

**KASSON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 8, 2021**

**6:00 PM**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular City Council meeting was held at City Hall on the 8th day of September, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:** Burton, Christensen, Egger, Ferris and McKern

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE ABSENT:** None

**THE FOLLOWING WERE ALSO PRESENT:** City Administrator Timothy Ibisch, City Clerk Linda Rappe, City Engineer Brandon Theobald, Police Chief Josh Hanson, City Attorney Melanie Leth, Fire Chief Joe Fitch, Finance Director Nancy Zaworski, Dave Dubbels, Kent and Carole Keller, Mark Hansen, Haven Senjem, Judy Severson, Aaron and Sonja Thompson

**PLEDGE OF ALLIANCE**

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Add L.4 Closed Sessions for Union negotiation and potential litigation

Remove K.2

Remove A.2.d.v Park Board Minutes

**Motion to Approve the Agenda as presented made by Councilperson Egger, second by Councilperson Christensen with All Voting Aye**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Minutes from August 25, 2021

Claims processed after the August 25, 2021 regular meeting, as audited for payment in the amount of \$260,642.66

Evaluations:

Jason Peck Sergeant Increase from Grade 13 Step 5 \$37.86 to Grade 13 Step 6 \$39.09 eff 8/29/21

Jesse Kasel SRO Increase from Grade 12 Step 5 \$35.39 to Grade 12 Step 6 \$36.54 eff 8/29/21

Committee/Commission/Board Minutes:

EDA Minutes – April 2021

EDA Minutes – May 2021

EDA Minutes – June 2021

EDA Minutes – July 2021

**Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented made by Councilperson Burton, second by Councilperson Ferris with All Voting Aye.**

**VISITORS TO THE COUNCIL**

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor announced that there will be a public meeting regarding the Highway 57 project on September 30, 2021 at 6PM here at City Hall. The Mayor thanked the Byron, Dodge Center, Mantorville and Kasson Fire Departments for their response to the 1760 Millwork fire.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

**Kent Keller** – PO Box 97, Mantorville, MN – Mr. Keller stated that he used to own property at County 34 and Hwy 57. He stated that everyone he talked to did not know or were not aware of a round about being planned at 57 and 34. He wrote to Senator Senjem and Mr. Senjem told him it was a city issue and not a state issue. He stated that MnDOT only controls veto rights on this project. He stated that stop lights and roundabouts are equal in traffic control. What he suggests is that the stop lights and roundabouts be presented to the public in equal detail.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Budget Discussion – Mayor McKern stated that the options listed at 11.62% or 6.33% and he has a goal of getting under 6%. Administrator Ibisch stated that the changes in the percentages are mostly related to public safety. Finance Director Zaworski asked for a target number for December that we can work toward. Councilperson Burton is hesitant at 6.33% because of the unknowns with union negotiations and insurance. Councilperson Ferris agrees with Burton and would like to bring some of the changes to the library budget to the board since they have not had a Library Board meeting yet this month. Councilperson Christensen is concerned with not being able to increase if needed. Administrator Ibisch stated that the public gets sticker shock with the preliminary levy and that the public does not realize that it will go down. Ibisch stated that about \$36,000 is a percentage point. The Council agreed that they would like to wait until the next meeting in September and have it brought back with a number between the 11.6 and 6.3%.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

**Administrator's Report** – Proposal for Architectural Services for the Kasson Liquor Store – Councilpersons Ferris and Egger have volunteered to be on this liquor committee. Administrator Ibisch will put EMS minutes in packet in the future. They are looking at holding a public meeting in Oct at the fire hall.

Administrator Ibisch asked about City Council meeting schedule for November and December. The Council discussed and decided that the November meeting will be November 10 and then the two December meetings will be December 1 and 8. Councilperson Egger stated the LMC meeting on September 29 is in conjunction with MN Southeast League meeting.

##### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

###### **PERSONNEL**

Accept Resignation of Krista Weigel – **Motion to accept Made by Councilperson Burton, second by Councilperson Ferris with All Voting Aye.** The Council thanked her for her service.

###### **ATTORNEY**

Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims – Heaser – Attorney Leth stated that this is settled and they City received \$20,000 for the Attorney fees. **Motion to Approve the Settlement Agreement and Release and the Restatement of Encroachment Agreement made by Councilperson Egger, second by Councilperson Burton with all Voting Aye.**

Restatement of Encroachment Agreement Permitting Encroachment of Garage – Heaser Settlement – State of MN Steven Kleiber Nelson Auto – this is a whistle blower litigation and produced evidence that Nelson Auto was overcharging for work on police vehicles. alledged that Kasson had been over charged over \$600 and this settlement recovers just over \$300 on behalf of the City and we did not have to do

or spend anything on this lawsuit. **Motion to Approve made by Councilperson Ferris, second by Councilperson Christensen with All Voting Aye.**

Closed Session for union Negotiation and potential litigation

Closed at 6:36PM

Reopened at 6:55PM

The Mayor stated that the Council received updates on union negotiations and update on potential litigation regarding a former employee issue

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence was reviewed

Theobald stated that WHKS is 90% with the inspection of laterals and about 75% on the sump pump inspections. The Mayor asked with these inspections with significant rain events like we had last week is this making a difference. Engineer Theobald stated that there was a peak but we did not do any bypass pumping.

**ADJOURN 7:03PM Motion to Adjourn made by Councilperson Christensen, second by Councilperson Egger with all Voting Aye to Adjourn.**

**ATTEST:**

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Linda Rappe, City Clerk

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Chris McKern, Mayor