

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2022

Present: Mayor: Todd Tongen Council Members: Carter Lokken, Nathan Jordahl, Cheryl Bjornstad, Todd Vogel. Special Guest Jordan Smith with Westberg & Eischens

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

Added Miller Mowing & Baling to Maintenance Report, Highland Ridge Lots were added to New Business

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

Motion to approve March 8, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

Special Guest – Jordan Smith with Westberg & Eischens was present to go over the 2021 Audit. He provided the council with a Financial Trends report and went over each fund. Overall, each fund has enough cash balances to cover 2022 budgeted operating expenses and debt services. Council asked if the city should be investing and if a city can go through an investment company such as Edward Jones. He mentioned that the interest rates are low right now. Having money in savings accounts still collects interest while giving the city flexibility to pull cash out as needed. It is something the city can look into and research what would get them the best return.

Financial Report

- Cash Balances

Motion to approve monthly claims by Vogel, 2nd Lokken m/s/p unanimously

- Utilities – Delinquent Accounts were sent disconnection notices.

Old Business

- Removal of Trees by Goose Bar – Discussed moving the trees to the city park as they are obstructing views for drivers entering the highway. Council directed Nicole to contact Doug Peterson to see if he can assist. Landscaping along the highway was also discussed. It was determined the city continue to take care of the portion on the west side of the highway. The Goose Bar was contacted regarding the portion in front of their business but the city has not received a response.

New Business:

- Request for Donation – Chippewa County Fair sent a letter requesting donations. The city donated \$500 last year.

Motion to donate \$500 made by Vogel, 2nd Lokken m/s/p unanimously

- Old Depot Building – Denny Larson stopped in the city office to ask the city input on the old depot building. He said he is thinking about fixing it up and then renting the building out. In the past he proposed the community volunteer to help and he would donate the building to

the city. He mentioned he was open to all suggestions or options. Council discussed and determined there is no need or use of the building for the city.

- Lots on Highland Ridge – Someone interested in purchasing the lots from the city to build a house reached out to Tongen. Council discussed the process the city would have to take to sell the land. They suggested Nicole look into what is needed and table until next month.

Maintenance Report

- Kyle's Small Engines - Tune up/repair on Mower. Tongen went over the repairs that are needed. The deck needs to be straightened, covers will be put on the bottom to help prevent breaks or damage, and a hydraulic flush was due.
- Curb stop at 630 CO RD 9 – the curb stop needs to be replaced along with two others towards the county shop. Byron has added them to their list. He tried all the curb stops on the east side of CO RD 9 and they moved freely. The cost to repair the curb stop on CO RD 9 is estimated to be \$1,200-\$1,500.
- Manholes on Oak Ave – The manholes have sunk into the pavement. It was determined to keep an eye on them and add them to the Street Reconstruction Project if needed.
- Dust Control – Discussed streets that would not need dust control this year. Council decided to apply dust control to Sunnyside past the pavement and also Church Lane.
- Miller mowing and baling - Vogel was asked if Bob Miller can bale the ditches along the compost site, the old well, and along the Disposal plant. They would like to burn the area this spring by the old well and bale in the summer. Council agreed and also discussed the need to burn the compost site this spring.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Nicole Koenen