

KASSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 26, 2023

6:00 PM

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular City Council meeting was held at City Hall on the 26th day of July, 2023 at 6:00 PM.

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT: Egger, Johnson, and McKern

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE ABSENT: Ferris, Christensen

THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Timothy Ibisch, City Attorney Melanie Leth and City Engineer Brandon Theobald, Bonding Counsel Mike Bubany and Community Development Assistant Ian Albers

PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE

Approve Agenda-add G.3 7th Street property update.

Motion to approve the Agenda as Amended made by Councilperson Egger McKern, second by Councilperson Johnson with All Voting Aye.

Consent Agenda

Minutes from July 12, 2023

Claims processed after the July 12, 2023 regular meeting, audited for payment in the amount of \$1,384,131.89

Evaluations:

Chris Moyers	Parks/Streets	Remove from Probation
Tony Jensen	Parks/Streets	Remove from Probation

Committee/Commission/Board Minutes:

CMPAS-June 2023

Conferences:

Ian Albers	Entrepreneurship	\$80.00	September 14-15, 2023
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Gambling Permit-Mantorville Restoration-Bingo at Legion	8/10/2023
Fireworks Permit-Festival in the Park Committee	8/12/2023

Resolutions

- i. Waiving Hours
- ii. Festival Volunteers
- iii. Certify Delinquent Bills

Pay Request

Maguire Iron-Water Tower Project	\$14,250.00
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Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda made by Mayor McKern, second by Councilperson Egger with All Voting Aye.

VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL: Mike Bubany-2023A Bond Sale Results and Recommendations. Mr. Bubany provided his report, which is on file with 7 bidders on the 2023A Bonds. TD Bank was the low bidder with a NIC of 3.995% on the 30-year bonds. Bubany has equalized the payments which range from \$438,000-\$443,000 per year of the issuance. Bubany praised city staff for their help with the rating call and noted that Kasson was able to obtain AA ratings due to strong management and budgetary performance. After discussion, **Motion to Approve the Bond Sale made by Councilperson Egger, second by Councilperson Johnson with All Voting Aye.**

MAYOR'S REPORT.

PUBLIC FORUM

PUBLIC HEARINGS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Cannabis Moratorium.** Ibisch reviewed the previously discussed ordinance. He related that several cities in MN have passed these sorts of ordinances. Johnson asked why they had done so and Ibisch stated that is was for more local control. Johnson noted that he did not want to be like Rochester and Egger inquired from the City Attorney regarding her understanding of the new guidelines. She replied that she had not studied it in-depth. After further discussion, Council chose to table the ordinance.
2. **Cannabis uses in Public.** Ibisch also brought forward a draft ordinance managing the consumption and smoking/vaping of Cannabis in public. The council reviewed and indicated that they wanted it to be treated similar to tobacco. Mayor McKern ordered a Public Hearing to be held in August at one of the regular Council meetings.
3. **Interfund Loan.** Ibisch provided information and the interfund loan agreement for the Council to review. This loan will pay for the Fire Truck and the new dump truck in 2023. It is for \$1 million dollars and a 3.5% interest rate over 11 years. Levying will begin in 2024 and should be complete in 2035. After discussion, **Motion by Councilperson Egger, seconded by Councilperson Johnson with All voting Aye.**
4. **7th Street Property Update.** Johnson had requested this be added as he noted that the tent was no longer there. Staff were not aware of any status changes. Albers will review the property and provide an update at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Software Changeover.** Royer provided background on the process staff have followed to get to this point. She noted that the Black Mountain software has become outmoded and that after reviewing numerous products, Tyler seems to have the best overall package. However, that comes at a price tag which is significantly higher than current costs. \$13,000 vs. \$41,000. Councilperson Johnson inquired as to the specifics and Royer indicated that Tyler would allow for increased automation as well as proper integration with the Tantalus system. Council had a number of questions related to continuing costs and term of contract length. Royer will get more information from the vendor and return at the next meeting with answers.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Ibisch went through his report. He reviewed the:

1. **MISO Report** - indicates PY 24-25 should be adequate, will need additional capacity in PY 2026, may try for a longer-term contract for the summer season.
2. **Fiscal Futures Policy positions** - Ibisch will continue meeting with LMC to formulate.
3. **Electric Fund Grant Submittals** - \$5 million per, one for battery tech and one for solar field.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Project Updates – Theobald provided a verbal report and noted that Hwy 57 was proceeding rapidly. Paving should start this week. He also discussed the water tower, it has been filled, its operating and the old tower will be demo'd on the 31st. He will also bring Phase 2 of the I&I reduction plan to the Council at their next meeting. After discussion, Council requested more information on the projects in next year's budgets. Ibisch will meet with Bubany and Theobald to schedule the CFP Worksession in September.

PERSONNEL

Sewer Department Updates. Ibisch detailed the Vosen memo and requested the Council authorize offering a position to the senior operator on a shorter-term basis, pending acquisition of a class B license. He also noted Isaac Thoe was resigning and that staff will attempt to fill that position internally. Next week, if no internal candidates are found, it will be posted externally. After discussion, Council authorized moving forward with the short-term promotion and approved the resignation.

Cleaning Position. Ibisch noted that in the City Clerk's absence he has been handling HR issues and we were able to get 2 applications for the cleaning position. James Vogt information was included in the packet and after discussion, **Motion by Egger, seconded by Johnson to approve the hiring pending the background check completion with all voting Aye.**

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed. Ibisch noted that Nation Night Out was coming up and that the City received the separation order for the NW County Park property.

ATTORNEY

The meeting was closed at 7:10 pm for a discussion of a potential land transaction. The meeting was open again at 7:51 pm. Mayor McKern noted that no action was being taken at this time.

ADJOURN 7:52 PM

Motion to Adjourn made by Councilperson Egger, second by Mayor McKern with All Voting Aye.

ATTEST:

Timothy P. Ibisch, City Administrator

Chris McKern, Mayor