

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – November 2, 2021

The Foley City Council held its regular meeting on November 2, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the Foley City Hall.

Members Present: Mayor Gerard Bettendorf, Councilmembers Jeff Gondeck, Rosalie Musachio, Gary Swanson, and Jack Brosh.

Members Absent: None

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to approve the agenda.  
Motion carried unanimous.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to approve the consent agenda.

Brosh questioned Sarah Brunn the City Administrator on reasoning behind taking additional vacation time versus a step in pay. Brunn explained it was done as a budgetary move to offset the new step schedule. Discussion followed. Musachio spoke in favor of it noting that many younger workers value extra vacation more than pay raises.

Motion carried, unanimous.

**Public Hearing – Fee Schedule Updates**

Mayor Bettendorf recessed the regular council meeting at 5:34 p.m. for the public hearing on fee schedule updates and asked if there was anyone present who would speak for or against the matter.

Debra Olson, 600 Dewey Street, asked several questions regarding fire calls versus medical calls and their fees as well as how billing is handled.

No one else spoke.

Bettendorf reconvened the regular city council meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to approve the fee schedule changes, effective Jan. 1, 2022.

Motion carried, unanimous.

**Approve Updated City Job Descriptions**

Brunn presented the new job descriptions to the council stating that they had been reviewed by staff and feedback was taken into consideration. She reiterated to the council that accurate job descriptions protect the city and the employees.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to approve the updated job descriptions.

Motion carried unanimous.

### **Discussion on Gambling Ordinance**

Brunn addressed the council, drawing their attention to additional information in their packets that had been dropped off earlier that afternoon. She reminded the council that no action was needed on the issue – the purpose of the topic being on the agenda was simply to have a discussion amongst the council.

Discussion followed with several council members expressing their opinions and asking questions. Brosh stated that he believed the council should not adopt any gambling ordinance given that money raised by non-profits would fluctuate every year. Musachio expressed support for a gambling ordinance as it would keep some of the profits raised within the local area. Swanson expressed that he saw no problem with a gambling ordinance. Bettendorf also expressed support for a gambling ordinance as it would support local charities over outside charities. Gondeck stated that he was not sure government should get into where people spend their money and that gambling is the choice of the individual. More discussion followed.

Brunn reminded the council that no action was required at this time. Bettendorf stated that more discussion would be needed.

### **Mayor's Comments & Open Forum**

Bettendorf opened the floor, inviting the public to speak at the podium.

Scott Kelvin of the Foley Boxing and Wrestling Club spoke regarding his experience with the charity and provided some examples of what other cities are doing with their gambling ordinances, including Gilman and Waite Park.

### **Department Reports**

#### **Police Department**

Chief Katie McMillin gave an overview of the stat report for October. There were a total of 327 calls. She noted that the miscellaneous category was high due to the increased number of juvenile issues the School Resource Officer was handling at the school. Next year, juvenile calls would be tracked in a separate category. McMillin also stated that records requests and medicals were up. Thefts were also up due to people leaving vehicles unlocked.

In October, she also presented Halloween safety at the schools and the winter parking enforcement reminder was also communicated to the public. McMillin also mentioned that a lot of stolen property was showing up in town. The department had recovered two stolen vehicles in the past month. Discussion and questions followed.

#### **City Engineer**

Jarod Griffith addressed the council stating there were no updates to projects at this time. The council did not have any questions for him.

#### **Public Works and Fire Department**

Public Works Director Mark Pappenfus gave an overview to the council. Public Works is wrapping up fall projects and getting ready for winter. Salt will be delivered to the new salt shed when the county diverts trucks to us for use in November and December. The City will be buying more salt on state bid contract.

The Fire Department will be doing fire contracts that will cover the next three years. More info will be given to the council soon. Valuations have changed and will need to be considered in the new contract.

### **Administration**

City Administrator Sarah Brunn gave an overview to the council stating that staff has been very busy with building permits. Staff is also getting a lot of calls about the change in the water/sewer billing cycle. Final certifications for assessments will be sent over to the county auditor in mid-November. Anyone still wanting to pay will need to get the payment in to city hall soon.

Health insurance updates for 2022 were good news. Minimal changes. Property tax statements haven't gone out yet, so we haven't heard any comments from the public yet. Final levy hearing is coming in December.

Questions coming in from the public are currently concerns over the water/sewer rate increase, but there have also been several positive comments on moving to a monthly billing cycle. A lot of applications for auto pay have been received.

### **Old Business**

Brunn gave an overview on the wastewater project. The MPCA has approved eliminating the salty discharge perimeters for the ponds.

Brunn also asked the council to approve the expense for relocating a private well that is 50 feet from the force main route. The property owner has agreed but would like it done this year if possible.

Motion by Musachio, seconded by Gondeck, to approve the bid for relocation of the private well.

Discussion followed with Brosh asking what the cost would be if they dig a dry hole? Pappenfus said dry holes would be \$12 per foot to dig a second hole.

Motion carried, unanimous.

### **New Business**

No new business.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gondeck, to adjourn.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.



---

Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator

(Minutes By: Sara- Judson Brown, Administrative Assistant)