

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  
October 14, 2024

**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:** Keith Hennen spoke about running for county commissioner

**Approval of minutes:** A motion by John Wangen, seconded by Wayne Schultz to accept the minutes for September meeting, motions carried.

**Reports given:**

1. Fire Department – Chief Busse gave his report. 5 calls last month. They received a \$5,000 grant from the DNR but funds are not available yet. NA Fire Relief donated \$3,000 to the City to buy SCBA masks for everyone on the fire department.
2. Treasurer –report was given and approved
3. Park/streets/buildings- Joey gave his report. Winterized the park and trees need to be trimmed around town. Transferring water from the ponds and preparing for winter. Gave estimates to the city council for a new snow blower, city council tabled it until next month.
4. Sheriff Report –

**Resolutions, Ordinances and Policy:**

**Resolutions: 20241014A Donation from Fire Dept Relief** Motion by Michael Cotterman, seconded by Wayne Schultz to approve the donation for \$3,000 from the fire relief to buy more SCBA masks, motion carried.

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

**Policy:**

**Unfinished business:**

1. STREAMS – Bobbi gave an update and no action taken.
2. Garage on City property – No bids on the garage, we need a key to get in the garage so people know if they do or don't want to bid on it. We are extending the bidding for one month, and giving more time to move the garage.

**New Business:**

1. Delinquent water bill letter, City Clerk explained to the City Council the next steps for all delinquent water bill, no action was taken.
2. Fire bill that was not paid – City Clerk explained the process of delinquent fire bill and the process, no action was taken.
3. SEH email on the land for new project - The engineer agreed that the land would not work for the new sewer project. A motion was made by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman not to purchase that land, motion carried.
4. RS Fiber update – Mayor Mandy Grack gave report and if they sign the contract, the City of New Auburn will be on the hook to pay back approximately \$500,000, the next meeting is October 15<sup>th</sup>, no action taken.
5. Elite Properties – a representative, Gretchen Jones, explain the water leak at 7292 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by Michael Cotterman to approve forgiveness on 30,100 gallons of sewer only, motion carried.
6. City storage shed – After much discussion, A motion by Wayne Schultz, seconded by John Wangen to not rent out the shed, to use it for city use for our non-profit entities and our maintenance once the contract expires at the end of the year, motion carried.

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7. Lead and Copper letters to residents - City Clerk explained to the city council that now the state wants us to send letters to each of the home owners explaining the results from the lead and copper program. Curt Reetz and City Clerk have the letters written and need to mail before November 4<sup>th</sup> and finish the paperwork for the State of Minnesota, no action was taken.
8. New Water program - City Clerk gave update on new water program, city clerk will start training on October 16<sup>th</sup> and on October 22<sup>nd</sup> they want to go live. All the training will be through
9. Question on property for sale in city limits – City clerk explain a piece of property for sale in the city limits, if the property sells, the new owner would need to talk to city council about vacating any of our streets, no action was taken.
10. Cyber class in Mankato – city clerk asked not to go with the extra work load at this time, city council agreed.

**Additional items discussed:**

1. Clerks Report no report
2. Curt Reetz – no report
3. Open discussion - City Clerk gave updated report on FEMA. Joey gave final report on the flooding and that Curt Reetz helped him with all the paperwork. Strengthening Sibley County group was meeting in New Auburn on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Motion by John Wangen, seconded by Pam Horton to approve paying claims #69701-69726 in the amount of \$41,651.55 plus any other normal monthly bills, motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays

Claims paid in September were claims 69669-69695 for \$27,931.72 and additional claims 69696-69700 \$4,809.71 Payroll - CK 24393-24395 \$3,434.19 PERA \$585.32 CK 24401-24403 \$3,190.39 payroll, PERA \$585.32 Federal taxes for September \$1,977.40. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays

Motion by Michael Cotterman, second by Wayne Schultz to adjourn at 8:14 pm. Motion carried.

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Roberta Zaske, City Clerk-Treasurer