



Goodhue City Council Work Meeting Minutes
City Hall ~ October 09, 2024 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Ellen Anderson Buck, Joe Benda, Jason Thuman, Chris Schmit, Patrice O’Reilly

Absent: None

Guests: Lori Luhman, Jason Mandelkow, Todd Kieffer, McCrae Olson

Call to Order

Mayor Buck called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Approve or amend Agenda

A motion was made to approve the agenda by O’Reilly, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 5-0-0.

Approval of Minutes

Changes to the minutes under “Other” include grader blade to snowplow and bucket to “9’ snow bucket. Also change motion from Mayor Buck to Schmit for the motion to approve the minutes. A Motion to approve minutes as amended for the September 25, 2024 City Council meeting minutes was made by Scmit, seconded by O’Reilly, motion carried 5-0-0.

Council discussed the Cannabis Agreement between the County of Goodhue and the City of Goodhue for the registration and enforcement of cannabis retail sales pursuant to Minn. Stat. Ch. 342. Goodhue County Sheriff’s Office will be performing compliance checks. If the County controls cannabis registration, the City would still need to approve or deny an applicant. Other towns like Bellechester and Zumbrota have chosen to delegate registration to Goodhue County. Council unanimously agrees to delegate Cannabis registration and enforcement of retail sales to the County and will vote on it at the next meeting.

The council determined meeting dates for November and December. The first meeting of the month, the work sessions, will be held as regularly scheduled. The second meeting of the month will be held on Tuesday, November 26th and Tuesday, December 17th, 2024. They will confirm the dates at the next meeting.

The replacement of driveways that already exist is not stated in the zoning ordinance and to correct that the City would need to add an addendum to it. Although, the City can issue a specific driveway permit for the replacement of driveways instead. There will be a notice in the next newsletter letting residents know that a permit is required for a driveway replacement.

Public Works recommends that we decline the agreement with Goodhue County for seal coating for 2025. The agreement will be placed on the consent agenda for the next meeting.

The Goodhue County Sheriff’s Office lease agreement for office space was declined and taken off the table, due to the renegotiated rate reduction for the Goodhue County Sheriff Services contract.

The council asked that the Goodhue County Sheriff Office be invited to the regular council meetings. It is important for the people of Goodhue to hear from them as well if they are willing to have a representative present.

Covenants for Swanson Heights 3rd Addition lots have regulations on square footage of living space. Until a permit is submitted for a building in this addition, we can't issue an answer to whether the structure is allowed or not.

The cost for Goodhue to be part of County-wide housing study is \$933. They reached out to CEDA and found that Goodhue cannot expand until more is done with the local sewer plant to accommodate more residents. The Council consensus is to bypass this housing study.

The City of Goodhue has an agent that was hired for all lot sales in the subdivision. All the lots are sold and the agent's contract ends in December. CEDA or Knight Barry Title could help the city handle purchase agreements. The council agreed not to renew the contract. A motion was made by Benda, seconded by Schmit, to deny renewal and let the agent's contract expire at the end of its term, motion carried 5-0-0.

There was an oversight on the agreement for the Zumbrota Area Ambulance Association. The Township of Mazeppa was never added onto it. This agreement will be on the consent agenda for approval at the next meeting.

The League of Minnesota Cities inquired about the City's insurance and audits. Then they also asked if the Gas Commission gets audited since they have their own checking account. We don't balance anything on the city side. The city needed to know this to renew the League of Minnesota Cities insurance. An email has been sent to a member of the Gas Commission and we have not heard back. The bylaws for Gas Commission structure seem half-in and half-out. Council Member Schmit will take these questions to the Gas Commission meeting. The commission has its own bond and from what we know in the past it originally offered be done with the \$12.78 basic service fee once the bond was paid up.

A quote was received for the remaining police equipment. It was very low, but the items will be handled correctly. The council decided to keep the trail cameras. A suggestion was made to take that money to put a new door in so we can access a closet area. The council requested we negotiate a new offer to let them have everything except for the trail cameras for the same price as quoted. This offer will be sent and will be reviewed again at the next meeting.

Febtech wanted an extension one year ago. There cannot be two consecutive TIF's on the same property. Now they want to de-certify the current TIF and do a second one and combine them. A new application should be filled out asking for the TIF. His attorney said it would have to be approved by the council. He wants to build on now. Their attorney advised the owner to go to the County. The council agrees to advise them to contact their attorney also for further direction.

A rough draft of the updated City of Goodhue Personnel Policy was given to the council to read through.

The League of Minnesota Cities sent A No Fault Sewer Back-Up and Water Main Break Coverage Application to the city. It was determined that the city does not qualify, so we do not need to submit the application.

Trees quotes were received to fall all 18 trees at Cranson Heights Park. Public Works will clean up the rest. A motion to approve the tree removal quotes was made by Schmit, seconded by Benda, the motion carried 5-0-0.

Water and sewer lines were hooked up to the lot for Habitat for Humanity. The service lines were updated around 2010. The sewer line was PVC all the way to the main with no obstructions. There are no utility services to the lot on the West side. Tapping that watermain will mean removing curb and blacktop.

During hydrant flushing, there were a few found that needed repair. Minnesota Rural Water will be assisting the rebuilding of those hydrants.

Lead service line inventory is done. A notice is going to be sent out with a link to see if you are on a Lead Service Line. We test for lead and the water is safe. The next step is for letters to go to all unknown, lead or galvanized service lines.

Mayor Anderson-Buck commented that at the Sanitary Sewer District meeting they discussed the strategy for the next bonding year. They are closing on the land acquisition in October of 2024.

Approval of Bills

A motion was made to approve the bills by Thuman, seconded by Schmit, motion carried 5-0-0.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:38 pm by Council Member Schmit seconded by O'Reilly (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Luhman, Administrative Assistant/City Clerk