

HECTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 12, 2021
HECTOR COMMUNITY CENTER
MINUTES

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

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

Staff present: City Administrator Aukrust, Deputy Clerk Beckler, Chief Pierce, Airport Manager/PW Schellenberg, PW Deal, and City Attorney Griffin Leitch Residents/Visitors that did not identify themselves

1. Approval of the agenda and any agenda additions:

Remove: Jeremy Boots of Moore Engineering

Remove: Mike Morris of MMS Environmental and blower quotes

Add: Jeremy Boots report to Public Works

Add: Oath of Office: Jeff Heerdt after Resolution 2021-32

A motion by CM Best, second by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with changes.

2. Consent Agenda –

2.01 Approve proposed Minutes from September 13, 2021, City Council Meeting

2.02 Approval of Payables & Payroll Best

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda.

3. Public Hearings: Special Assessments—No property owners addressed the Council.

4. Petitions, requests, and communications:

1. Angela Holm: Bollig Engineering—

a) Airport-turf runway:

- The turf runway is an extra safety measure.
- The turf runway “safety zone” area is on property that is not owned by the city.
- MnDOT did an inspection, and the only options are to shorten the turf runway, close the turf runway, or purchase all the surrounding land.
- The best solution is to shorten the runway by 175 feet.
- The FAA will allow this solution in the short term; however, the city will need to buy land eventually.
- The FAA is looking into ways to help fund the project.
- Administrator Aukrust reminded Council that the city is still in the running for a multi-million-dollar grant that the city applied for that is being supported by Senator Tina Smith.

A motion by CM Ebbers, second by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to approve Bollig Engineering to shorten the turf runway to alleviate safety concerns at the Hector Municipal Airport.

6. Ordinances and Resolutions:

- **ORDINANCE 2021-240 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 92 OF THE HECTOR CITY CODE REGARDING HEALTH AND SAFETY; NUISANCE—92.07 BLIGHT (Second Reading/Adoption)**

A motion by CM Best, second by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to approve the adoption of Ordinance 2021-240.

- **RESOLUTION 2021—32 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A COUNCIL MEMBER TO A VACANCY**

A motion by CM Best, second by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to appoint Jeff Heerd to his former term expiring on December 31, 2022.

Oath of Office: City Administrator Aukrust swore in Council Member Heerd, and he was seated with the whole Council.

- **RESOLUTION 2021—33 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION AND DESIGNATING ITS USE-POOL FUND**

A motion by CM Heerd, second by CM Best, and unanimously carried to accept a donation and designate its use—pool fund.

- **RESOLUTION 2021—34 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION AND DESIGNATING ITS USE-FIRE DEPARTMENT FUND**

A motion by CM Ebbers, second by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to accept a donation and designate its use—Fire Department Fund.

7. Reports of officers, boards, and committees:

1. Administration—City Administrator A. Aukrust

- a) City Attorney Griffin Leitch
- b) Snow hauling newspaper ad:

A motion by CM Ebbers, second by CM Krueger, and unanimously carried to publish an ad for snow hauling bids.

- c) Pet Clinic: Fire Hall—October 27 (5 p.m. to 7 p.m.): Pet tags are here, and Veterinarian Bobbi Kopel will be doing vaccinations if needed.
- d) Blight home removal: Quotes have been requested.

2. Public Works—Gina Schellenberg & Gayle Deal: Flushing hydrants. Painting of the curbs has been completed for the year. If the weather holds, the hydrants will be painted. The tree trimming budget for the year is depleted. The street sweeper is fixed and running wonderfully.

3. Police Department—Police Chief Z. Pierce

- a) PD update: We have two interviews set up for next week.
- b) On-call pay: Current full-time on-call rate is \$2.50, and the part-time oncall rate is \$2.25. Chief Pierce proposed raising the on-call rate for both full-time and part-time to \$15.00 an hour until he can get a full staff. Chief Pierce added, “if we can’t get a full staff, perhaps we need to think about going to county coverage?”

A motion by CM Heerdt, second by CM Krueger, to increase the on-call rate to \$15.00 per hour. Voting against the motion CM Ebbers and Mayor Squibb, CM Best Abstaining. Motion Failed.

After more discussion to help Chief Pierce staff the Hector Police Department:

A motion by CM Ebbers, second by CM Heerdt, to increase the on-call rate to \$18.00 per hour. Voting Aye: CM Ebbers, CM Heerdt, CM Krueger, and Mayor Squibb. Abstaining: CM Best. Motion Carried.

CM Ebbers asked Chief Pierce about an ongoing noise complaint. Chief Pierce informed Council that he had talked with the group about turning down the noise. City Attorney Leitch also spoke to Council on this situation and will continue to look for options for the city.

4. Fire Department—
 - a) FD update: All but three members have been measured for turnout gear.
5. Ambulance—Gayle Deal: Thank you to the community for coming out to our Open House to support the Hector Ambulance Service last week. It is greatly appreciated!
5. Airport—Airport Manager G. Schellenberg
 - a) AP update- Schellenberg: Working on the 50-10 report with Administrator Aukrust.
6. EDA—
 - a) EDA update: Hummingbird Court will be going up for sale. Holmgren Appraisals did the Appraisal, and the EDA chose Roger Newman to handle the sale of the property. It will go on the market at the beginning of November.
8. Unfinished business:
 - a) Miscellaneous: Residents addressing the Council
 - 1.) Citizens to Save the Pool Committee: Made three requests.
Request #2: The Council will review a report from a Minnesota Licensed Structural Engineer of the groups choosing and at their cost. Request #1 and #3 were not agreed to by the Council because they go against Minnesota State Statute regarding the bidding and procurement process. A motion by CM Best, second by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to agree to request number two by the committee.

Mike Schellenberg asked the Council, “with all the vandalism going on in town, when will the pool be demolished, so kids don’t vandalize it and or even worse yet, break-in and drown?” Council said it would be addressed by Council very soon.

9. Adjournment:

A motion by CM Heerdt, second by CM Ebbers, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.