

Watson City Council Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

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

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

Gravel for Highland Ridge was added to Maintenance Report. October Public Hearing was added under City Clerk Report.

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

Motion to approve August 10th, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously.

Howard Flinn- Request for extension on Variance/Building Permit.

Howard was present to ask the council for an extension on his building permit as the cost of material has gone up. Discussion followed.

Motion to give an extension of one year plus a payment of \$25.00 for building permit by Vogel, 2nd Lokken m/s/p unanimously

Financial Report

- Cash Balances

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

- Utilities – Delinquent Accounts – Two of the past due accounts are in 4 digits. It was suggested that if they are unable to get the accounts under \$500 by October 31st, the City consider assessing their delinquent amounts to their property taxes.

Old Business

- Building Permits – The Zoning Committee suggested leaving the building permit requirements as written. They also request sending reminders every three months in utility billing. Discussion over whether or not pavers require a permit followed. It was determined to require a permit and to remind residents to call if they have questions for future projects.

New Business:

- Resolution 9-14-21-1 Adopting Preliminary Tax Levy

Motion to approve Resolution 9-14-21-1 made by Vogel, 2nd Jordahl m/s/p unanimously

- Donation Request- Southwest Initiative Foundation requested the city consider donating to their foundation. It was decided to donate \$200.

Motion to approve donation request made by Vogel, 2nd Bjornstad m/s/p unanimously

Maintenance Report

- Pump Update – Dakota Pump replaced the broken pump. They mentioned this one is a little louder than the last and to keep an eye on it. They ask that we call if we think there might be any issues.

- Speed Limit Sign- Council was provided quotes for a flashing speed limit sign for the Highway. Discussion followed. Council decided to keep this option in mind and possibly budget for one in the future.
- Gravel for Highland Ridge – Tongen mentioned the council will have to decide if the city should put gravel along the shoulder of the new pavement on Highland Ridge or have property owners plant grass up to the edge. The benefits of having gravel along the shoulder would be for plowing snow, and the postal carrier. They would not have to worry about making big ruts or tearing up yards. Discussion was tabled and requested council think about options.

City Clerk Report

- October Public Hearing – The city is to have a Public Hearing on Small Cities Development Program. A representee with UMVRDC will be here to help answer any questions. The city needs one more Owner-Occupied Application to meet our goal.
- R-T Contractors asked if they could get paid a month earlier as they prepare to purchase a new plow for snow removal.

Motion to pay R-T Contractors a month earlier made by Vogel, 2nd Jordahl m/s/p Tongen Abstained

Public Comments

- Howard Flinn read his building permit for extension on Variance, and paving his driveway to the council. It was approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

City Clerk, Nicole Koenen