

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 14, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following Council Members present: Chad Cummings, Amy Ernst, Alaina Kolpin, Chris Kielblock. Excused Absence: and Larry Janssen.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Troy Appel, Public Safety Director; Steve Schnieder, City Engineer; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Matt Selof, City Planner; Meredith Vaselaar, Administrative Secretary; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others present: Emma McNamee, The Globe; Ryan McGaughey, Radio Works; Elliot DeRoo, Beth DeRoo, Riley Spies, Kayla Spies, Darcy Spies, Wyatt Adolph, Adam Adolph, Brenda Ostrem, TJ Ostrem, Avery Ostrem, Donna Hunt, Zawdee Ploesepoeliberty.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA APPROVED WITH ADDITIONS/CHANGES

Mayor Kuhle stated that the following additions would be added to the agenda: Under the Consent Agenda *Item D.3.a 3. Application for Exemption fro Gambling Permit - Worthington Windsurfing Regatta*, under Regular Case Items, *Item F. 2. Appointment of Designated Building Official Revised*, and *Item I.2. Parking Lease - Thompson Apartments*. *Item E.2. Resolution Authorizing Transfer of K-9 Frank'ee to pet status* will be removed from the agenda.

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to approve the additions and changes to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Kolpin, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- City Council Meeting Minutes of January 24, 2022
- Economic Development Authority Minutes of December 13, 2021
- Prairie Justice Center Joint Operations Committee Minutes of November 10, 2021
- Prairie Justice Center Joint Operations Committee Minutes of February 9, 2022
- Application for Exemption from Lawful Gambling Permit - Pheasants Forever Nobles County Chapter 14
- Application for Exemption from Lawful Gambling Permit - Worthington Regional Health Care Foundation
- Application for Exemption from Lawful Gambling Permit - Worthington Windsurfing Regatta

- Bills payable and totaling \$1251248.86 be ordered paid

INTRODUCTION AND OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW POLICE OFFICER LOGAN WALDNER

Troy Appel, Public Safety Director, introduced Logan Waldner to City Council.

Officer Waldner joined our team at the Worthington Police Department in 2021. Logan grew up in Worthington and graduated from the Worthington High School in 2013. After high school, he joined the United States Marine Corp and served as an infantryman for four years. He was deployed twice to Japan during his time with the Marines. After his military service, he attended and graduated from Minnesota West in 2020, with a degree in Law Enforcement. Officer Waldner started with the PD on August 2nd and is currently working full-time shifts for the department.

Following the City Clerk administering the Oath to Officer Waldner, Council offered their congratulations.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS APPROVED

The Nominating Committee met on January 25, 2022 and are making the following recommendations for a committee appointment:

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Public Arts Commission | Re-appoint Cheryl Avenel-Navara to a second three-year term, term to expire November 30, 2024 |
| Cross Cultural Committee | Appoint Zawdee Ploesepoeliberty to replace Kisanet Woldu who resigned his position, term to expire December 31, 2022 |
| | Appoint Angie del Carmen Hurtado Rivera to replace Tah So Collah, term to expire December 31, 2022 |
| | Appoint Edgar Sanchez to replace Gabriella Bruning, term to expire December 31, 2023 |
| Center for Active Living | Appoint Margaret Vosburgh to replace Bob Miller who declined to serve another term, term to expire December 31, 2024 |

Appoint Mary Krueger to replace Karen Feit who declined to serve another term, term to expire December 31, 2024

Appoint Dennis Heidebrink to replace Bernice Camery who declined to serve another term, term to expire December 31, 2024

Appoint Rose Schissel to fill the expired term of Terry Janssen who declined to serve another term, term to expire December 31, 2024

Water & Light Commission

Re-appoint Amy Ernst to serve a first three-year term beginning 4/1/22, term to expire 3/31/25

Re-appoint Chad Nixon to a second three-year term beginning 4/1/22, term to expire 3/31/25

APPROVED APPOINTMENT OF DESIGNATED BUILDING OFFICIAL

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said Minnesota Statute 326B.133 mandates that municipalities have a designated Building Official to administer the code and perform inspection on exempt classified buildings (generally identified as commercial buildings). Mr. Robinson explained while the City's building inspector, Brent Jacobsen, recently attained certification as Building Official-Limited, the City must continue to employ or contract with a Certified Building Official.

Gene Abbot had previously been designated as the Designated Building Official at the November 22, 2021 Council meeting as a short-term appointment. Gene Abbott will continue as the City's Plans Examiner and code consultant.

Mr. Robinson said the City of Windom has agreed to allow their Certified Building Official, Andrew Spielman, to be designated as Worthington's Certified Building Official until Mr. Jacobsen attains his certification, which is expected to occur in the next six to twelve months. Under the terms of the agreement, Worthington would pay Windom \$60.00 per hour plus expenses for Mr. Spielman's services for an estimated six hours per week of oversight and inspections. If approved by both entities, the designation will be effective on February 16, 2022. The agreement was reviewed by the City attorney.

A motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Kolpin and

unanimously carried to approve the designation of Andrew Spielman as the City's Certified Building Official contingent upon approval by Windom's City Council.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM - 2022 LOCAL BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Mr. Robinson said the Nobles County Assessor's Office has notified us that the 2022 Local Board of Appeal /Equalization for the City of Worthington has been scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2022 in the Nobles County Commissioner's Room. He said in order to conduct the meeting, there must be a quorum present, and at least one Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Trained member in attendance. Currently, Council Members Ernst, Cummings and Kielblock are certified by the State.

