

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2023

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

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

Add Outdated Car Tabs to Old Business.

Corrected Resolution 9-12-23-3 to 9-12-23-2

Motion to approve the agenda with additions by Tongen, 2nd Vogel m/s/p unanimously.

Public Hearing – Vacancy Request

- Resolution 9-12-23-1

The public hearing was opened to discuss Chad Rische’s vacancy request. Council reviewed the map and resolution. Council did not have any reason to deny the request and no public comments were made.

Motion to approve resolution 9-12-23-1 Vacancy Request by Vogel, 2nd Jordahl m/s/p unanimously.

Motion to approve August 8th, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Lokken m/s/p unanimously.

Financial Report:

- Cash Balances

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

- Utilities – Delinquent accounts were sent disconnection notices.

Old Business:

- Harvest Festival

Discussion continued about what events and options will be available for next year’s harvest festival. Ideas such as a band, beanbag tournament, and bouncy houses were put forward. Council will reach out to other members of the community and business owners to pursue these ideas. It is planned to make time at each regular council meeting for planning of the upcoming festival.

- Unclaimed Road

The attorney’s opinion on this matter is to not attempt any changes to the road’s legal description. Going through the process could be costly and may further complicate the situation with the rail road and state. Council thinks the road will likely be untouched anyways due to the city maintaining it. In the event that the road does get removed, the access through town is not impacted.

- Outdated Tabs

Multiple cars have been observed without current registration in town. Alan will send a letter to residents reminding them that tabs must be up to date or their vehicle will be removed.

New Business:

- Resolution 9-12-23-2 Preliminary Tax Levy

No changes were made to the budget other than what were decided at the last meeting.

Motion to approve resolution 9-12-23-2 setting the Preliminary Tax Levy at \$116,132.30. by Tongen, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

Maintenance Report:

- New Computer

Alan wanted to confirm when he should be purchasing a new computer for the office. He was informed it is recommended to update the city computer every three years which will be in 2024.

City Clerk Report:

- County THC Ordinance

Chippewa county released a draft ordinance pertaining to public use of cannabis and cannabis derived products. Watson may create ordinances further restricting public use of cannabis. However, Watson must at a minimum follow what the county puts in place.

Public Comments:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Alan Marohl