

Minutes of the proceedings of the City Council of the City of New Auburn in the County of Sibley and State of Minnesota including all accounts audited by said Council.

Regular Meeting
January 13, 2025

Meeting called to order by Mayor Mandy Grack at 7:00 p.m. at the city office.

Members present: Wayne Schultz, Pam Horton, John Wangen, Michael Cotterman and Mandy Grack

Members absent:

Staff present: Joey Schuft, Roberta Zaske and Fire Chief Bryce Busse,

Additions or Corrections to the agenda

Open Public Forum:

Approval of minutes: One motion was forgot in Decembers minutes, there was a motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to approve to hire Mitchel Klockman for a firefighter starting November 18, 2024, motion carried. A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to accept the minutes for December meeting with the one change, motions carried.

Reports given:

1. Fire Department – Chief Busse gave his report. They have another firefighter that would like to be hired, Bryce will get the paperwork started and bring back to the next meeting. Fire Policy and Wages are on hold until we talk to the city attorney and bring back next month. Fire Officers talked about purchasing a raft for ice water rescue, a motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to purchase a raft using gambling money not to exceed \$5000, motion carried.
2. Treasurer report – Report was given with no comments.
3. Park/streets/buildings- Joey gave his report. Joey stated that a few streets need patchwork. Joey wants to look at the new catalogs and get estimates next month for flood equipment. Joey talked about heater in shed needs to be replaced, motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to purchase a new heater for shed from Jim Schuft Plumbing and Heating for \$4,285.00, motion carried.
4. Sheriff Report –

Resolutions, Ordinances and Policy:

Resolutions: 20250113A Donation from Taylor Family Farms A motion from Michael Cotterman, seconded by Pam Horton to accept the grant from Taylor Family Farms for \$19,000.00, motion carried.

20250113B Establishing fees for 2025 A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Pam Horton to approve the fees for 2025, motion carried.

20250113C Appointments for 2025 A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Pam Horton to approve the appointments for 2025 and adding Michael Cotterman to the RS Fiber Joint Powers Board , motion carried.

20250113D Allowing wire/automated Bank Payments A motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by John Wangen to approve the wire/automated bank payments, motion carried.

20250113E Transfer of money to 4M Fund A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Michael Cotterman to transfer \$50,000 into 4M fund, motion carried.

20250113F Accepting Grant Navigator Funding A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by John Wangen to accept the matching grant for \$2500 from LMC, motion carried.

Ordinances: updating zoning ordinance – City Attorney is working on it

Policy:

Unfinished business:

1. STREAMS – The committee spoke to the DNR committee about our project on January 10th.Have not heard any updates, will have another meeting this month.
2. Law Enforcement Agreement A motion by Michael Cotterman and seconded by Wayne Schultz to approve the new agreement as presented, motion carried.

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3. Garage on City property – We have keys for the shed and will have a closed bid for March council meeting.
4. Trailer Park- snow plowing After much discussion with City Attorney, the city allowed them to use it, the city plowed it in the past, now the city take control of it. It's the City's property has now become Public Alley and now the City will have the duty to maintain it. This alley will now have to follow the zoning ordinance.

New Business:

1. SEH small grant for engineering services – We received the matching grant for \$2500, no action taken.
2. Cannabis regulations/ordinance – does the city want to have an ordinance on cannabis- after some discussion no decision was made, no action taken.
3. Xcel prices are going up – no action taken
4. Garbage contract – Our contract expired December 2024, we have one year grace period., if either party wants to stop the contract, a 60 day written letter need to be sent.
5. Jamie Collin water leak – no action taken, party did not come to meeting.
6. Pat Ouradnik – water leak – no action taken, party did not come to meeting.
7. Purchase agreement for land for spray field. Talking with Attorney, she will get our down payment back as we did not secure funding.
8. Waterville Solar check was lost – wrote a new check and the six months are up so we shouldn't have to stop payment on it.
9. City Audit is January 21-23, office will be closed with city clerks discretion.
10. Council dates are set for 2025, see posted dates.
11. Office closed for holidays for 2025 are posted.

Additional items discussed:

1. Clerks Report no report
2. Curt Reetz – no report
3. Open discussion - Discussion about the cemetery getting plowed or not. After much discussion the City council decided not to plow the cemetery unless we have a funeral.

Motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by Wayne Schultz to approve paying claims #69809-69837 in the amount of \$209831.54 plus any other normal monthly bills, motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays
Claims paid in December were claims 69767-69789 for \$72,071.49 and additional claims 69801-69808 \$6,402.52 Payroll - CK 24528-24530 \$3,620.99 PERA \$585.32 CK 24552-24554 \$3,369.62 payroll, PERA \$585.32 Firefighters wages 24488-24504 for \$8,114.88 Federal taxes for December \$5,018.79.
Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays

Motion by John Wangen, second by Pam Horton to adjourn at 7:56 pm. Motion carried.

Roberta Zaske, City Clerk-Treasurer