

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**



Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Johnson, Councilmembers: Jimmy Gordon, Paul Bergley and Dan Collison

Members Absent: Councilmember Steve Lundeen

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, City Clerk Jaden Strand, Finance Director Mike Betker, Assistant Finance Director Pam Dahlheimer, Community Development Director Stephanie Hillesheim and Chief of Police Travis Muyres

D. Public Comment

Al Garber, 1223 Blossom Blvd, acknowledged Mayor Jeff Johnson for his service to Isanti.

E. Adopt Agenda

ADDITIONS:

Add F.1. Illuminate Isanti Family Pack Ticket Winnner

Add K.5. Archery Range Discussion

Renumber K.6. through K.9.

Motion by Bergley, seconded by Collison to adopt the agenda with the revisions listed above. Motion carried 4-0.

F. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Award

1. Illuminate Isanti Family Pack Ticket Winner

Mayor Jeff Johnson shared Amanda Ludwigs was the winner for free tickets to the event.

G. Approve City Council Minutes

- 1.** November 15, 2022- Regular Meeting of the City Council
- 2.** November 15, 2022- Committee of the Whole Meeting
- 3.** November 15, 2022- Canvass Board Meeting

Motion by Collison, seconded by Bergley to approve minutes as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

H. Announcements

- 1.** Committee of the Whole
- 2.** City Council Meeting
- 3.** Planning Commission Meeting

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, December 20, 2022

I. Council Committee Reports

None

J. Public Hearings

None

K. Business Items

1. Resolution 2022-209 Interview Applicant Alexander Collins for Vacant Planning Commission Seat

Applicant Alexander Collins was interviewed by Mayor Johnson for the vacant Planning Commission Seat. Johnson asked questions specific to Planning Commission.

A motion was made to approve Alexander Collins to fill the vacant seat by Gordon, the motion was seconded by Collison. Motion carried 4-0.

City Administrator Josi Wood

2. City Council, Boards and Commission Meeting Dates for 2023

City Administrator Josi Wood shared it was discussed at Committee of the Whole that Planning Commission meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. beginning in the new year to ensure public hearings have a specific time. Wood continued to share that three meetings will be on Wednesdays in 2023. These dates are July 5th, August 2nd November 8th.

Motion by Bergley, seconded by Collison to approve meeting dates as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

3. ORD-779 An Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 262; Sewer and Water Service Charges

City Administrator Josi Wood shared the current residential equivalent connection (REC) table was last updated in 2015. Staff did a comprehensive review of the REC table and Chapter 262, to determine if updates should be made. It was recommended by Staff and discussed at Committee of the Whole on November 15th to have some changes. Recommended changes have been made to the attached pending ordinance and was posted for the required 10 days.

Motion by Bergley, seconded by Collison to approve ordinance as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

4. ORD-780 An Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 160; Fees

City Administrator Josi Wood shared that the fee schedule is reviewed annually to see if any changes are warranted. The changes include removing the farmer's market fees, update valve plate cover fee to \$115.00, add \$5.00 for copies on a USB and Cannabinoid License for \$250.00. The pending ordinance was posted for the required 10 days.

Motion by Collison, seconded by Bergley to approve ordinance as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

5. Archery Range Discussion

Councilmember Gordon asked for discussion in regards to the archery range being open year-round.

Community Development Director Stephanie Hillesheim shared that Council originally decided to have the Archery Range open seasonally to save on wear and tear of the targets. However, if Council desires to have it open year-round it can be done but expectation is to replace and repair targets more frequently. Hillesheim shared that currently the city is not plowing paths through the Archery Range and if Council desires to have the Range open year-round, what the plowing expectation is and if Council desired to have a picnic table stay at the Archery Range.

Consensus from Council is for the picnic table to stay at the Archery Range year-round.

City Administrator Josi Wood shared that the Archery Range could be plowed as part of the second day rotation which is when sidewalks and trails are plowed.

Councilmember Collison asked about changing a range for Crossbow use.

Chief of Police Travis Muyres responded there is no issue with having a crossbow target but an ordinance amendment would need to be done to allow for such activity.

A motion was made by Gordon to leave targets up year-round, plow archery range as part of the second day rotation and amend Ordinance to reflect the Archery Range open year-round, the motion was seconded by Bergley. Motion carried 4-0.

Finance Director Mike Betker

Truth-In-Taxation (Presentation, Public Comment)

- 6. Resolution 2022-210** Adopting the 2023 Final Budget
- 7. Resolution 2022-211** Adopting Final 2022 Tax Levy Collectible in 2023
- 8. Resolution 2022-212** Adopting Final 2023 Enterprise Fund Budgets
- 9. Resolution 2022-213** Approving a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Non-Union Employees

Finance Director Mike Betker shared a PowerPoint presentation in regards to the 2023 budget. Highlights from the presentation include the proposed levy amount of \$4,042,954.00 and reflects a taxable market value for 2023 of 27.83%. A proposed property tax rate of \$57.66%, a decrease of 2.30% from 2022 and a decrease of 27.57% from the 2018 tax rate of 79.60%.

Mayor Johnson opened the meeting for public comment at 7:50 p.m.

Rick Larson, 311 8th Ave SW, shared concerns of market value increase of 25%.

Jeff Duncan, 407 12th Ave NW, shared levy concerns and increasing City property taxes.

Luke Merrill, 223 Broadway St, shared concerns of too many amenities, tax rate going down and taxes going up as well as the cost of the Splash Pad and Water Tower Project.

Jason Burke, 208 Richard Ave, shared concerns of too many amenities.

Megan Olson, 501 6th Ave, commented that the cost to live in Isanti is getting tougher.

Leroy Johnson, 510 Main Street W, commented that he is not against amenities but ongoing and long-term costs should be considered when selecting new amenities.

Jeff Holmgren, 508 Park Brook Rd NW, shared concerns of the need to get word out to the community in regards to projects.

Al Garber, 1223 Blossom Blvd, commented that amenities are not bad but it needs to be the right time for them.

Nick Izzo, 1107 Maplewood Ave SW, commented that whatever decision is determined, it needs to be understood that it has been communicated that a Splash Pad is coming. If the decision is reversed it needs to be communicated correctly to the community.

Elaine Fischer, 508 Main Street W, shared concerns about future amenities.

City Council discussed options to lower the levy.

A motion was made by Bergley to approve K.6. through K.9. with notable changes of reducing the levy in Fund 920 and General Fund 101 by \$70,000.00 each, transfer \$70,000.00 from Fund 609 to the General Fund 101 and reduction of \$218,000.00 in Fund 920 Levy, the motion was seconded by Gordon. Motion carried 4-0.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Payroll in the Amount of \$129,128.72 and Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$614,561.65
2. **Resolution 2022-214** Designating Polling Places in the City of Isanti
3. **Resolution 2022-215** Approving the Hire of Liquor Store Clerk II Jacob Dahlin
4. **Resolution 2022-216** Approving the Hire of Liquor Store Clerk II Kelly Poshek
5. **Resolution 2022-217** Accepting Donation from Bolton and Menk
6. **Resolution 2022-218** East Central Regional Arts Council Grant Acceptance

A motion was made by Collison, seconded by Bergley to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 4-0.

M. Other Communications

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Bergley, seconded by Gordon to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jaden Strand

City Clerk