

**Whalan City Council
Regular Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2023
Meeting held at the Whalan Town Hall and via Zoom**

Present: David Hallum, Sheila Higbe, Kim Berekvam, Thore E. Johnson, and Owen Lewis

Absent: None

Visitors: Randy Berekvam, Benjamin Ruberg, Tammy Hughes, David Ruberg, and Barb Jeffers

Regular Meeting:

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

A. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Agenda: Member Johnson motioned to approve the agenda with the following additional discussions: 2nd Avenue Right of Way, Memorial Bench, Temporary Liquor License, and Speed Bumps. Member Lewis seconded the motion. Motion carried, with all in favor.

C. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the May 8, 2023 Council Meeting were read by Mayor Hallum. Member Berekvam motioned to approve the minutes as submitted. Member Higbe 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 05/31/2023: General Fund \$30,793.16, Court Reimbursement Fund \$5,658.19, Taste of the Trail \$3,130.55, Ballfield Fund \$935.06, Beautification Fund \$187.00, General Capital \$27,510.95, and Electric Fund \$43,094.86. Member Lewis motioned to approve the treasurer's report including the following accounts payable:

Claim No	Vendor	Detail	Amount	Check Number
Payroll	Payroll Period Ending 05/31/2023	May Payroll 2023	\$838.80	6195
Payroll	Payroll Period Ending 05/31/2023	May Payroll 2023	\$589.99	6196
612231	Block 12 Well	2023 Annual Payment	\$60.00	6180
612232	City of Lanesboro	June rent, Display Sales, Onsite, Sand/Salt Inv	\$1,173.49	6181
612233	Whalan Museum	June Internet Expense	\$35.13	6182
612234	Acentek	12521335	\$40.63	6183
612235	Bolton & Menk, Inc	Invoice 311903	\$3,555.00	6184
612236	Preston Emergency Services	Invoice City06302	\$603.06	6185
612237	League of MN Cities	2023 Property Casualty Ins Premium	\$5,574.00	6186
612238	Solberg's Circle S Farm	Pea gravel for playground area	\$748.93	6187
612239	O'Koren Law Office LLC	Invoice 1065	\$75.00	6188
612240	Plunkett's Pest Control	Invoice 8040681	\$44.52	6189
6122310	MiEnergy	Purchase Power, invoice 485537	\$2,890.98	6190
6122311	S&A Petroleum	Invoice 96061	\$854.75	6191
6122312	Owen Lewis	Supplies Reimbursement	\$282.43	6192
6122313	Whalan Auto Body	Invoice - New Battery for truck	\$144.00	6193

6122314 Lanesboro Rural Fire Department Semi Annual Payment \$1,489.80 6194

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

E. Welcome to Visitors and Visitor Comments: Randy Berekvam noted that the gas tank is in need of a new pump, in the meantime he is elevating the one side in order to use up the older gas in the tank. Member Lewis motioned to bring this discussion forward for the July meeting. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

F. New Business:

a. Drinking Water Test Results: Members reviewed the report noting no coliform bacteria was detected in the sample.

G. Continued Business:

- a. Chapter 120 - Short Term Rentals:** Members discussed the following: off street parking requirements, insurance provisions, total # of allowable units. No suggestions were shared for amendments. Ordinance will be posted and brought back to the July meeting .
- b. Oak Street safety and Grant Application, temporary improvements:** Member Lewis motioned to approve Bolton & Menk completing a grant application in the amount of \$7,000, while also applying for a grant through the League of MN Cities by approving resolution 2023-09. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- c. Playground and Gazebo Ground cover estimates:** Project is complete with both pea gravel and mulch placed.
- d. Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation:** Member Johnson motioned to approve a \$100 donation. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- e. STS Crew Project Ideas:** Member Lewis motioned to approve working with the STS Crew for various projects within the community. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.
- f. DNR signs and trees:** Discussion to be continued at the July meeting.
- g. MiEnergy project restoration:** Restoration work is complete.
- h. Picnic tables:** Members reviewed the minutes from October 12, 2022 noting that Council was considering purchasing an accessible table at a cost of up to \$500, however no approval was given at that time. Members discussed repairing the ones we currently have. Discussion will be continued at the July meeting.
- i. Gravel roads - Blading and Dust Control:** Member Johnson motioned to approve contracting to have the gravel roads bladed and dust control put on. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

H. Miscellaneous:

- a. Memorial Bench:** Members considered a request from an individual to donate a bench in honor of a family member. It was suggested that the Council would consider a bench as long as it was as maintenance free as possible, and that a cement slab be poured underneath it. The bench could be placed near the playground, with a final exact location to be determined. Discussion to be continued.
- b. 2nd Avenue Right of Way:** Members noted that a portion of the public right of way is currently grass, however members would like to see this area be utilized for parking. Clerk Peterson will look into the cost of a survey for this area, so that the exact property lines are determined, prior to any work being completed. Member Lewis motioned to have diagonal lines painted on the north side for the first block

Approved 07/10/2023

off of Main St, with parallel lines on the south side. Member Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried with Mayor Hallum and Members Johnson, Lewis, and Higbe voting in favor. Member Berekvam voted against. Mayor Hallum will connect with the STS crew in order to complete the work.

- c. **Speed Bumps:** A concern was brought forward that there are vehicles driving faster through town than should be. A suggestion was made to purchase signs to help slow traffic down. If the signs are not effective then speed bumps will be looked into further.
- d. **Temporary Liquor License:** Member Lewis motioned to approve a Temporary Liquor License for the annual 4th of July ball tournament pending a completed application. Member Higbe seconded the motion. Motion carried with all in favor.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 10 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURN: Member Johnson moved to adjourn at 6:02 p.m. Motion seconded by Member Lewis. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Peterson
City Clerk/Treasurer