

HECTOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 13th, 2021
HECTOR COMMUNITY CENTER
MINUTES

Mayor Squibb called the meeting to order at 6:02 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 Aurkrust, Deputy Clerk Beckler, Chief Pierce, Fire Chief Kramer, Airport Manager/PW Schellenberg, PW Deal, Ambulance Supervisor/PW Rodmyre, Christian Duruji of Anderson Larson

Audience: Curt Hollan, Amy Hollan, Janis Wickle, Mike Schellenberg, Jason Lange, Gerald Johnson, Jon Eiler, Derek Borth, Nic Heiderscheidt, Sam Heiderscheidt, Nathaniel Pierce and residents/visitors that did not identify themselves.

1. Approval of the agenda and any agenda additions:

Remove: Jeremy Boots of Moore Engineering

Remove: Kirk Peterson of Core and Main

Add: Janis Weikle-Pool—to Residents addressing the Council

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

2. Consent Agenda:

2.01 Approve proposed Minutes from August 9th, 2021, City Council Meeting

2.02 Approval of Payables & Payroll

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

3. Public Hearings: Curtis and Amy Hollan—251 Elm Avenue West Variance:

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Best, and unanimously carried to approve the requested Variance.

4. Petitions, requests, and communications:

1. Brad Falteysek: AEM— Ashley Feldewerd presented for AEM

a) 2022 Budget review:

LGA is budgeted at 100% of the amount certified aid. The City's LGA allocation is up almost \$4,700 from the 2021 allocation.

Transfers to the capital fund total \$250,000, up from \$160,000 in 2021. We have continued the \$60,000 transfer to support the water and sewer project fund debt. Added to transfers is a transfer to the EDA fund of \$30,000 to support operations. The levy will increase by 12.05% for 2022. That works out to be about a \$59.00 increase on a property value of \$64,000. An increase in the transfer to the capital fund is based on future capital needs.

b) Second-quarter report: The City received the first part of the LGA and will receive the rest at the end of the year. Police wages are under budget. Water & sewer funds have a decrease in cash due to the bond payment. City assets are all current.

2. Mayor Squibb: Filling a Vacancy discussion: CM Krueger stated that former Council member Jeff Heerdts has requested to be reinstated on the Council. He said that Heerdts said he had acted on emotions and wants to return to the Council. CM Ebberts stated that Heerdts has the experience and that it would be okay with him if he is reinstated but noted that since Heerdts resigned from the Council, some roles have been changed by Resolution. CM Ebberts feels that the new roles should remain in place even if Heerdts returns. The Council all agreed. Doug Best will remain Acting Mayor, and Ron Ebberts will remain on the EDA. Council instructed Administrator Aukrust to draft a Resolution for the October meeting appointing Jeff Heerdts to fill a vacancy on the Council.

5. Ordinances and Resolutions:

- **ORDINANCE 2021-240 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 92 OF THE HECTOR CITY CODE REGARDING HEALTH AND SAFETY; NUISANCE—92.07 BLIGHT (First Reading)**
- **RESOLUTION 2021-31 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PRELIMINARY 2021 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2022, FOR THE CITY OF HECTOR, MINNESOTA; AND ORDERING THE LEVY TO BE CERTIFIED WITH THE RENVILLE COUNTY AUDITOR:**

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Krueger and unanimously carried, ordering the levy to be certified with the Renville County Auditor.

6. Reports of officers, boards, and committees:

1. Administration—City Administrator A. Aukrust

- a) City Attorney's office: Christian Duruji will send the court documents to City Hall granting ongoing summary enforcement of the abatement Order. 210 Dupont Ave NE
- b) Transfer of cemetery plots fee: Any transfer will be \$250.00 per plot.

A motion by CM Krueger, seconded by CM Ebberts and unanimously carried to approve a \$250.00 transfer fee per plot at the city cemetery.

- c) City building appraisal-Country Wide Lumber discussion: CWL submitted a letter of intent to purchase the city lot on Ash Ave E. CWL stated they need more room. CWL would like to move forward with the sale at the beginning of 2022. The City will need to find a location for city equipment before it can sell the property.

A motion by CM Best, seconded by CM Ebberts and unanimously carried to approve the appraisal of the city building by Craig Holmgren.

- d) Sampson Family land donation discussion: Per a letter from the Sampson family attorney, the Sampson family would like to donate a Lot to be used as a park and have naming rights to the park. The Lot would also have to remain a park indefinitely. After much discussion, the Council decided to decline the donation. As this Lot is the last remaining commercially zoned lot in Hector, the City does not have the funds to put in the needed infrastructure for a bathroom, build a bathroom, shelter, and buy park equipment.

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Krueger and unanimously carried to decline the land donation from the Sampson family.

2. Public Utilities/Ambulance—Gina Schellenberg
 - a) Public Utility update: The tree trimmer is in town cleaning up a lot of trees that should have been taken down many years ago. A Raz pump went out. We're having continued issues with our SCADA system.
 - b) Street sweeper: Gayle Deal: We will have the street sweeper in for service.
 - c) Ambulance update: Ken Rodmyre: 106 YTD on ambulance calls. BL and Hector are working together to help each other with staffing issues. It is challenging to staff the ambulance.
3. Police Department—Police Chief Z. Pierce
 - a) PD update: The Officer that was offered a position pending a background check has not returned the needed paperwork and is not returning calls. Chief Pierce said that the PD is back to square one, and if the PD is in the same situation by the end of the year, a discussion will need to take place regarding the future of having a PD in Hector.
4. Fire Department—Fire Chief R. Kramer
 - a) FD update: The Fire Department has chosen "Hector Fire Department Field" for the new name of the softball field. Turnout gear will be increasing in price by 8-12% by the end of September. It would be best for the FD to order the remaining turnout gear now to lock in pricing. Orders take six months or more to fill, so this will be in the 2022 budget.
5. Airport—Airport Manager G. Schellenberg
 - a) AP update- Schellenberg: Getting ready for the Lion's Fly-in breakfast
 - b) Lions Fly-in pancake breakfast: September 19th
6. EDA—
 - a) EDA update: Women & Military veterans grants that are opening up on Monday.
8. Unfinished business:
 - a) Miscellaneous: Residents addressing the Council
 - 1.) Janis Weikle: Pool committee is still fundraising. The Lion's Fly-In has Pledged this year's donations to the pool fund. Weikle asked for a date when the Council could meet with the pool committee. Mayor Squibb said that he would put them on the Hector City Council Workshop agenda for 5:15 p.m. on October 12th.
9. Adjournment:

A motion by CM Ebbers, seconded by CM Krueber, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.