

CITY OF FOLEY, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – December 6, 2022

The Foley City Council held their regular meeting on Dec. 6, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at Foley City Hall.

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

Members Absent: None

*Prior to the regular city council meeting, the council conducted a closed session performance review for Sarah Brunn, the city administrator. Her performance was determined to be satisfactory.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

The mayor addressed the audience and directed people who wished to speak during the Mayor's Open Forum to please use the sign-up sheet in the back with their name and address. He also reminded the audience that the meeting is conducted using Robert's Rules of Order, meaning that no one in attendance is allowed to speak unless acknowledged by the mayor.

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

Motion carried, unanimous.

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

Consent Agenda:

- Approve minutes of November 1, 2022.
- Approve minutes of November 15, 2022.
- Approve audit contract with Schlenner & Wenner for 2022 audit services.
- Adopt Resolution #2022-32 Investments Authorization.
- Adopt Resolution #2022-33 Federal Grants and Awards Policy.
- Approve Sister City Proclamation.
- Approve payment of bills

Musachio asked some questions regarding the Sister City Proclamation with Colstrip, Montana. Discussion followed.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Public Hearing – New Life Church Conditional Use Amendment and Site Plan Approval

At 5:33 p.m. Mayor Bettendorf recessed the regular council meeting to conduct a public hearing regarding an amendment to the Conditional Use Permit for New Life Church.

Brunn gave an overview of the amendment to the CUP. Not a lot has changed but this allows for a building expansion. The amendment removes some of the conditions that have already been satisfied.

Pastor Jim Vonwald, 931 Norman Avenue N, spoke in favor of the amendment as it would help the church to move forward in their ministry to the community.

No one else spoke.

At 5:35 p.m. the regular council meeting was reconvened.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to adopt the Resolution #2022-30 approving the CUP Amendment and Site Plan.

Wastewater Regionalization Project Update

Jared Voge from Bolton & Menk gave an overview of the project to the council. The intent is to continue to install pipe until approximately Dec. 23 depending on weather. The project will take a break over the holidays. The project will resume work on lift stations in February, but pipe work would most likely not resume until spring. Work completed to date represents about 47% of the overall project with 9.8 miles of force main installed. Voge also presented Pay Application Request #6 for \$1,671,899.76 and recommended approval.

Questions and discussion followed with Voge stating the project is on schedule for completion in early fall.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Musachio, to approve Pay Application Request #6.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Adopt Updated Water/Sewer Ordinance – Moving reference to Fee Schedule

Brunn directed the council to the information in their packets.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Musachio, to approve Ordinances #472 Sewer Rates and #473 Water Rates.

Mayor's Comments & Open Forum

No one spoke.

Department Reports

Police Department

Chief Katie McMillin presented the stat report for November. There was a total of 367 calls for the month. To date, there were 4,087 calls for 2022. This is 361 more calls than all of 2021. Equipment violations and gas drive offs (just one incident) are up. Domestic and assaults are also up. McMillin reminded the council that the Winter Parking ordinance is in effect until March 31. Thursday is Cocoa with a Cop at the elementary school. 26 kids have pre-registered for the event. Questions and discussion followed. McMillin stated that some of the officers were interested in picking up TZD hours.

City Engineer

Jarod Griffith gave the council an update on the Hwy 23 project. It is now open to traffic since Thanksgiving. Cleanup work has been suspended for the year. We are working with Public Works on the push button pedestrian crossing signs at Broadway and the roundabout at 8th Street. The signs were originally in our application, but somehow dropped from the project. We are also working with MNDot to sort it out. We are looking into funding. They were included in our 2017 application.

Questions and discussion followed with Musachio expressing concerns regarding the safety of pedestrians crossing over Hwy 23.

Brunn stated that the design is MNDot standards. The push button pedestrian crossing signs were missed, but staff is following up on them. More questions and discussion followed. Swanson expressed concerns that the roundabout is not slowing down traffic. Griffith said that MNDot is doing a speed study through that area and was waiting until after the road was open.

Pappenfus added that the sidewalks in the roundabout are supposed to be blocked off before winter. This should be resolved in the spring with better striping and signage.

Public Works and Fire Department

Mark Pappenfus updated the council on Public Works projects. The skating rink won't be available until after Christmas. The department is working on things in the shop. The pickup that didn't sell over the summer will go to bid this Friday.

The Fire Department's Santa Parade will be held on Dec. 21. The parade will start at 6 p.m. and head south from the fire hall and then head north at 7 p.m. Candy canes were donated this year.

Administration

Brunn gave an overview to the council. Annual appointments are next month. Staff has put out communications looking for volunteers. Council training is scheduled for the second meeting in January. There is also a Joint Planning Board meeting scheduled. The subdivision of the new industrial park property will be discussed. We served notice of our intent to annex that property. This will be finalized at the next council meeting. Brunn also reminded the council of office hours and closings during the holidays.

Gondeck asked if the state representatives had reached out to staff after the election. Brunn stated she had talked with Representative Shane Mekeland. She hadn't heard from the others. They are looking at language options at the state level that we could pursue that would make the PSIG money flow more smoothly. Brunn encouraged the council to keep reaching out to our state representatives. Persistence is key. Discussion followed.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation Hearing

At 6:03 p.m. Bettendorf recessed the regular council meeting for the Truth in Taxation hearing for the 2023 budget and tax levy.

Sarah Moulzolf, 238 Elm Drive, addressed the council stating that she felt the 12% tax increase was very high, especially when you consider the increases coming from the county and school. She said it was getting hard to live in Foley and she didn't believe residents were seeing a lot of improvement.

No one else spoke.

At 6:04 p.m. Bettendorf reconvened the regular council meeting.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Brosh, to adopt Resolution 2022-31 Approving 2023 Tax Levy.

Motion by Gondeck, seconded by Musachio, to adjourn.

Motion carried, unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.



Sarah A. Brunn, Administrator
(Minutes By: Sara Judson Brown, Administrative Assistant)