

Prior to the January 13, 2025 meeting being called to order, the clerk administered the Oaths of Office to re-elected Mayor Fred Froehlich and re-elected Councilmember Mary Wels. The clerk administered the Oath of Office to the re-elected Councilmember Matthew Anthony at the clerk's office prior to the council meeting.

Mayor Fred Froehlich called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. on January 13, 2025 in the Council Chambers.

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

In addition to Mayor Froehlich; Councilmembers: Mary Wels and Kevin Ostermann were present. Councilmember Matthew Anthony and Phil Radel were absent. Others in attendance included Vanessa Drill, Troy Hewitt and Kent Evans (*Hewitt Docks*) and Karen Fluegge (*The New Ulm Journal*).

The agenda was approved on a motion which was made K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The minutes of the TNT Hearing and Regular December 9, 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 \$370,550.94 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.

Senior Councilmember was appointed to M. Wels, which was approved on a motion made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

ProGrowth Bank was named as the Official Depository on a motion which was made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The St Peter Herald was designated as the primary newspaper was approved on a motion which was made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The New Ulm Journal was designated as the secondary newspaper was approved on a motion which was made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The following Council Committee Assignments were set and was approved on a motion made by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels and which carried with all voting in favor:

Planning/Zoning: Fred Froehlich and Phil Radel

Streets: Fred Froehlich and Kevin Ostermann

Utilities (Water/Sewer): Mary Wels and Kevin Ostermann

Nuisance/Blight: Matt Anthony and Phil Radel

Rural City Fire Association: Kevin Ostermann, backup Fred Froehlich

MN Council of Governments: Mary Wels

Highway 14 Partnership: Fred Froehlich and Phil Radel

Personnel: Mary Wels and Matt Anthony

Troy Hewitt and Kent Evans with Hewitt Docks were present to see if the council would be interested in vacating a portion of 9th Street located between Hewitt's production buildings. Evans stated the street is dangerous because of all the blind spots so it would be good to eliminate traffic. At the December meeting council set up a committee along with the city engineer to sit down with Hewitt Docks. Councilmember Ostermann explained that Hewitt Docks would need to have the property surveyed and marked with pins along with locating of the utilities before council would hold a public hearing on vacating.

Request of vacating a portion of 9th Street which would require a hearing would be considered pending a survey of the said property along with locating of utilities and approval of the city engineer and council was

approved on a motion by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The Clerk shared a memo from the City Attorney regarding cannabis which was a high-level overview of the options cities will have regarding adult-use cannabis and to obtain preliminary input on some questions that will be used to draft the City's ordinance(s) related to cannabis and hemp.

Public hearing was set to amend the Nicollet city code pertaining to cannabis and hemp businesses for Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm which was approved on a motion made by K. Ostermann, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

The clerk provided information on a 2015 Leaf Vacuum, seventy-five horsepower, which could be used to pick up fallen leaves from residents' properties. The vacuum is currently located in the City of Hutchinson and the cost is around \$20,000. Council stated to have the maintenance department to go and look at the leaf-vac and report back at the next council meeting.

2025 Compost will go to Ethan Drill in the amount of \$2,400 for the year which was approved on a motion made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Froehlich was contacted by a resident regarding the blacktopped alley behind the creamery, next to the city park. There are residents who park in the alley. When people want to go through the blocked alley, they drive off the blacktop which makes for ruts and causes mud to be carried on to the blacktop. After discussion, the council agreed to put up no parking signs in the alley. No parking signs will be posted when the weather gets warmer.

LG220 Application for Sioux Trails DU Bingo Event on March 1, 2025 was approved on a motion made by F. Froehlich, which was seconded by M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Pay Request No. 2-FINAL for 2024 Pedestrian Safety Improvements to River City Electric Co in the amount of \$12,250.48 was approved on a motion which was made by K. Ostermann, which was seconded M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Personnel Policy update to section 8.04 on call/call back pay policy(pg 22) and ESST bereavement leave (pg 29) was approved on a motion which was made by M. Wels, which was seconded K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Renewal contract for building inspector services to 101 Development Resources, Inc was approved on a motion which was made by K. Ostermann, which was seconded M. Wels, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Reminders of the upcoming, meetings were noted:

- 1) February 10, 2025, 6:00 pm, Public Hearing, Monday
- 2) February 10, 2025, 6:15 pm, Regular Meeting, Monday
- 3) March 10, 2025, 6:00 pm, Regular Meeting, Monday

The meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m., which was approved on a motion made by M. Wels, which was seconded by K. Ostermann, and which carried with all voting in favor.

Vanessa Drill, City Clerk/Treasurer