

# Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2021

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

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

Small Cities Update was added under Old Business and Old Merry Go Round was added under Maintenance Report.

**Motion to approve Agenda with additions by Tongen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vogel m/s/p unanimously.**

**Motion to approve May 11, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

Financial Report

- Cash Balances

**Motion to approve monthly claims by Tongen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vogel m/s/p unanimously**

Old Business

- Contract Mowing and Spraying – A quote was submitted by Lawn King. Discussion followed. It was decided to make a decision during budget sessions when all costs could be compared.
- Street Reconstruction Project
  - Bond Option – Nicole explained that our Bond Attorney and AMKO Advisor noticed we would be over the debt limitation to do a General Obligation Bond. A new option was discussed where properties along the street that are proposed to be repaired would be abated in order to cover our principal debt payment. With this option the city would need to also increase the General Tax Levy to cover interest payment and 105% of the total bond. Discussion followed.

**Motion to move forward with Abatement Bond Option for Street Reconstruction made by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.**

- Small Cities Update – Council reviewed an update of the status of Watson's Small Cities Development Program Projects. One more owner-occupied application is still needed to meet our goal.

New Business:

- Building Permits – Discussion over adding all exterior repairs on your property including driveways, doors, windows, siding,..etc. to the city ordinance. There has been a few residents that have started projects without getting a permit first. Fines associated with building without a permit were also discussed. It was determined to have Nicole get the changes discussed worded into the ordinance for the next meeting.

Maintenance Report

- Pump House Repairs – One of our pumps at the pump house needs to be repaired as the previous kit replacement was incorrect. A quote was provided for the repairs.

**Motion made by Tongen to move forward with repairs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lokken. m/s/p unanimously.**

- Old Merry Go Round – Vogel mentioned someone was interested in the old merry go round. Council decided it was best that it be thrown away during our clean up day as it is not in working condition.

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City Clerk Report

- Snow Fence – A resident asked if the city would consider putting a snow fence along Elm Ave and Fourth Street during the winter to help with drifting. Discussion followed and determined the city would not be putting a fence up.
- Budget Meeting – Budget session was set up for 6:30pm before the next council meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Requested Dates Off – Nicole requested June 18<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> off. Also, would be leaving early June 21-23 for kid's summer activities.
- City Clean Up Day – Discussed where the dumpsters would be, items to be collected, fees for items, and volunteers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Clerk, Nicole Koenen