

## **Watson City Council Meeting Minutes**

July 11, 2023

Present Mayor: Todd Tongen. Council Members: Carter Lokken, Nathan Jordahl, Cheryl Bjornstad, Todd Vogel, City Clerk: Alan Marohl. One Resident.

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

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

**Motion to approve June 13th, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

Financial Report:

- Cash Balances

**Motion to transfer \$2,000.00 from street savings to checking by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lokken m/s/p unanimously.**

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

- Utilities – Delinquent accounts were sent disconnection notices.

Old Business:

- Servline – Council reviewed the bill adjustment and water line insurance for residents offered by Servline. It was agreed that Watson would not benefit from these programs as new water and sewer lines were recently installed.
- MN Basic Code – The update of the city code requires the specification of which previous ordinances will be brought forward with the updated version. Council went through each ordinance and approved a majority of them to be included. Alan will further review a few of the ordinances to see if they are still relevant or need to be changed to fit current law.
- Resolution 7-11-23-1 Tax Forfeited Property

**Motion to pass resolution 7-11-23-1 to purchase property at 330 2<sup>nd</sup> St Watson MN by Jordahl, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vogel m/s/p unanimously.**

- Demolition at 330 2<sup>nd</sup> St – Two bids were received for the cost of tearing down the dilapidated structures and filling in the basement at 330 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Council wants to wait until the next meeting to decide which contractor to hire. It was also mentioned that there are grants available for demolition which Alan will do more research on.
- 421 Park Ave. – No improvements have been made to the house which is required to avoid abatement charges. Recently, tents have been placed on the property and are being used by individuals other than the owner. Alan will send a letter to the owner regarding these matters.

New Business:

- CD Signatures

**Motion to purchase a \$25,000.00 Classic 9-month special CD from the Street Savings account designating Alan Marohl the signatory by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.**

**Motion to purchase a \$13,000.00 Classic 9-month special CD from the Checking account designating Alan Marohl the signatory by Vogel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.**

- Tar Road by the Goose – Multiple parcels are being sold around a recently tarred road that Watson has been maintaining. The road does not have a clear owner. And council is concerned an individual may attempt to alter or remove the road in the future. Alan was asked to check with the attorney if Watson may impose eminent domain or something similar to claim the property for Watson.

Maintenance Report:

- Waste Water Treatment Rates – Montevideo has increased the monthly waste water treatment fee. The new amount is \$850.00 which is an \$85.00 increase. Sewer utility rates may also change to match the rising costs of operation.

City Clerk Report:

- Budget Meeting – The first budget meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm before the August council meeting.
- Interstate Power Co-op - Interstate is officially contracted and will do their first inspection around October or November.
- Firehall Deductible – The insurance agent is checking to see how different deductibles may affect the overall premium. He also mentioned Watson could have an adjuster look through the firehall again and have it reevaluated.

Public Comments:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Clerk, Alan Marohl