

**HECTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Monday, July 12th, 2021**  
**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Squibb, followed by a Roll Call to determine a quorum.

Members present: CM Ebbers, CM Heerdt, CM Krueger, and Mayor Squibb

Members absent: CM Best

Also present: City Administrator Aukrust, Deputy Clerk Beckler, Chief Pierce, Fire Chief Kramer, City Attorney Leitch, Brad Falteysek of AEM, Jeremy Boots of Moore Engineering, and Attorney Susan Tindal and Derrick Schluck on behalf of the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust

1. Approval of the agenda and any agenda additions:

Add: Corn Chaff Days 2021 recap to-Reports-7 a

Add: Pioneerland Library System-Reports-1 h

A motion by CM, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with additions.

2. Closed session—

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to close the meeting pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, subd. 3(b) to discuss the pending litigation, Kathy Blackwell v. the City of Hector, with the attorney representing the City of Hector at 6:04 p.m.

3. Reopen the regular meeting—Mayor Squibb

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to reopen the council meeting at 6:42 p.m.

4. Consent Agenda

1. Approve proposed Minutes from June 14th, 2021, City Council Meeting

2. Approval of Payables & Payroll

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda.

5. Petitions, requests, and communications:

1. Brad Falteysek: AEM—

- a) Quarter One report: Under budget for 2021. Tier rates went into effect as of June 2021. Administrator Aukrust will start the 2022 Budget meetings in the next two weeks. In the city Banyon system, two accounts are carrying over large balances that have been inactive for years—00-00000018-07-2 and 00-00000011-01-7 were never cleared out of the system and need to be for accounting reasons. We would like the Council to approve the write-off those accounts: 00-00000018-07-2

A motion by CM Krueger, seconded by CM Heerdt and unanimously carried to approve the write off of 00-00000018-07-2

Account: 00-00000011-01-7

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried, CM Ebbers abstaining, to approve write-off of 00-00000011-01-7.

2. Jeremy Boots: Moore Engineering—

a) 2021 Seal coating update: August for the start of seal coating and patching. CM Ebbers took pictures for Jeremy Boots to review.

3. Ashawa Holdings LLC—411 6<sup>th</sup> St. E. Variance discussion (No action will be taken at this time):

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Heerdt, and unanimously carried to move forward to the Public Hearing process.

6. Ordinances and Resolutions:

- RESOLUTION 2021-22 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—POOL FUND:

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve resolution 2021-22.

- RESOLUTION 2021-23 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—AMBULANCE:

A motion by CM Krueger, seconded by CM Heerdt, and unanimously carried to approve resolution 2021-23.

- RESOLUTION 2021-24 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—HECTOR POLICE DEPARTMENT:

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to approve resolution 2021-24.

- RESOLUTION 2021-25 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—PARK:

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Heerdt, and unanimously carried to approve resolution 2021-25.

- RESOLUTION 2021-26 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND DESIGNATING THEIR USE—CORN CHAFF DAYS EXPENSES:

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to approve resolution 2021-26.

7. Reports of officers, boards, and committees:

1. Administration—City Administrator A. Aukrust

a) City Attorney Griffin Leitch: Gave an update on the mediation with US 212 Beef Corporation.

Mayor Squibb: Beef Plant would pay \$25,000 to the city for the pump.

Will come out of the escrow account. The remaining balance will go back to the beef plant, and the city will close the account.

A motion by CM Krueger, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the mediation agreement with US 212 Beef Corporation and direct City Attorney Leitch to respond to their representative on the city's behalf.

- b) Blight update: CM Ebbers and Administrator Aukrust met with the owner-manager of the trailer court and discussed a timeline for the property to be cleaned up. The city staff and law enforcement will continue to monitor the progress.
- c) Water main breaks-CM Ebbers: CM Ebbers asked, "is possible to get rid of the pipe on the NE corner of HWY 212 and HWY 4?" Jeremy Boots will look at the blueprints and get back to the city. Aukrust stated that the water main repair line item is already \$26,000 over budget for the year.
- d) Packet and refund-CM Ebbers made a motion to return the money given to the city for the cost of the porta-potty given all the controversy over what staff rented for Memorial weekend. CM Ebbers read out loud information he received from his Priest regarding rules and conduct expected at a cemetery. CM Ebbers shared pictures of the Memorial weekend gathering at the cemetery and stated, "there is no respect for the cemetery being shown here!" Mayor Squibb called Ebbers's motion to refund the donation. Motion dies due to lack of a 2<sup>nd</sup>. Resident Jason Lange stated he is one of the people to complain—Lange said, "there should be no porta-potty out at the cemetery!"
- e) Property parking ordinance discussion-CM Ebbers: inquired if there is an ordinance regarding the number of cars/trailers for each property. Administrator Aukrust will send out the draft copy that the prior Council had tabled. It will also be on the August Agenda.
- f) Softball field—CM Krueger: The Fire Department has made some improvements down there, such as fence, rock, scoreboard, etc. CM Krueger stated he would like to name the softball field "Fireman's Field." CM Krueger said this is open to discussion. Mayor Squibb noted a few other names were brought to him by the fire department members. CM Krueger made a motion to allow the fireman to name to the softball field.

A motion by CM Krueger, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to designate the naming of the softball field to the Hector Fire Department.

During Corn Chaff Days, the FFA Alumni noticed that the warming house by the softball field needs its interior remodeled. Mayor Squibb stated that the FFA is willing to do the remodeling if approved by the city. CM Krueger said he could be the go-between with the fire department and FFA with all of this.

A motion by CM Heerdt, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to allow the FFA Alumni to proceed with the remodeling of the warming house.

- g) Pioneerland Library System is requesting an increase for 2022. They are requesting a total of \$39,400. They did not request an increase in 2020 for 2021.

## 2. Public Utilities/Ambulance—Administrator Aukrust (on behalf of Gayle Deal)

Thirty-seven calls since February 8th. The ambulance is currently in the shop due to an oil leak. Mowing will be back on the regular schedule. The street sweeper has a few minor repairs and is waiting for an under broom.

Stand-by generators were serviced and repaired. Water and sewer are all running like normal.

3. Police Department—Police Chief Z. Pierce
  - a) Interviews are set for July 19th. The new windows and doors are done at the PD.
2. Fire Department—Fire Chief R. Kramer
  - a) Bingo, dance, and softball had a good turnout during CCDs. Kramer then thanked the city staff for all their help with the garbage rental and picnic tables. Chief Kramer stated that he would take the softball field naming back to the department and discuss it at the next FD meeting.
3. Airport—Administrator Aukrust (on behalf of Gina Schellenberg)
  - a) Fuel farm was down for a week. There is a bypass in place until the valve comes in and it is replaced.
4. EDA— Administrator Aukrust
  - a) The next meeting is August 19th. Holmgren Appraisal is doing an appraisal of Hummingbird Court. They are six weeks out. Mayor Squibb stated that the EDA has decided to appraise the property because the real estate market is high. The properties are getting close to where almost everything will need to be replaced or remodeled.
5. Corn Chaff Days 2021: CM Heerdts thanked everyone that had a hand in Corn Chaff Days. He also thanked the city staff for everything they did to prepare and over the weekend. Mayor Squibb thanked Hector Community Spirit. "We had a good weekend with a great turnout!"
8. Unfinished business:
  - a) Miscellaneous: Residents addressing the Council: NONE
    - 1.)
9. Adjournment:

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m.