RESOLUTION NOS. 2022-02-05 AND 2022-02-06 ADOPTED ACCEPTING PARK BENCH DONATIONS

Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director, said the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee has received requests from two parties to place benches in city parks and along the bike trails. The request are as follows:

- Jason Spidel to place a bench in Centennial Park in memory of Bruce Spidel.
- Nancy Danneman to place a bench at the Chautauqua Park Bandshell, in memory of Don Grant.

The donations meet all the requirements as set forth in the Park Donation policy adopted by City Council. The Park and Recreation Advisory Board recommends the City Council accept the donations by adopting the resolutions:

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02-05

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02-06

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

WORTHINGTON AQUATIC CENTER CHANGE ORDER NUMBER ONE

Mr. Wietzema said Tri-State General Contracting, the Aquatic Center contractor, has submitted a first change order proposal. The change order includes modifications to the pool design as required by the State of Minnesota and some slide upgrades that were previously approved by council. These changes are as follows:

- 1.) Provide additional floor anchors in activity pool: addition of \$7,443.04, these will be added now so they are available when additional items are added.
 - 2.) Increase waterslide pump size: addition of \$15,870.45, this is an increase to the electrical supply
 - 3.) Provide additional plumbing vent: Add \$1,194.01
 - 4.) Added stainless steel gutters to lazy river: addition of \$40,696.23, requirements by the MN Department of Health.
 - 5.) Added cost for change in waterslide colors: addition of \$12,664.58, upcost for translucent slide.
 - 6.) Add tile accent stripe to pool floors and walls: addition of \$3,350.70, requirement by the MN Department of Revenue
- Total change amount: Add \$81,219.01

Mr. Wietzema said the proposed change order is an increase of \$81,219.01 increasing our total contract price to \$6,340,057.01.

Council Member Ernst said she feels the additional costs for the required MN Department of Health should have been something the pool company should have researched and known. Mr. Wietzema said they will be talking to the pool company about the additional costs.

A motion was made by Council Member Kolpin, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve Aquatic Center change order number one.

APPROVED MUNICIPALITY PARCEL MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

Matt Selof , City Planner, said since approximately 1996 both the Community Development and Engineering departments at City Hall have been utilizing the IBM software ‘Lotus’ for all parcel management, permit management, building/rental inspections, and many other things. IBM withdrew its support for this software in 2014 although the popularity of this software peaked long before that. As time goes on this system puts the City further and further behind in meeting the needs of staff and the general public.

Staff has received a proposal for new software from Municipality that has a first-year cost of \$71,460 (\$63,240 + \$8,220 in a contingency fund that will not be utilized unless the City requests additional services on top of the current proposal). Costs drop to under \$13,000 for next couple of years after

the initial start up. Staff is proposing to utilize American Rescue Act Plan funds to cover this cost, which is an allowable expense. Mr. Selof said the new system will provide a multitude of benefits both to city staff and the general public. Staff will be able to work remotely in the field which will both, free up time and allow them to be more efficient (particularly building and rental inspectors), it will allow for seamless transition between different devices, allow for support from Municipality in the event of issues arising (support for current software is unavailable), allow staff to manage permit/inspection/complaints in one place, as well as many other benefits that will help staff do their jobs more efficiently.

Mr. Selof explained on the public side, individuals and contractors will be able to apply/pay/sign for permits online, track whether the permit was approved, request inspections, submit complaints which will be very useful for the rental program. The new software will make information and staff more available to the public.

Meredith Vaselaar, Administrative Secretary, said many programs were looked at but the Municipality software can convert our current information which some others could not. Staff also reached out to other communities and received positive comments on the software. Municipality will also bring staff to provide hands on training.

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the purchase of the Municipality Parcel Management Software.

APPROVED PARKING LEASE - THOMPSON APARTMENTS

Mr. Selof, City Planner, said City Council approved the removal of 10 two-hour parking stalls at the municipal parking lot located behind the Thompson (between Park Lane and 11th Street) on December 28, 2021. He said as part of this change the City is proposing to lease the 'block' of 35 stalls to the Thompson management on an annual basis for the amount of \$4,300. They will then sublease the stalls to their residents and it will be up to them as to how they choose to manage the 35 stalls. Staff is hoping this will alleviate some of the parking issues that are occurring in the alley and the parking lot.

A motion was made by Council Member Kielblock, seconded by Council Member Kolpin and unanimously carried to approve the Thompson Apartments Parking Lease.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Kuhle - No report.

Council Member Janssen - No report.

Council Member Ernst - Toured the movie theater and fieldhouse, they will be great additions to the community. Attended a Housing Committee planning meeting on marketing the new development lots.

Council Member Kielblock - Attended a Park Board meeting.

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Council Member Kolpin - Also toured the movie theater and fieldhouse.

Council Member Cummings - Also toured the Movie Theater and Field House and attended the Housing Committee planning meeting on marketing the new development lots. The YMCA Cruise Dinner will be held on March 11th.

Mayor Kuhle inquired why the Boy Scouts were in attendance. Wyatt Adolph said as part of the citizenship program the Cub Scouts are required to attend a Council meeting as they crossover to becoming a Boy Scout. Council congratulated the Cub Scouts and thanked everyone for their attendance.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Mr. Robinson said the plan is to bring the Main Street Revitalization program to the next Council meeting

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Kielblock and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Mindy L. Eggers. MCMC
City Clerk