

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2024
7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

Pursuant to due call and notice, the City Council of the City of Eagle Bend, MN met in regular session on Monday, October 21, 2023 at 7:00 P.M., in the City Hall. Mayor Scott Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members present were Jessica Olson, Jason Nelson, Jaculyn Lorentz and Jim Kimball; absent, none. Also present were Clay Sandmeyer, Twila Pierce, James Gaida and Bryan Drown.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Following a brief review and discussion, (Action 24-10-124) Council Member Kimball moved to approve the September 16, 2023 regular City Council Meeting minutes, September 24 Special City Council meeting and October 7th Special City Council Meeting, this motion was seconded by council member Olson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Bills submitted for approval were reviewed. Following a question and answer period, (Action 24-10-125) Council Member Lorentz moved to approve the bills for payment as presented, seconded by Council Member Olson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Liquor Store financial report for the month of September.

The Council was presented with a monthly report for September from the Todd County Sheriff's Office showing calls they handled during the month.

Todd Hagen from Ehlers updated the council on the GO Bond series 2024A. Todd stated that GO Bond lowest bid actually came back lower than expected. Ehlers explained that this is a good thing. The lowest bid was submitted by Security Bank & Trust CO. Security Bank & Trust CO bid was 4.70% which is lower than expected, Ehlers was projecting the lowest bid to come in at 5.50%. After further questions and answers Council member (Action 24-10-126) Lorentz made a motion to approve Resolution #24-31-730. This motion was seconded by council member Nelson. Resolution #24-31-730 was dully adopted.

Bryan Drown updated the council on the phase 5 project. Bryan stated that the weather has been very helpful and cooperative for this project especially with this late start and the time of year. Bryan said everything they wanted to get done this year looks they will get complete. The only thing that is a little different is the where they started at in this project. Bryan said we kind of started in the middle of the project the way he original planned it our but understands that there's been many changes and things the city had to work around. Bryan also informed the council on Change order #2 and pay estimate #1. Change order #2 is rock pipe bedding for water main on Central Avenue North of Clark Street, construction of temporary sanitary sewer connection at Clark Street and 2nd Ave NE. Install 2 - 2" water services on Clark Street. The pay estimate #1 is for the work completed so this year. After further discussion and answers (Action 24-10-127) Council member Olson made a motion to approve both the Change order #2 and pay estimate #1. This motion was seconded by council member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

City Administrator presented an invoice from Braun Intertec. City Administrator said this a soil testing company that the city has used in the past. That this invoice if the soil testing that was done for the Phase 5 Project. After further questions (Action 24-10-128) council member Lorentz made a motion to approve the

invoice from Braun Intertec. This motion was seconded by council member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The council discussed the status of the City Administrator position and if it should be exempt or nonexempt. Council member Lorentz said to the Administrator that you wished to be present for this discussion. Council member Olson stated that she stills doesn't understand this new law. Council member Lorentz stated that back in July they increased the required minimum wag that exempt employees must make and at that time the city is in compliance. Now they are increasing it again effect January 1st 2025 and the city wouldn't be in compliance than. Council member Nelson stated the city can't afford to pay him that much and that the city didn't budget for it. City Administrator replied to Council member Nelson, that isn't true. The budget had a 2.4% increase with this increase in it and the council approved to increase the levy even more to 4% so yes, this was included in the budget that you approved. City Administrator stated this is an increase of \$8,736.00. Council member Lorentz asked what percentage of increase is that. City Administrator replied it's a 17.5% increase. Council member Lorentz stated that council has never gave employee that kind of raise. City Administrator said you percentage of raise to Twila last year. Council member Lorentz stated that's different because saying calling Twila old but she has been year for a lot of years. Twila stated that the city can't afford this and there will be an uproar if this goes through. Mayor Johnson asked if there was an uproar when Twila got her big raise last year. There was no response. Council member Kimball asked City Administrator to check with the city attorney to see what the city can do about this situation. The council decided to table this until the council hears back from the city attorney.

