

CITY OF ST. PAUL PARK
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DATE: November 20, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. Present: Acting Mayor Jeff Swenson; Council Member Jones and Haggerty. Absent: Mayor Dingle and Council Member Zenner. Also present: City Administrator Walsh. Pledge of allegiance said by all.

MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes of the October 16, 2023, Regular Council Meeting—waive reading of same.

Motion by Haggerty, second by Jones to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2023, regular council meeting—waive reading of same. Motion carried 3-0.

ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

There were no items from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Acknowledge receipt of commission minutes:
 - Parks & Recreation Commission—October 12, 2023
- Approve Pay Voucher No. 7 to McNamara Contracting for the Trunk Watermain Improvement Project.
- Approve \$200 donation to the Friends in Need Food Shelf in honor of the Holiday Train.
- Approve Lawful Gambling Permit for St. Thomas Aquinas Church on January 30, 2024.
- Approve cost sharing agreement with the South Washington County Watershed District for replacement of a street sweeper.
- Approve conditional offer to Amy Truhlar for the City Clerk position, pending successful completion of background investigation.
- Approve 2024 wages:
 - Office Staff
 - Finance Director
 - Police Chief
 - Public Works Supervisor
- Authorize Mayor to sign City Administrator Contract.
- Approve Tobacco Licenses:
 - Speedway #4184
- Approve Games of Skill Licenses:
 - Mendota Valley Amusement
- Approve On-Sale Intoxicating Licenses:
 - Franke's Bar
- Approve Sunday On-Sale Liquor Licenses:
 - Franke's Bar
- Approve 3.2 % Off Sale Liquor License:
 - Speedway #4184

**Motion by Jones, second by Haggerty to approve the consent agenda.
Motion carried 3-0.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Adopt Resolution No. 1704, a resolution accepting bids and awarding the contract for the water treatment plant generator.

City Administrator Walsh introduced John Christenson from WSB. He explained to the council that the permanent standby natural gas power generator is for the water treatment plant and will be placed next to well number three. This piece of equipment would provide emergency power for the treatment plant along with well three. The funding for the generator would come from the State of MN PFAS settlement with 3M.

Mr. Christenson explained that there were four bids submitted and the low bid was awarded to Taylor Electric in the amount of \$192,864. Mr. Christenson recommended the council award the bid to Taylor Electric.

Motion by Haggerty, second by Jones to approve Resolution No. 1704. Motion carried 3-0.

- B. Adopt Resolution No. 1705, a resolution increasing the benefit level for firefighters who are vested in the statewide volunteer firefighter plan.

City Administrator Walsh informed the council the Fire Department is seeking ratification for an increase of the benefit level from \$2900 – \$4500/per year of service.

Captain John Solberg and Chief Mike Kramer were in attendance and briefly explained why the increase was warranted. Council Member Jones inquired about the last time the benefit level had been increased. Mr. Solberg explained that they joined the state plan seven years ago and it went up to \$2900 per year of service at that time.

Council member Swenson inquired if this was in the budget for 2024. Mr. Walsh explained this is outside the general fund budget. It's not directly related as the firefighters have a fund that is held at the state. It has no effect on the city budget unless the fund goes negative and requires funding from the city.

Motion by Swenson, second by Jones to approve the Resolution No 1705. Motion carried 3-0.

REPORTS:

- A. Council Member Swenson
- Public Works Commission
 - ⇒ Parking Ban – no parking on the streets between 2AM-6AM
 - ⇒ Commission is looking for two new members
- B. Council Member Jones
- Public Safety Commission
 - ⇒ Nothing new to report
 - ⇒ Next meeting December 7 @ 7PM
- C. Council Member Haggerty
- Planning Commission
 - ⇒ Full Commission
 - ⇒ Next meeting December 11 @7PM
- D. Mayor Dingle – Due to Mayor Dingles Absents Acting Mayor updated council on the Park & Rec Commission events
- Parks & Recreation Commission
 - ⇒ Sledding event (*Glow in the Dark*) December 28, 5PM-7PM
 - ⇒ Bunco Dates: December 1&15, January 12&26.
 - ⇒ Bunco Dates: January – March may have to move to the American Legion due to the Heritage Park being worked on.
 - ⇒ Trunk or Treat was well attended with 32 trunks and 525 children.
 - ⇒ There was no movie due to the weather
- E. Council Member Zenner
- Heritage Days
 - ⇒ No report was given

BILLS FOR APPROVAL: \$ 1,196,306.84

Motion by Jones, second by Haggerty to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,196,306.84 Motion carried 3-0.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

There were no comments or requests.

Meeting adjourned 6:44 p.m.



Julie Pelton
City Clerk