

Finlayson City Council
Regular Meeting
June 13, 2022

The regular city council meeting was called to order Monday, June 13, 2022 by Tom Price, Mayor at 6:30 PM followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members present: Nadine Hedtke, Mike Drahosh, Jeremy Byers, and Joe Luedtke.

Others present: John Mikrot, Wyatt Lucht, Russell Lucht, Erick Blaisdell, Bill Morgan, John Linden, Dave Schaefer

Addition: H: Watering lawns
G: City Dump
I: Closed session

Complaint from property owner to the West of Sedillo property regarding condition of property. Bjorklund indicated she did respond to complaint with information that we are having issues contacting the owners as we aren't sure who lives there or owns it as of now. Lengthy legal process made more difficult by inability to locate owners.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Drahosh to approve minutes from the May 9, 2022 regular council meeting, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.

Reports:

Fire Department: Chief Wyatt Lucht reported that May had seven total calls, five medical calls and two mutual aid fire calls for a total of 36.5 man hours. The MS 150 came through town on Saturday, June 11th and we were on stand-by in the hall for any calls for a total of 32 man hours with no incidents reported. Recommendation from Wyatt for Erick Blaisdell to be allowed on the department. Blaisdell is the City maintenance worker and is in town and available during most days. He currently lives in Sandstone, which is a mutual aid area. Motion by Hedtke to approve Blaisdell on Dept, seconded by Byers with all in favor and carried. Methodist and Lutheran churches have requested permission to use the Fire Hall for their set up during the 4th of July, council agrees so long as there is no cooking IN the hall. Fire Dept will be doing the "Water fights" during the 4th of July. MedCompass will be here July 7th using City Hall as the location for physicals. Lucht is requesting that the electric and gas service on the Creamery building be disconnected to avoid potential hazard if the building does collapse, Bjorklund to contact MN Energy and power companies.

John Mikrot, Water/Sewer Operator: Mikrot indicated MN Pump serviced the lift station and will be back to fix an issue with a stuck float. Vactor truck was also at the lift station removing sludge.

Zoning and Planning: See New Business D, E, F.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Administrator: Bjorklund gave an overview of the Liquor store financials stating May 2022 had an approximate net profit of less than \$2,000 with YTD profit at approximately \$33,000. Two bartenders were hired. Erick Blaisdell has agreed to do the ID checking for the 4th of July from 10a-1p. The old Dodge truck sold at auction for \$9125.

A motion was made by Hedtke to accept May financials and pay bills seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.

Old business:

New business:

- A. Dave Schaefer from DSE is approaching the council looking for assistance in the issue with his water service freezing up and getting it corrected. This winter it froze up three times. Schaefer indicated that he would cover the portion from the shut off to his building if the city could cover the portion from the shut off to the main. The city agrees by motion from Drahosh, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried. Bjorklund to contact Trent Rabe to have it either insulated or replaced depending on the recommendation of Rabe.
- B. MN Dept of Health has continued to test the hand pump at Shafer Park with continued positive results for bacteria. Motion made by Drahosh to apply for a grant for the well to be sealed and sell the hand pump, seconded by Luedtke with all in favor and carried.
- C. There is a section of the sidewalk on School Street North that is missing and needs replacing. Additional ramp repairs are needed at the Community Center for ADA compliance. Council would like to see Lions Club pay for half of the ramp repairs. Bjorklund to contact Dan's Masonry for project as they previously did the repairs to the sidewalk at City Hall.
- D. Northern Contractors have submitted a building permit and sewer permit for Engelmeier property at 6355 Front Street for the building of a new home with private water and sewer (City utilities do not go that far down Front St.). A motion to approve the permits was made by Luedtke, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.
- E. Northern Contractors have submitted a building permit for a four unit complex at 6536 Broadway Street. A motion to approve the permits was made by Luedtke, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.
- F. Northern Contractors have submitted a building permit and sewer permit for property at 6556 Broadway Street for the building of a new home with private sewer. A motion to approve the permits was made by Luedtke, seconded by Hedtke with all in favor and carried.

- G. 2023 Budget season will need the appointment of two council members. Drahosh and Byers have agreed to be on the 2023 Budget Committee.
- H. Dave Auchter is requesting that the City implement forgiveness for the sewer portion of the water bills for watering lawns/flowers/gardens. Council agrees that this is a personal choice to do that and is not going to make an adjustment for watering lawns/flowers/gardens at this time. Last year was done because of the drought.
- I. Mayor Price has been asked about where residents can dump their lawn clippings/leaves/brush when cleaning up their property. Price would like the old City Dump at 2019 State Hwy 18 turned back into a location for yard waste to be dumped. This will also allow training burns to be done by the Fire Dept.
- J. Closed meeting – Fire Dept employee issues

A motion was made by Luedtke to adjourn, seconded by Drahosh with all in favor and carried.

Nicole Bjorklund, City Clerk/Administrator