The Council was presented with the Annual Software Lease & Support Agreement with Jayhawk Software. This agreement states that Jayhawk Software agrees to supply telephone support, technical on-site support, training, and all upgrades to the system. The agreement is from January 01, 2025 through December 31, 2025 at a cost of \$1,400.00 which is the same as the last several year's premium. After a discussion, (Action 24-10-129) Council member Olson moved to approve the Jayhawk Annual Software Lease & Support Program for \$1,400.00, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

City Administrator informed the council that Sharon Notch and the EBADC was asking for the city's support on the DNR grant. City Administrator stated this is the grant that group applied for last year and didn't get it. Twila stated what they are looking for is a letter of support. After further discussion (Action 24-10-130) council member Lorentz made a motion. This motion was seconded by council member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The Council was informed of the following donation that was made to the City of Eagle Bend: Senior Lady's group in the amount of \$100.00 for the use of the City Hall. (Action 24-10-131) Council Member Olson presented Resolution #24-30-729 "A Resolution accepting a donation to the City" and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution; Lorentz, Nelson, Olson, and Kimball; against, none. Resolution #24-30-729 was duly adopted.

City Administrator stated the Vets Club wanted to be added to agenda regarding the invoice for the Sunday liquor permit fee. Council member Nelson stated that city had never billed them for Sunday applications in the past and they aren't busy on Sunday's Council member Lorentz said she talked to Ashley about this and they were never billed for this in the past but made come the new year we should let them know if they want a liquor license it \$100 but if they want to be open for additional Sundays it will be a \$125. Twila stated how much time does it really takes to submit these application? There shouldn't be any fee for this. City Administrator replied.

Well it's on the agenda and that takes the council time and also I have to submit an application for each Sunday. Council member Kimball stated that we should try to keep peace with the Vets Club. (Action 24-10-132) Council member Kimball made a motion to rescind the invoice for the Sunday application permit fee. This motion was seconded by council member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The council was presented with the Vets Club asking to be open on the following Sunday's, December 1st, December 8th, December 22nd and December 29th. (Action 24-10-133) Council member Lorentz made a motion to approve the Vets Club 1 day permit for the following Sundays in November. December 1st, December 8th, December 22nd and December 29th. This motion was seconded by council member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

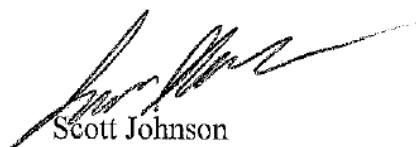
The City Administrator submitted an assessment roll showing delinquent utility amounts and asked the City Council to approve assessing these amounts against the properties listed. The City Administrator stated that the assessment roll needs to be certified to the County. Following a discussion, (Action 24-10-134) Council Member Nelson moved to approve assessing the delinquent amounts against the property as presented, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

City Administrator presented quotes for the city maintenance shed. City Administrator informed the council that the city was approved for the Match grant from Source Well and the city has already received the funding from Source Well. After an extensive viewing process of the bids and questions. (Action 24-10-135) Council member Nelson made a motion to approve and have Creative Construction build the shed and pour the concrete. This motion was seconded by council member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously. Council member Olson abstained.

City Administrator brought up some the MN Power city ordinance. City Administrator stated that he hasn't heard back from the attorney on this and has no other information to share at this time. City Administrator stated he has been working on the bar lead position but doesn't know if the liquor needs one. Council believes that the liquor store would benefit from having a bar lead. The council asked City Administrator and Twila to start looking at what the city has written down for bar lead responsibilities and see if there is anything that needs to added or changed. The City Administrator stated he and Twila will finish this up and have it ready for the council's review. City Administrator also stated that he was in contact with the County regarding the trailer house the council wants removed. City Administrator stated the County can send sentence to serve to clean up the lot, cutting brush, stumps and picking up garbage. The trailer its self the County will not remove unless the City is willing to split the bill with the County for removing it.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, (Action 24-10-136) Council Member Lorentz moved to adjourn at 8:41 p.m., seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

James R. Gaida
City Administrator



Scott Johnson
Mayor