

November 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 November 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, Mike Trygg, Shirley Weeding and Donna Scholl (via Zoom at 5:23 pm).

Others in attendance: Todd Westcott, Brock Robertson, Bjorn Solberg, Terri Trygg, City Clerk; and HMU Office Coordinator/City Treasurer Alli Tice.

Additions to Agenda - No additions to the agenda. Motion to approve agenda by Mike Trygg, second by Shirley Weeding, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Approval of October 10, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes- Motion to approve minutes as presented by Shirley Weeding, seconded by Mike Trygg, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Public Forum and Correspondence-None

Consent Agenda

Mike Trygg moved to approve the consent agenda, Brandon Mickelson seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried. The following items were on the consent agenda:

- A. Monthly claims for October 2022
- B. General checking bank reconciliation for October 2022
- C. Resolution 2022-11-07 -Resolution Accepting Donations

Utilities Report-Superintendent sent full notes to council members. Alli Tice gave an update on Wimmer Homes, Sunrise Apartments and general Utilities and City maintenance updates.

Clerk Report- Nothing to report that won't be included when discussing agenda items.

Unfinished Business:

Comprehensive Plan-The clerk has not received any comments or suggestions regarding the Comprehensive Plan. Mike Trygg shared that the Planning Commission has a meeting scheduled to approve and submit the plan to the council for final approval at the December meeting.

Valley United-Clerk will be contacting Jennifer at the Valley United Office in Reynolds for assistance in writing the legal description of the property.

Blighted and Dangerous Properties, and Ordinance Violations

New North Properties-The detailed inspection report is not yet complete. There has been some activity and it appears they are hauling away appliances and other items. Council will be looking to enforce rental property ordinance in coming months.

Hugh's Gardens-Bjorn Solberg addressed the council regarding an ordinance violation letter he received regarding dumping potatoes within city limits. Solberg noted that the potatoes have been worked in on that property now and he has made arrangements to dump future loads outside of city limits. Solberg commented that although there was an unavoidable issue with his condenser that caused him to have to dump thousands of pounds of potatoes in the spring, that issue was dealt with and he does not expect that to occur again. He hoped the council would consider that as a separate issue than this fall's violation, and he also pointed out that the property that he is dumping on is zoned as agricultural property, and per Minnesota Statute, this ag activity may be protected. The council advised Solberg that there may be city owned property south of town that he could dump on this winter if needed. They will check with renters on this. The council also informed Solberg that since the ordinance violation has been resolved, the council will take no further action on this issue.

1st Ave W Discussion-Council agreed to move item 8. C. up on the agenda to discuss whether 1st Ave West is a city street, alley, or is privately owned. There is a trailer that is parked on what may be the property line, but Bjorn Solberg thinks it is on his property and he has asked the owner to move it. Many of the historical maps show the street clearly as 1st Avenue West. The property for the building that is currently owned by Hugh's Gardens was formerly owned by the railroad, and Bjorn had to purchase an additional 5 feet from the railroad on the east side of his building recently.

Fire department members have also expressed concern about the trailer hampering their ability to access the fire hall and exit quickly to respond to fire calls. It was decided that Bjorn will look at the abstract for his property, and the Clerk and Mayor will review historical records and speak with county officials about the properties in question, and also the north portion of 1st Ave. West. Mike Trygg agreed to discuss the trailer's current location with the owner, Jay Delong.

Lease Reviews- Mike Trygg noted that he had reviewed the 3 documents and he suggested that the documents be merged into one master document, with blanks to note the property, unit number and other items that will need to be on the master lease. Mike Trygg and Terri Trygg agreed that they would work on this document for the December meeting.

Trailer Court Property-James Smith has indicated that he would like the city to purchase the property. The value of the property will need to be determined, and the HMU Commission will be consulted regarding setting a purchase price. Once the commission has met, Smith will be contacted regarding negotiating a sale price. Council members noted that with the current homes on the property in disrepair, the cost of removal will need to be considered in the negotiation.

Landmark-(Halstad School and Property) -

The Landmark Committee has been meeting regularly to plan for activities, repairs, and fundraising. The fund raising dinner at Halstad Lutheran Church on October 26th was well attended, and almost \$2,000.00 was brought in for the event, and it will be matched by the Dekko Foundation. The position description for the Customer Service Position for the Utilities and Landmark has been written and will be posted.

Request for Proposal for Development/Redevelopment-One proposal was submitted for the council to review. Jon Hanson submitted a proposal that the council and Landmark Committee will review and further discussion will ensue. Jeff Fagerstrom from Northwest Minnesota Housing Cooperative contacted Lucas and Terri about the RFP, and expressed interest in viewing the property, but they would not have a proposal until after that time. Mike Trygg, Lucas Spaeth, and Terri Trygg will provide a tour of the building and grounds to Jeff, and Heather Hamlin from Midwest Minnesota Community Development Cooperative on Monday, November 14th.

New Business:

KRJB Contract-The council agreed that Halstad ads played on KRJB need to be updated, and recording of community members would be helpful. Shirley Weeding moved to approve the 2022-23 contract, Donna Scholl seconded, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Weltikol Land Purchase-The council reviewed the purchase offer from Levi Weltikol to purchase two lots next to his property that are currently in city owned Parcel No. 28-3440000. Mike Trygg moved to sell the two lots to Levi Weltikol for \$1,000.00 each, and that Weltikol would be responsible for all legal fees related to the sale of property. Brandon Mickelson seconded motion, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Liquor License Renewal- Terri Trygg reported to the council that a full and complete liquor license application had been submitted by Valley General Store. All required documents have been provided. Shirley Weeding moved to approve the Valley General Store Liquor Renewal License for 2023. Mike Trygg seconded motion, unanimous vote, motion carried.

Other- Council reviewed upcoming events. A notice will be published in the official newspaper regarding the hearing to approve the Comprehensive Plan. This hearing will take place during the December 12th regular council meeting, after the Truth in Taxation Meeting.

Brandon Mickelson moved and second by Shirley Weeding to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 pm, vote unanimous, motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the City Council will be on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 5:15 pm.

Terri Trygg /City Clerk