

Mayor Fred Froehlich called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on April 8, 2024 in the Council Chambers.

Members and guests sited the words to the Pledge of Allegiance.

In addition to Mayor Froehlich; Councilmembers: Mary Wels, Matt Anthony, Phil Radel and Kevin Ostermann were present. Others in attendance included Vanessa Drill, Darin Drill, Jeremy Sieberg, Lance Severin, Dave Holcomb and Karen Fluegge(*The New Ulm Journal*).

*The agenda was approved on a motion which was made M. Anthony, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*The minutes of the Regular March 12, 2024 and workshop of April 3, 2024 meeting were approved on a motion which was made by M. Wels, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*The bills totaling \$99,834.21 were approved on a motion which was made by P. Radel, which was seconded by M. Wels and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Lance Severin was present representing the Crusin' Pine and 99 committee. He stated the group will be having a band on June 20 and August 1 which they will be on a trailer, and the trailer would be turned to block off Pine Street near Rapid Ricks.

*Allowing Crusin' Pine and 99 group to put a trailer for their events on June 20 and August 1, to block off Pine Street near Rapid Ricks, with them leaving room behind the trailer for walking access and for the group to contact the Sheriff's department of their intentions was approved on a motion which was made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by M. Anthony, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Dave Holcomb with the American Legion was present to request an alley closing on behalf of 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of the Legion on May 18. There will be a band in the bank parking lot with live music from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. The request to close off the alley from the Legion property on to Pine Street. This would leave the alley open so people could go through to the post office driveway.

*Allowing the Legion to close off alleyway behind the Legion to Pine Street for the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration on May 18 was approved on a motion which was made by M. Anthony, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Dave Holcomb also a representative from the Nicollet Chamber of Commerce asked about closing off a portion of 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Pine Street for a BBQ cookoff fundraiser called Ribs 'R Rockin' for Saturday, July 27. The plan is to have the amateur cooks be along 5<sup>th</sup> Street down to Pine, then down Pine and possibly closing off 4<sup>th</sup> and Pine too depending on how many participants there are for the event.

*Allowing the Nicollet Chamber of Commerce to close off certain portions of 5<sup>th</sup> Stret, Pine Street to 4<sup>th</sup> Street for the BBQ cookoff fundraiser on July 27, 2024 was approved on a motion which was made by M. Anthony, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Jeremy Sieberg, Nicollet's Fire Department Chief was present and discussed a list of items that the department would like the council to consider purchasing with the money from the public safety aid funds. The department's suggestions were: putting some money into a truck fund because if they need to purchase a truck without grant money the city's share could be about \$56,000; a gas monitor for about \$3,500 that could be used by the department and the city, but the maintenance would be done by the fire department; gate valves for hydrants for about \$2,750; and requested about 100 feet of curb be painted red or yellow on 6<sup>th</sup> Street near the water tower so that vehicles are not parked there when they need to get water from the tower during a fire.

Sieberg also noted that an audit was done by Insurance Services Office, ISO, is an insurance advisory organization that provides statistical and actuarial information to businesses.

*The use of public safety aid funds to purchase a gas monitor estimated \$4,000 (shareable with the fire department), traffic cones estimated \$600 for 30 cones and a man basket estimated up to \$3,200 was approved on a motion by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Anthony, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Clerk noted that the Chamber is asking for the city tractor for city wide cleanup on May 4. It was noted part-time employee Mark Drill will operate the tractor during this event.

*Part time employee Mark Drill to operate city tractor for the city-wide cleanup event on May 4 was approved on a motion by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Minnesota Dept of Health has issued a grant for Bolton & Menk to perform tasks associated with a full inventory of lead service lines in the community for homes built before 1985. The process will involve researching available records, public engagement, and dwelling investigations to determine if lead is present either from the main to the curb stop AND from the curb stop into the dwelling. All results will be captured using GIS. The City will need to initially purchase the software and subscription, but Bolton & Menk will fully reimburse (by check) through the MDH grant. Process must be completed by July 15, 2024.

*Purchase the ESRI subscription for the lead service line investigation per the MN Dept of Health with reimbursement from Bolton and Menk via a grant was approved on a motion by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Spencer Drill was hired for the part-time mowing position at an hourly rate of \$16/hour which was approved on a motion by P. Radel, which was seconded by F. Froehlich, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Removal of the honey suckle bushes at the Mara Tonka townhomes and replaced with grass seed was approved on a motion by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Anthony, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Purchasing tools for maintenance up to \$10k that was budgeted for in 2024 was approved on a motion by M. Anthony, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Council discussed the flashing cross walk near Trinity Church/School. Mayor Froehlich and councilmember Ostermann met with MNDOT. It was discussed the city will need to have a plan.

*Hiring Bolton and Menk to put a plan together for 2 flashing cross walks in order to obtain a grant was approved on a motion by M. Anthony, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Waiving the monetary limits on municipal tort liability was approved on a motion which was made by M. Anthony, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Consumer Confidence Report of 2023 was approved on a motion which was made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by P. Radel, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

*Redevelopment assistance request **interest** with H & H development at 520 6<sup>th</sup> Street was approved on a motion which was made by P. Radel, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

Reminders of the upcoming, meetings were noted:

- 1) May 13, 6:00 PM, Regular Meeting, Monday

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m., which was approved on a motion made by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.*

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Vanessa Drill, City Clerk/Treasurer