

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2020

Present: Mayor: Todd Tongen Council Members: Carter Lokken, Jonathan Koenen, Cheryl Bjornstad, Todd Vogel City Clerk, Nicole Koenen.

Mayor Tongen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Resolution 12-8-20-2 was added under AMKO Advisors, Auditor engagement letter was added under city clerk report, and unlicensed vehicles was added under old business.

Motion to approve Agenda with additions by Tongen, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously.

Motion to approve November 10, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

AMKO Advisors Proposed Bids for Refinancing USDA Sewer Loan

Mark Deraney provided the council with a bid from Northland Securities and a private placement from Bremer Bank. Northland Securities provided a bid with 2.9% interest rate which had the city saving around \$164,000. Bremer Bank provided a private placement with a 2.32% interest rate that would save the city \$264,000 and six years off the loan.

Motion to reject the bid from Northland Securities by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously

Motion to accept the private placement from Bremer Bank made by Tongen, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously.

Resolution 12-8-20-2 Awarding Sale of General Obligation Sewer Revenue Refinancing Bond, Series 2020B

Motion to approve Resolution 12-8-20-2 made by Tongen, 2nd Lokken m/s/p unanimously

The City's Bond Attorney also suggested the City pass a Post Issuance Compliance Policy along with a Resolution approving the policy. The City did not receive these documents before the meeting. The council discussed the policy and determined they would comply with ensuring the bonds would remain tax-exempt. The documents will be provided at our next meeting in January.

Financial Report

- Cash Balances

Motion to approve monthly claims by Tongen, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously

Old Business

- Resolution 12-8-20-1 Final Tax Levy

Motion to approve Resolution 12-8-20-1 to set the tax levy at \$91,263 by Vogel, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously

- Goose Bar Liquor License – The Goose Bar has decided to close until they are allowing to serve indoors again. It was suggested that because this is a government mandate, that the city reimburse them for every month they are not allowed to serve because of the pandemic in 2021. They will only be reimbursed for on-sale license fees.

Motion to reimburse the Goose Bar for months they are shut down in 2021 made by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

- Unlicensed Vehicles – There are a number of properties in town that have unlicensed vehicles. It was suggested that Nicole send a letter to all residents of Watson reminding them of our ordinances regarding unlicensed vehicles. It was determined to give residents 30 days to comply before sending them a fine for each vehicle that remains unlicensed on their property.

New Business:

- Storage Containers – The Mayor has received complaints about the recent storage container at a property on county road 9. Discussion followed about whether or not the zoning ordinance should be changed. Discussion was tabled until next month where more information can be gathered.

Maintenance Report

- Annual pump inspection – Montevideo will be getting the city a quote from the company that services their pumps. It would save the City money as they would try to tie it in with their inspections.
- Samples – Speedy Delivery is not getting samples delivered in time for testing. Byron has decided to send our samples with theirs to solve this issue.
- Ervin Well Contract – The city signed a 5-year contract (2015-2020) with Ervin Well Company to inspect both wells once a year for \$490.00. Montevideo will also get a quote from the company they use to see if we can get ours inspected at the same time as theirs.

City Clerk Report

- Audit Engagement Letter – Westberg & Eischens sent their engagement letter to complete our Audit for 2020.

Motion to sign the Auditor Engagement Letter by Vogel, 2nd Koenen m/s/p unanimously

Motion made by Tongen to give Nicole a .50 raise, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p Koenen Abstained.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Nicole Koenen