



Goodhue, Minnesota 55027

Goodhue City Council Meeting Minutes

5:15 pm, February 28, 2024

In-Person Meeting, First Floor Conference Room, City Hall

Council Members Present: Mayor Ellen Anderson-Buck, Patrice O'Reilly, Joe Benda, Jason Thuman, Chris Schmit

Council Members Absent: None

Guests: Cailin Richard, McCrae Olson, Jason Mandelkow, Reese Sudtelgte, Lori Luhman, Derek Weckerling, Tom Haugen, Sara Haugen

Call to Order

5:09 pm

Adoption of Agenda

Unanimous adoption of agenda with a motion from Thuman and a second from Schmit (5-0-0) with no amendments to the agenda.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

With a motion from Schmit and a second from Benda (5-0-0), Council unanimously approved the Goodhue City Council Meeting Minutes from January 24, 2024.

Old Business

There were no Old Business items presented for discussion.

New Business Items

City Engineer Sudtelgte provided an **engineering report**. Engineer Sudtelgte provided an update on the 4th and Broadway improvements, sharing that he was working on the final quantities and documentation to close the project out. Sudtelgte shared there would be one more pay application presented to City Council for approval. Engineer Sudtelgte provided an update on the sanitary district, sharing that each community has to develop their own facility plan, one large facility plan in Zumbrota and then supporting facility plans in the partner communities that include lift stations and forced mains. Sudtelgte shared that each community had to present alternative cases in the instance a sanitary district did not move forward; there were three options for Goodhue, including upgrading the current plant, building a new plant or connecting to a sanitary district. Sudtelgte's recommendation for the alternative plan would be to connect to a sanitary district. Sudtelgte shared what the anticipated costs would be for both a sanitary district connection and building a new facility for Goodhue. Sudtelgte shared that the current

engineering work for the district was being paid through the legislative dollars received. Sudtelgte shared the process and timeline to move the facilities plans forward with the MPCA, stating everything needed to be finalized by June 30, 2024. Sudtelgte recommended the City begin incremental rate increases to build up reserves and provide a better customer experience. Sudtelgte requested Council approval to set a public hearing date for March 27, 2024 to present the facilities plan and provide a deeper look at the process and financials. With a motion from Thuman and a second from Schmit (5-0-0), Council unanimously **approved holding a Public Hearing on March 27, 2024 to hear a presentation on the sanitary district** and facilities plan. Engineer Sudtelgte provided an update on the site location of the sanitary district treatment facility in Zumbrota, sharing that the City negotiated with a local landowner to purchase 43.5 acres for the facility. Sudtelgte stated a copy of the Purchase Agreement was in Council packets, and the purchase would be funded through state funds allocated for the project. Sudtelgte shared what the state dollars are earmarked for and how land ownership would work within the district. Sudtelgte requested Council adopt a Resolution approving the purchase agreement, to move the land acquisition forward. With a motion from O'Reilly and a second from Benda (5-0-0), Council unanimously adopted a **Resolution Approving the North Zumbro Sanitary District Land Purchase Agreement for \$957,000**. Engineer Sudtelgte provided an update on lead service lines in the City, sharing that the Department of Health provided funds for the City to identify where lead service lines exist. Engineer Sudtelgte shared there is no cost to the City, the state of the contract with the Department of Health and the timeline for having the inventory finalized. There was a question from Council on how the City determines if lines are lead; Sudtelgte answered they review records and have local staff on the ground checking lines. Sudtelgte shared that there may be additional dollars in the future to replace lead service lines.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented the **2024 Goodhue Volksfest activities** for approval, as presented at the February 7, 2024 Council Work Meeting. There was no discussion. With a motion from O'Reilly and a second from Benda (5-0-0), Council unanimously approved the Goodhue Volksfest activities, as presented to City Council on February 7, 2024.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented the **2023 End-of-Year Financials** for approval, sharing that the temporary consultant had prepared the documents and the City was required to submit them to the state. There was no discussion. With a motion from Thuman and a second from Schmit (5-0-0), Council unanimously approved the 2023 End-of-Year Financials.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented the **road closure request from the Goodhue Agricultural Department** on April 12, 2024 for Ag Day, sharing it is a similar request to what was approved in 2023. There was no discussion. With a motion from O'Reilly and a second from Schmit (5-0-

