

MINUTES OF THE PROCTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 3rd, 2023

Meeting was streamed live on the Trac 7 YouTube channel.

Mayor Ward called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

PRESENT: Mayor Ward, Councilor Troy DeWall, Councilor Rory Johnson, Councilor Rohweder

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney John Bray, City Administrator Jess Rich, Administrative Assistant Megan Jordan

M/S/P: Johnson/Rohweder to approve the minutes from Tuesday, June 20th, 2023 with the following correction: Four priority requests have been submitted for the capital budget. These items include: infrastructure at the fairgrounds, the Munger Trail extension, the regional sports complex, and utility extensions under I-35.

M/S/P: Rohweder/DeWall to approve the agenda for Monday, July 3rd, 2023, with the addition of item 6D Legislative Agenda IRRRB and Payment in Lieu of Taxes: PILT Program

M/S/P: Ward/Johnson to approve the consent agenda for Monday, July 3rd, 2023

4. Clerk Advises Council

A. Sand/Salt Garage Update

A preconstruction meeting was held on June 27th, this phase of the project is ready to begin and waiting on Lumen to move the fiberoptic line. This work is scheduled for July 12th, 2023.

B. 2nd St Update

Project is progressing and continues to remain on the expected timeline. Public comments/complaints have been low as the city has strived to increase communication via social media and email. Crews will work on July 8th to make up for scheduled time off over the 4th of July holiday.

C. Orange Places Project

The 3rd St Committee will meet on July 13th to discuss public comments received from submitted surveys and discuss future restoration efforts.

D. Pickleball Facility

Collaboration continues with Sherm Carlson for the facility location.

E. 2024 Capital Bonding Requests:

Meetings were held with Senator Hauschild and Representative Zeleznikar informing them of our requests and exploration of other funding options.

F. Jet Update

Work continues to secure the jet as we work with the LMCIT on the claim and a permanent repair plan.

G. League of MN Annual Conference

Administrator Rich attended sessions on cannabis legislation, opioid settlements, communication plans, legislative updates, and childcare. The conference was held June 21-23 in Duluth.

H. Budgets and Financial Statement

Finance Director Brunfelt will be attending the July 17, 2023, meeting with information and discussion on the June 30, 2023 budget report deadline, 2024 budgeting and the 2022 financial statement.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. City of Proctor Blight Policy

6. NEW BUSINESS

M/S/P: Rohweder/Johnson to approve the bids as submitted, awarding the job to KTM accepting the bid in the amount of \$26,546.80 and the bid submitted by A1 Fence accepting as submitted in the amount of \$5,620.91 for a total of \$32,167.71 and approve the bids for additional fencing, dirt work, and paving at the Playground for Everybody (Roll call vote: Benson N, Rohweder Y, Johnson N, DeWall Y, Ward Y). Discussion follows regarding the difference in the additional funding, with Administrator Rich stating the remaining budget will come from ARP funds through parks and an additional grant application. She adds the grant is matching dollars, with funds remaining left to spend. Council discusses previous donations received from Sinnott and considers awarding them the bid. Administrator Rich provides additional funding information regarding matching dollars and donations received. (Roll call vote: Benson N, Rohweder Y, Johnson N, DeWall Y, Ward Y Motion carries to award the bid to KTM and A1 Fencing as submitted.)

Cannabis Moratorium Recommendation

Administrator Rich submitted a memo with information regarding a moratorium pertaining to the legalization of cannabis. Administrator Rich states the legalization process is evolving with the state and the LMC assisting cities with this process. At this point, sales are not approved without a license, to which the state has not designated the offices for processing and overseeing sales and regulations. Administrator Rich recommends following the opportunities and legal advice from LMC as it is released and utilize any model ordinances as they're released. Discussion follows allowing for additional time and possibilities of municipality owned businesses with information delivered by Councilor Benson. No action taken at this time.

LCCMR Proposal Discussion:

Councilor Benson suggests utilizing the next year to put together an application for possible submission to the LCCMR (Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources) for the next funding cycle likely for 2025. The timeline is presented with anticipated deadlines with the process outlined in the memo submitted by Councilor Benson. No action taken at this time, city staff and additional committees, and possible resolutions to consider the following items for possible requests: Kingsbury Creek restoration, Munger Trail Spur, Campgrounds, City of Proctor Recreation Area – Phase 2.

IRRRB (Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board)/PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes):

Councilor Benson suggests there is an opportunity for the City of Proctor to gain ground with members of the board for consideration of receiving funding. Benson states the operations of the railroad within the city help to service the Iron Range and would like to see Proctor included as part of the jurisdiction. No action taken at this time, with additional information and statistics provided to council by Councilor Benson. Mayor Ward agrees the inclusion of Proctor in the IRRRB would be beneficial to the community.

PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes):

Councilor Benson provides the council with information pertaining to funding received in regards to public land, he suggests taking the opportunity to try and include cities as recipients of these funds in addition to counties and townships. No action taken, further information and statistics provided to council.

MEMBER CONCERNS

Benson: Extends gratitude to Administrator Rich for attending the LMC conference in Duluth.

DeWall: Requests follow-up information, and would like to see the placement, 6th St and 5th Ave property updates

Johnson: Have a safe and happy 4th of July

Rohweder: None

Mayor Ward: Have a safe and happy 4th of July

Attorney Bray: None

Administrator Rich: None

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

General: \$61,860.99

Liquor: \$46,923.04

TOTAL BILLS FOR APPROVAL: \$108,784.03

M/S/P: Rohweder/Ward to approve the bills as submitted.

M/S/P: DeWall/Johnson to adjourn the regular council meeting at 6:37 pm.