

Whalan City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, May 9, 2022
Meeting held at the Whalan Town Hall and via Zoom

Present: Marlys Tuftin, Kim Berekvam, Owen Lewis, and Sheila Higbe

Absent: Thore E. Johnson

Visitors: Dave Ruberg, Ben Ruberg, Randy Berekvam, Melanie Murphy, Barb Jeffers, David Hallum, and Dale Peterson.

Regular Meeting:

Mayor Tuftin called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Agenda: Member Lewis motioned to approve the agenda with the additions of Declaration of Easement and June Meeting to Miscellaneous. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

C. Approval of Minutes:

1. Mayor Tuftin read the minutes of the Regular Meeting, April 11, 2022: Member Higbe motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

D. Treasurer's Report: Clerk Peterson provided the treasurer's report. The following are the balances as of 04/30/2022: General Fund \$37839.04, Court Reimbursement Fund \$5,250, Ballfield Fund \$1,152.27, Beautification Fund \$187.00, American Recovery Act Funding \$3,606.31, Small Cities Assist \$12,153.00, General Capital \$27,331.07, and Electric Fund \$28,450.92. Member Berekvam motioned to approve the treasurer's report including the following accounts payable:

<u>Claim No</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check Number</u>
Payroll	Payroll Period Ending 04/30/2022	\$550.13	6018
Payroll	Payroll Period Ending 04/30/2022	\$274.74	6019
509221	MN PERA	\$267.12	Electronic
50922	City of Lanesboro	\$250.00	6010
509221	O'Koren Law Office LLC	\$335.00	6011
509222	Acentek	\$40.19	6012
509223	Whalan Museum	\$35.13	6013
509224	MiEnergy	\$172.00	6014
509225	Plunkett's Pest Control	\$42.80	6015
509226	Block 12 Well	\$60.00	6016
509227	MiEnergy	\$2,805.17	6017

Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

E. Welcome to Visitors and Visitor Comments:

- a. Dale Peterson: Shared that short term rentals will support other businesses, provide additional revenue, and benefit landowners. A short term rental would ensure there was not an absentee owner, and instead provide for consistency and upkeep.

F. New Business:

a. 2022 City Walking Tour Findings:

- i. Ballfield - The possibility of utilizing American Rescue Act Funding was discussed.
 1. Remove existing bathrooms (Verify authority to do so) and utilize portable units - Clerk Peterson is working with DNR to determine the options for this structure.
 2. Regular inspection of playground equipment - Clerk Peterson will submit an inspection list for next month's meeting.
 3. Picnic Table replacement and repair
 4. Cement around drain in driveway
 5. Verify safety of fire pit area
 6. Board replacement on bleachers
 7. Park Sign roof needs replacement - Randy will replace roofing material.
- ii. Verify Trees near Church are private or in the Public Right of Way - Trees appear to be in the right of way, trimming is needed.
- iii. Water runoff concerns on hill (Consider Engineering Firm) - Clerk Peterson will reach out to Bolton & Menk Engineering.
- iv. Town Hall in need of replacement siding - Get quotes
- v. Future use of bathroom near town hall - Replace roofing material, paint, and plant flowers in garden boxes. Member Berekvam will help with this project.
- vi. Smoke Stack does not currently meet standards set forth in the ordinance - letter to be issued.
- vii. Tree interfering with secondary line at Andersons
- viii. Playground Area
 1. Mulch in Playground area
 2. Regular inspection of playground equipment - Clerk Peterson will submit an inspection list for next month's meeting.
 3. Paint Basketball poles
 4. Mulch and plantings around gazebo
 5. Remove Stand Still Parade banner
- ix. Failing asphalt in intersections (Consider Engineering Firm)
- x. New Street and Third Avenue - trim back trees and place gravel on interior corner of intersection
- xi. Management of City Brush Pile - must meet standards in DNR Agreement

- xii. Clean out old Town Hall - As time allows, low priority
 - xiii. Paint exterior of old Town Hall - Could consider summer help to accomplish this goal
 - xiv. Tree interfering with electric line at Dale Petersons
 - b. Public Bathrooms:** Quotes from On-Site Sanitation were shared, discussion will be continued.
 - c. Zoning Board**
 - i. Appointment:** Member Higbe motioned to appoint David Hallum to the Zoning Board. Member Berekvam seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - ii. Resignation:** Member Berekvam motioned to accept the resignation of Ernie Johnson from the Zoning Board. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - d. Pole Replacement:** Member Higbe motioned to approve replacement of two poles by MiEnergy at a cost not to exceed \$6,000. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - e. Sanitation and Recycling Contract:** The contract with Harter's Quick Clean-up was approved by consensus.
- G. Miscellaneous:**
- a. Declaration of Easement:** Member Berekvam motioned to have Attorney O'Koren review the documentation submitted by the Ruberg and Murphy families and discuss next month. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
 - b. June Meeting:** Member Lewis motioned to move the June meeting to Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Member Berekvam seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Member Lewis moved to adjourn at 6:13 p.m. Motion seconded by Member Higbe. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Clerk/Treasurer