0), Council unanimously approved a road closure on April 12, 2024 for Ag Day, hosted by the Goodhue Agricultural Department.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented a request from the Fire Department to utilize some of the City's Public Safety Aid to purchase **turn-out gear for four new firefighters** in the department. Mayor Anderson-Buck requested Fire Chief Weckerling provide direction to Council on which company the Department would like to purchase the equipment from. Chief Weckerling indicated he would like to purchase jackets, hoods and pants from Heiman, helmets, boots and masks from MacQueen and gloves from Jefferson. There was discussion from Council on which items were being requested from which company. Chief Weckerling shared why they were interested in purchasing from different outfitters, and indicated they would only need three sets of equipment instead of four. Mayor Anderson-Buck requested the Chief send Council an itemized list of which items they would like purchased from each outfitter. There was discussion amongst Council on how the equipment invoices would be paid, and Mayor Anderson-Buck requested the Chief send the equipment invoices to the City for processing. With a motion from Thuman and a second from Benda (5-0-0), Council unanimously approved using Public Safety Aid dollars to purchase three sets of turn-out gear for the Fire Department. Chief Weckerling shared that the Department recently received a donation from the Lions Club for half the cost of a new piece of equipment and emphasized the existing need at the Department for funding.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented an **amendment to the Special City Council Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2023** for approval, sharing the minutes state a financing term of 36 months when they should reflect a financing term of 60 months. Mayor Anderson-Buck shared the minutes needed to be updated to move financing forward at the bank for the tractor purchase, and City Attorney Vose agreed that an amendment to the minutes would suffice. With a motion from Thuman and a second from Schmit (5-0-0), Council unanimously amended the Special City Council Meeting Minutes from April 7, 2023 to change the agreed-upon financing term from 36 months to 60 months.

Mayor Anderson-Buck presented a **one-time \$5.00 e-bill credit for customers who transition to paperless billing** for approval, sharing that the Gas Commission had approved a \$5.00 credit for gas customers who go paperless. There was discussion amongst Council on the cost savings of paperless billing, the popularity of paperless billing and spell-checking the incentive message on bills prior to printing. With a motion from Benda and a second from O'Reilly (5-0-0), Council unanimously approved offering a one-time \$5.00 water bill credit for customers who transition to paperless billing through May 31, 2024.

Tom Haugen presented to City Council, sharing that he and his wife would like to **build a 40 x 60 shed** on the lot next to their home to replace an old, dilapidated shed that currently sits on the property. Haugen shared design features of the proposed build, infrastructure needs for the site and the construction timeline. Mayor Anderson-Buck shared that Council would take the proposal under advisement and discuss at their work meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

City Council member Schmit recused himself from the meeting as a Council member. Schmit presented to City Council, sharing that he would like to put a **vending machine** at the pool for pool customers and the community to utilize. Schmit shared what beverages he planned to offer in the machine and the location it would be placed in. Council member Thuman inquired how long the last machine had been gone from the site; Schmit answered several years. Schmit shared that he would like a similar structure as the former vending machine company, which would be to pay the City a rental fee to have the machine on City property. Mayor Anderson-Buck shared that Council would take the proposal under advisement and discuss at their work meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2024. Schmit rejoined the meeting as a Council member.

Other Items

There were no Other items presented for discussion.

Public Comment

Public Comment was opened and closed without any presentations from public attendees.

Approval of Bills

There was discussion amongst Council on which plowing companies had assisted and invoiced the City this winter, the Goodhue Community Firetruck Association fee, the Sheriff's Department community outreach at the school, the security plan for Volksfest, the Cintas contract, the Mayor's phone bill, the Gas Commission phone bill, the new light pole by the school and installing another light pole near the greenhouse by the school. With a motion from Schmit and a second from O'Reilly (5-0-0), Council unanimously voted to pay the bills as stated.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made at 5:52 pm by Benda and seconded by Thuman (5-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,
Cailin Richard, EDA Coordinator