

**February 7, 2022
Regular Meeting**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Halstad was duly called and held at the Halstad Telephone Company community room in said city on February 7, 2022 at 5:15 p.m.

Mayor Darin Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 5:18 p.m.

The following council members were present: Mayor Darin Johnson, Brandon Mickelson, Shirley Weeding and Mike Trygg. Donna Scholl arrived at 5:24 pm. The following council members were absent: None

Others in attendance: Emily Finney, Terri Trygg, City Clerk; Lucas Spaeth Utilities Superintendent, and HMU Office Coordinator/City Treasurer Alli Tice.

Additions to Agenda - None. Brandon Mickelson moved to approve the agenda, Shirley Weeding seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Approval of January 10, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve by Mike Trygg, Shirley Weeding seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Public Forum-

Mike Trygg received a call from Andrea Nelson regarding the events of 2/2/2022 when a reported shooting occurred in her neighborhood. She and other neighbors have a number of concerns about activities in the New North apartment building, as well as other residences nearby.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Shirley Weeding, second by Mike Trygg to approve the consent agenda as presented. Unanimous vote, motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

- A. Monthly claims for January 2022
- B. General checking bank reconciliation for January 2022
- C. Temporary Liquor Licenses

Utilities Report- Utility Superintendent Spaeth submitted Superintendent notes that were included in meeting materials.

Sunrise Apartments- The 3 bedroom apartment may become available, and there is a family in the Wimmer Homes that is interested in it.

Wimmer Homes- Peter Jacobson has completed the insulation project where a CERTS grant was awarded to the city for labor to insulate the Wimmer Homes. Gable end vents to help with air flow were also installed. There are two vacancies (#2 and 16) currently, but there are people on the list. #16 had a water leak, so work will be done before it is rented.

Other- Lucas Spaeth will be getting bids for seal coating of streets. The city will need to determine if they want to proceed once bids are received. Lucas has a number of upcoming meetings and training events including Red River Basin Commission,

Rural Water - AE2S is working to attain seed money for next steps in the process. They will be holding open meetings for all of the areas that have been invited to be involved, and the meetings will be held at the LRC in Halstad. An ad will be in the next Promoter.

Unfinished Business:

Comprehensive Plan - Sean Ranum from Northwest Minnesota Regional Development spoke with Terri Trygg and he indicated that Cam Fanfulik is still working on Halstad's plan. He is expecting a handoff in March.

City Sales Tax- Capital Project Plan- the committee has not met, and the council will put this on hold for now.

Free Lot applicants - Terri Trygg replied to the Ramos' that the house plans appear to be a great addition to our community, and the city is interested in working with them. Also, the lot size for lot 2 cannot be adjusted at this time due to sewer and water locations, but applicants were asked to consider lot 4, address: 114 7th Ave East, with lot dimensions of 123.01' X 130. They are also welcome to purchase one of the lots for \$10,000.00 plus specials and no abatement, since the city will not be able to hold the lot until May of 2023. As of 2/7/22, there had not been a reply yet.

Terri Trygg received an inquiry about Halstad's Free Lot Program on February 7th from the Grand Forks Herald. They are doing an article about Middle River's free lot program, and they wanted information about other programs in the area.

Halstad School and Property -

Heating-The gym and hallways are staying at the set temperatures. Alternate sources will be needed for future heating seasons.

Gym Access-All of the accounts with fobs have paid for 2022. No advertising is being done currently since there is no fitness equipment purchased and set up. Painting and flooring in the weight room will get scheduled.

Other - Marv Sandbeck, a 1955 Halstad High School graduate addressed the council via Zoom. Marv has done research and made contact with a number of agencies regarding designating the 1905 portion of the school building to the National Historic Register. The process for this designation is quite extensive and Marv offered a number of contacts and examples for the council to consider. One of the major steps is to have the building evaluated by an architect/engineer. Sandbeck indicated that there are grants that could be found to help pay for the evaluation costs. The next step would be to take the evaluation to the State Historical Society, and if it is approved there, it would be sent on to the National Parks Service.

Sandbeck suggested that the city appoint a steering committee with the sole purpose of moving this effort forward. Sandbeck explained that historic designation opens up opportunities for many other grants and funding. He offered ideas such as creating an Education Museum and Interpretive Center and a theme restaurant like "Pop's Patio 2.0". The council thanked Mr. Sandbeck for his research and interest in the project. They will consider his suggestions and will get back to him.

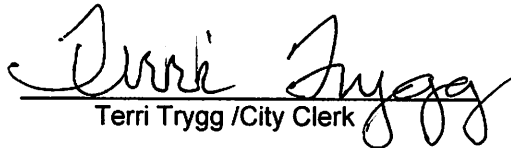
Jon Hanson, a Norman County West graduate joined the meeting via zoom as well. Hanson offered his assistance in moving forward with ideas and plans for the school building and property.

New Business:

- A. Sheriff Contract 2022**-The Council discussed sending a letter along with the contract regarding recent events and concerns in Halstad. Shirley Weeding moved, Donna Scholl seconded motion to approve Sheriff's contract, unanimous vote, motion carried.
- B. Pay Equity**-Brandon Mickelson moved, seconded by Mike Trygg to approve Pay Equity Report, unanimous vote, motion carried.
- C. Resolution 2022-02-07A NMPA Appointments**- Mike Trygg moved, Donna Scholl seconded NMPA Appointments Resolution. Unanimous vote, motion carried.
- D. Resolution 2022-02-07B Approving TIF Forgiveness by Halstad Telephone Company**-Shirley Weeding moved, second by Donna Scholl to approve resolution, unanimous vote, motion carried.
- E. Resolution 2022-02-07C Approving Joint Powers Agreement with Prosecuting Attorney and JPA Documents for Approval**-Brandon Mickelson moved, Mike Trygg seconded motion to approve resolution, unanimous vote, motion carried.
- F. Valley General Store Proposal Tables/Chairs**-Mike Trygg moved, Shirley Weeding seconded motion to purchase tables, chairs and carts from Valley General Store. Unanimous vote, motion carried.

Donna Scholl moved and second by Shirley Weeding to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next Regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, March 7, 2022 at 5:15 pm.


Terri Trygg /City Clerk