

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MAY 19, 2020**  
**5:30 PM**

The May 19, 2020 council meeting was called to order by Mayor Lowell Helget at 5:30 PM. Those present include Helget, John Mueller, Sam Hesse, Theresa Beckman, Mike Rothmeier, City Attorney Paul Muske, City Manager Joe Stremcha and Deputy Clerk Donna Woidylla. Others present include Wendy Krier, Bill Helget, Greg and Linda Roiger, Steve and Cindy Gewerth, Mark Brown, Tim Gramentz, Scott Johnson, Randy Haseleu, Barry Reindl, Dale Knutson, Joe Micka, Jill Riederer, Layne Kockelman, Robert Santaella, Tom Ryan and Jessica Green.

Motion by Mueller, second by Hesse to approve the agenda. All ayes.

Layne Kockelman, AEM was present via Zoom to go over the 2019 Audit with the Council. After his presentation motion by Mueller, second by Beckman to accept the audit as presented, All ayes.

Robert Santaella, Brown County Asst. Emergency Management Director and City Manager Stremcha explained the Brown Co. Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan and the City's Projects to the Council. Motion by Beckman, second by Hesse to adopt Res. 20-051908 the Brown Co. Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan. All ayes.

Tom Ryan was available via Zoom to discuss the retention pond that was not added to out lot A in the Wild Ridge Addition. Much discussion was had and several ideas were shared by Ryan and the Council onto how to go about getting this retention pond put in as there is still water drainage issues. Bill Helget from Bolten and Menk our City Engineer was also on hand to add to the conversation on what could or could not be done with certain requirements needing to be met by the MPCA as to how the water is handled. Motion by Rothmeier, second by Mueller to table for now and have Bill Helget look at the options to take care of the water issues and the cost. All ayes.

Motion by Mueller, second by Beckman to approve the Variance request recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission for Steve & Cindy Gewerth for their garage at 119 N O'Connell Ave. All ayes.

Scott Johnson, PUC Superintendent was at the meeting to discuss the Electronic Vehicle charging Station that will be put in at East End Park. There will be four stations put in and they have a quote from MR Paving to black top the parking lot for \$31,700.00 and are asking the council to split the cost in half. Motion by Beckman, second by Hesse to approve the City paying half of the black top. All ayes.

2020 Street Project Grant Agreement, MnDot, Brown Co Cooperative Agreement where discussed by Council. As per the Local Road Improvement (LRIP) Grant. motion by Rothmeier, second by Hesse to approve Exhibit C. All ayes.

Motion by Rothmeier, second by Beckman to approve Exhibit E of the LRIP Grant. All ayes.

Motion by Beckman, second by Hesse to approve the LRIP Grant. All ayes.

Motion by Hesse, second by Mueller to approve the Cooperative Agreement between the State, County and City for the 2020 Street Project and Bonding. All ayes.

Citizen's Forum. No one present.

Motion by Beckman, second by Hesse to approve the Consent Agenda with acknowledgment and appreciation for the donations received. All ayes.

Motion by Mueller, second by Beckman to approve payment to Salonek Concrete and Construction in the amount of \$59,100.83 for Concession Stand work. All ayes.

Rental Ordinance. Muske shared an update on meetings between Andy Spielman, Stremcha, and himself on drafting ordinance language and planning for its implementation. Action planned for Council's next regular meeting in June.

Police Time of Day Report and Response Time. Time of Day report was presented. Discussion on feasibility of extending the response time to accommodate prospective new hires. General consensus was favorable and action will be taken upon conditional hire.

Springfield Area Community Center Rate Adjustment. Comments were shared by Stremcha and Riederer on current rates and study findings. No recommendation for changes this summer.

Motion by Beckman, second by Hesse to allow City Hall, Library and Community Center to return to Level A due to Covid-19 on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Library hours will be 9am to 4pm due to extra cleaning. Public Restrooms will remain closed at this time. Mayor has the authority to dial back as needed. All ayes.

Motion by Rothmeier, second by Hesse to hire George Tauer and Brandon Wilhelmi for the Rec. Complex at an hourly wage of \$15.00 rather than salary. All ayes.

North End Park tree removal approved by Manger Stremcha, and no action was needed.

City Manager Stremcha informed the Council that we have counter tops and cabinets from the Medical Center that will be able to be used at the Pool and can be installed over the Winter.

Stremcha, and Jill Riederer spoke to the Council on the opening of the Pool. Stated was that the Red Cross has canceled all training due to Covid-19 and at this time we do not have enough trained staff to open without that training. After much discussion there was a motion by Hesse, second by Mueller to not open the Pool for the 2020 Season. All ayes. They will also keep watch as to what Gov. Walz decides to do at his Thursday, May 21, 2020 press conference and can revisit as necessary.

Jessica Green from North Land Securities was able to attend via Zoom to discuss the Bonding with the Council on the 2020 Street Project. Discussion was had on Bonding now or in the Fall explaining GO Bonds need to be sold and will take about 60 days and 30 days prior to the sale a resolution needs to be set by the Council for the sale. Council decided they would review again in the Fall of 2020 to review bonding options for the project.

Council decided not to do any seasonal hires this year for the Street/Parks and Airport. With the Covid-19 some of the duties performed by the seasonal personal not needed or reduced as we have team members from other departments that are able to fulfill those duties.

Motion by Rothmeier, second by Beckman to approve all Liquor and 3.2 Beer Licenses pending all information that is required is met and also to reduce the Liquor Licenses that we issue by 3 months of fees due to Covid-19. All ayes.

Manager Stremcha said he has been approached by someone who would like to use our Cass Ave. Bridge for a wedding Oct. 2, 2021. Motion by Mueller, second by Rothmeier to allow it with stipulations being the use of the Community Center with Stremcha directed to draw up a permit with a cost to do so. All ayes.

Muske informed the Council that the appraiser was incorrect on the purchase price of the property along Hwy 14/Central Street for the 2020 Street Project. As the price came in higher, he asked the Council for approval to pay. Motion by Beckman, second by Mueller to approve payment. All ayes.

Muske informed the Council that he is working with the Police Department on the nuisance complaints of properties within the City which several of them have old tires that need to be disposed of. He is doing up letters for these.

Motion by Helget, second by Hesse to adjourn at 8:45 PM. All ayes.

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Mayor Lowell Helget

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Deputy Clerk Donna M. Woidylla