2800. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- Q. **Holiday Schedule** – Carlson made a motion to update Personnel Policy 305.28.01 to add Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day, remove Day after Thanksgiving, and add Juneteenth as it is now required by state law. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. Siedow made a motion to close the office on Monday, July 3 for Independence Day for 2023. Pearson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- R. **Announce another PW workshop on June 28 @ 6 pm** – PW employees from other cities will be invited.

VII. Staff/Department Reports:

- A. **Public Works** – Written report. Also, Public Works employee Teich will obtain quotes to patch Ginger (main) before Harris Days.
- B. **Parks and Rec** – Written report. Park & Rec Chairman Siedow advised Council that they won the bid on playground equipment. Siedow also requested authority to purchase coated metal picnic tables that he found at a site in St Croix Falls. Pearson made a motion to purchase as many tables as possible at a cost not exceeding \$2,250. Carlson seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.
- C. **Planning Commission** – Written Report.

D. **PeopleService Report** - Written Report.

E. **Clerk's Report** - Written Report.

F. **Mayor and Council Reports** – None.

VIII. **Adjourn:** Siedow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Miller seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried. There being no further business, Mayor Carlson adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

City Clerk – Shannon Geier

Randy Carlson - Mayor

Date Approved

APPROVED