

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Johnson, Councilors: Jimmy Gordon, Paul Bergley (arrived at 5:07 p.m.), Steve Lundeen and Dan Collison

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, Human Resources/ City Clerk Katie Brooks, Public Services Director Matt Sylvester, Community Development Director Sheila Sellman, Liquor Store Manager John Jacobi and Chief of Police Travis Muires

D. Public Comment

None

E. Committee Meeting Items

1. Liquor Updates

- Gross Profit for the months of May-July was approximately 29.04%. The largest sales increase ever.
- The liquor store has been following CDC guidelines as close as possible since it is an essential business.
- Employees have been following the current mask mandate and sanitizing the doors and door handles on a regular basis.
- Stickers have been placed on the floor to keep customers 6 feet from one another.
- The 7th Annual “Support the Troops Drive” went well with \$92.36 raised in donations. Proceeds went to Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Isanti.
- The liquor store has been faced with many “out of stock” items since the pandemic started. Suppliers are doing their best to accommodate any way they can.
- Sales have still been strong on the weekends mostly Fridays during the Isanti Farmers Market as well as the first and last hour on Sundays as Cambridge is closing an hour earlier on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
- Staffing has been an issue recently; the liquor store has come close to being fully staffed and are working hard at training during these unprecedented times. As soon as the liquor store is fully staffed, an all employee staff meeting will be held to go over the store processes manual in detail.

2. Mosquito Updates/Discussion

- Public Works tried Pursuit, a permethrin based agent, for 2 weeks to see how well it works compared to the garlic agent that has previously been used.
- Recommendation from Committee is to move forward with Pursuit.

3. Chapter 87 Discussion on Pigeons

- Chapter 87 prohibits the keeping of certain animals within city limits.

- Chapter 87 was amended April 27, 2011 by Ordinance 506 to include pigeons as a prohibited animal in the City of Isanti.
- A request has been received from a citizen to allow for racing pigeons within city limits.
- Recommendation from Committee is to work with city attorney on an Ordinance allowing racing pigeons in the R1-A district and bring back to City Council for consideration of the Ordinance.

4. Safety Training Renewal Update

- Every 5 years a Request for Proposals goes out for Safety Training Vendors for the City of Isanti.
- Where the city contracts with a vendor to give employees from all different departments training.
- The safety vendor manages the AWAIR program, manage SDS database program, Tier Two reports and training for OSHA compliance.
- Staff is requesting for safety training to be done in house with the assistance from the League of Minnesota Cities and to become part of a Resource Safety Group with other local cities.
- Currently the city pays approximately \$6,800 base cost without additional trainings excluding the Police Department as they have their own trainings.
- Training in house will bring the cost below \$3,000.
- Recommendation from Committee is to move forward with bringing safety training in house.

5. Building Official Requirements

- Applications were received for the building official position.
- Staff is looking for direction on how to proceed.
- Recommendation from Committee is for staff to interview applicants and bring recommendations back to council.

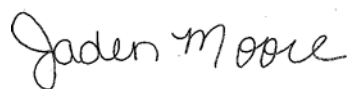
6. Isanti County CARES Relief Plan

- Isanti County sent out a memo informing cities within the county what they plan on spending their CARES Relief funds plan.
- County infrastructure, PPE, IT and public safety payroll reimbursement such as technology, payroll and PPE are allocating an approximate cost of \$2.9 million.
- Small business and non-profit relief \$10,000 grants to reimburse lost profit.
- \$1.5 million for school relief for reimbursement for technology and PPE costs.
- \$300,000 individual housing relief.
- \$100,000 to Lakes and Pines.
- Recommendation from Committee is to use the relief funds for the needs of Isanti first and then the Fire District and local businesses within the City

F. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jaden Moore
Deputy City Clerk/ Human Resources