

MINUTES OF THE PROCTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 2, 2024

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 Chad Ward, Councilor Troy DeWall, Councilor Rory Johnson, Councilor Jake Benson, Councilor Jim Rohweder

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

M/S/P: DeWall/Benson to approve the City Council minutes from Monday, December 18th, 2023.

M/S/P: Rohweder/Johnson to approve the agenda for Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, adding items:

6D: Medallion Hunt and 6E: Proctor Police Department – Resignation

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT: NONE

M/S/P: Ward/Rohweder to approve the consent agenda for Tuesday, January 2nd, 2024, pulling item 5C for discussion.

4. Clerk Advises Council

A. 2024 Committee and Commission Appointments – Jan 16th, 2023

Openings for committee and commission have been advertised with standing committee/commission members receiving an email regarding the option to re-apply for the open seats. Administrator Rich will be presenting the applicants at the next meeting in January.

B. Public Safety Officer's Benefit (PSOB)

The state legislature has approved reimbursement options for additional employee assistance programs, trainings, and opportunities for staff pertaining to PTSD. This will be implemented within the fire and police departments with staff keeping up to date on training requirements.

C. Kingsbury Creek Restoration Project Kick Off Meeting

The CN grant has been denied for the third year in a row, Administrator Rich notes any grants for the completion of this project have been awarded and received by the district.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. City of Proctor Blight Policy

An injunction has been drafted and delivered to council members under separate email cover. Discussion follows among the council regarding proceeding with the injunction.

M/S/P: Ward/Rohweder directing Attorney Bray to commence injunction at 102 6th St for continuous blight infringement.

6. NEW BUSINESS

2024 Meeting Approval Dates

M/S/P: Johnson/Benson to approve the 2024 meeting approval dates as submitted.

Resolution 01-24: Designating Annual Appointments

M/S/P: Ward/Rohweder to approve Resolution 01-24: Designating Annual Appointments as submitted.

M/S rescinded: Ward/Rohweder

Discussion follows, noting to remove the Duluth News Tribune as the alternate newspaper

M/S/P: Ward/Rohweder to approve Resolution 01-24: Designating Annual Appointments with the following edits:

~~Duluth News Tribune as alternate~~

Roll Call Vote: Ward Y, DeWall Y, Johnson Y, Rohweder Y, Benson: Abstain

2024 Budget Approval

M/S/P: Benson/Johnson to approve the 2024 budget as submitted.

M/S/P: Rohweder/Johnson to approve the event application from Midwest Communications for the 2024 medallion hunt.

M/S/P: Ward/Johnson to approve the resignation from Officer Hedin from the Police Department effective January 8th, 2024. Mayor Ward extends gratitude to Officer Hedin for his service to the City of Proctor, and well wishes for safety and success with his future career endeavors.

MEMBER CONCERNS

Rohweder: Asks if any additional information has been received by the development inquiry, with Councilor DeWall stating he would anticipate additional information within the coming weeks.

Johnson: Happy New Year – extends gratitude to Administrator Rich and Tom for hosting the city employee Christmas party.

Benson: Looking forward to another exciting year in service to the City of Proctor

DeWall: None

Ward: Happy New Year – next meeting is Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 due to the Dr. Martin Luther King holiday.

Attorney Bray: Happy New Year

Administrator Rich: Requests council to review the memo sent under separate cover as Chief Helquist will be putting a proposal together for the purchase of a fire truck at the next meeting.

Chief Gaidis:

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

General: \$111,086.63

Liquor: \$25,154.28

TOTAL BILLS FOR APPROVAL: \$136,240.91

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

M/S/P: DeWall/Johnson to adjourn the regular council meeting at 6:22 pm.