

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  
August 12, 2024

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

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

**Members absent:** Pam Horton

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

**Additions or Corrections to the agenda**

**Approval of minutes:** A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to accept the minutes for July meeting and special meeting, motions carried.

**Reports given:**

1. Fire Department – Chief Busse gave his report. Fire doesn't go out for skywarn after dark but they are monitoring the sky. Working on a face piece for all the members.
2. Treasurer –report was given and approved
3. Park/streets/buildings- Joey gave his report.
4. Sheriff Report –

**Resolutions, Ordinances and Policy:**

**Resolutions: 20240812A Accepting a donation from VFW Post 7266** Motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to accept the donation of \$3000 from the VFW, motion carried.

**20240812B Accepting donation from VFW Post 7266** Motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to accept the donation of \$652.46 from VFW, motion carried.

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

**Policy:**

**Unfinished business:**

1. STREAMS – Had a zoom meeting on July 18 and 24<sup>th</sup>. The group signed the contract with the engineer and hope to have the feasibility study done by November. The City will decide what the next steps are after seeing the study, no action taken.
2. JD 5 Ditch – We had an informal meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss the flooding and problems we are having in the city. Once the redetermination of benefits are complete at the end of the year, we will decide what improvements need to be made. Also need to find out if the open ditch belongs to the DNR or JD5 ditch authority.
3. Land - We need to figure out what is our next step with the sprayfield and ponds. The land is on hold until we can make a decision.
4. Garage on City property – A motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by Wayne Schultz to give the homeowner 60 days from today to remove her personal items off our property, if she doesn't remove shed, proceed with bids for removal of the garage for the October meeting, motion carried.

**New Business:**

1. Budget 2025 - set up a workshop to finalize the budget.
2. Email from House and Senate - Our project was not on the consideration list for 2025. No action was taken.
3. gWorks utility program - A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to approve the estimate for \$2,620.00 plus \$2000 one time set up, make sure there are no hidden cost and go ahead with the new program, motion carried.
4. Contract for routine maintenance on CSAH 29 - Motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to approve the contract for \$7,771.98, motion carried.
5. Veterans on the Water - Kerry Wuetherich asked of they could take over the contract from The VFW for the shed they rent from the city. The city tabled until next month as more than one entity has been asking about it.

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6. Kraig Kunkel – asked the City what they were going to do about JD5, future road improvements for flooding. Questions the water rates and general budget.
7. Doug Payne – Motion by Micheal Cotterman, seconded by John Wangen to approve 2200 gallons forgiveness on sewer only, motion carried.
8. Lead and Copper report for State – report is submitted to the State, no action taken.
9. Minnesota Paid Leave – Clerk explained how the paid leave works. City will be eligible for a grant if needed.

**Additional items discussed:**

1. Clerks Report no report
2. Curt Reetz – no report
3. Open discussion - City clerk talked about Jay Rickert will do snow removal and sanding for the city if needed. Health insurance premiums will be here by next meeting.

Motion by John Wangen, seconded by Michael Cotterman to approve paying claims #69628-69658 in the amount of \$21815.73 plus any other normal monthly bills and fire training for \$2900, motion carried with 4 ayes and 0 nays

Claims paid in July were claims 69600-69623 for \$73,179.88 and additional claims 69624-69627 \$1,031.31

CK 24306-24308 \$3,683.91 PERA \$585.32 CK 24312-24314 \$3,572.56 payroll, PERA \$585.32

Federal taxes for July \$3,117.86. Motion carried with 4 ayes, 0 nays

Motion by Wayne Schultz, second by Michael Cotterman to adjourn at 7:58 pm. Motion carried.

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Roberta Zaske, City Clerk-Treasurer