

Council President Unruh called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll showed Councilpersons DeGross, Kletscher, Lee, Ross and Sandow were present. Also present were CT Rosenow, Police Chief Darwin, Officer Klatt, Library Director Karlson, Lynn McIntyre, Greg Adams, Ryan Schofield, Daniel Goodrich, Steve Wilcox, Lisa Berends, Jeff Tuttle, Holly Olson and six members of the GCE student council and Carlton DeWitt.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by members of the GCE student council.

DeGross moved and Lee seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Voice vote carried.

Lee moved and Sandow seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2022 Regular meeting. Voice vote carried.

Kletscher moved and DeGross seconded a motion to approve disbursements. Roll call vote carried with all councilpersons present voting yes.

In Public Comments, Unruh read the comments submitted by Anna Mewis. Mewis' comments included information regarding City website links, recycling center questions and requests for budget information.

There was no summer rec report, but Unruh stated he'd been contacted by the committee to discuss the potential of using the existing tennis courts at Hinman Park as batting cages.

Director Karlson gave the Library report stating shelving is still in transit and re-capping some final numbers from 2022. Total circulation was 11,718 items, 152 programs with 2,945 attendees, 118 new patrons and more than 7,500 walk in visitors.

There was no Public Works report.

A written Police report was submitted.

There was no Clerk-Treasurer's report.

In the Mayor's report, Council President Unruh specifically thanked each department's employees for their various efforts in providing services to the community.

In Old Business, Cedar Corporation reported that Carlton DeWitt had found evidence that the portion of 4th St that runs through the old school property had been vacated back in 1957 but no documentation on the alley there had been found, so next month they will introduce the resolution to start the process of discontinuance of the alley. Greg Adams pointed out that the survey line work is ready to be acted upon once the discontinuance process is complete. Adams also clarified that preliminary boundary lines at the saddle club property are ready and it was determined that he would set up a meeting with Councilperson Lee, as Chair of the Public Property committee, to look at the proposed markings and Lee will bring info back to the council.

In New Business, Adams stated he'd looked at the work that Albrightson has done to date at the old school property and is recommending paying 3% of the retainage that was being held along with the change order amount for the work done to the curb line. Council members questioned the quality of the curb work that had been done and whether the remaining 2% of project cost would be adequate to cover

what is left to do in the spring if the curb work was found to be unsatisfactory. Adams believes the retainage to be adequate so recommended approving the pay request. Sandow moved and Ross seconded a motion to approve pay request #3 to Albrightson Excavating for \$12,550.90. Roll call vote showed DeGross, Lee, Ross, Sandow and Unruh voting yes. Kletscher voted no. Motion carried.

Sandow moved and DeGross seconded a motion to approve an Operator's License application for Spencer D Peterson. Voice vote carried with Kletscher abstaining.

At 7:25 p.m. DeGross moved and Kletscher seconded a motion to enter into closed session per Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) Compensation and Evaluation: Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee subject to the jurisdiction or authority of governing body; discussion regarding wages and benefits. Roll call vote showed councilpersons DeGross, Kletscher, Lee, Ross, Sandow and Unruh voting yes.

At 8:54 p.m. Kletscher moved and DeGross seconded a motion to reconvene to open session. Roll call vote showed all councilpersons present voting yes.

DeGross moved and Ross seconded a motion to implement quarterly City Department Head meetings. Voice vote carried with all in favor.

Kletscher moved and DeGross seconded a motion to deny the requested \$500.00 increase of wage for the Ambulance Director positions. Voice vote showed all councilpersons voting yes with Lee abstaining.

Kletscher moved and Sandow seconded a motion to allow the Ambulance service grant writer be awarded up to 10% of the grants received for the year, up to a maximum of \$500.00 per year. Voice vote found all in favor with Lee abstaining.

Lee moved to grant wage increases to City employees – City Clerk 3%; PW Director 2%; Police Chief 2%; full time PW employees 2%. After three calls for a second to the motion, hearing none, motion died for lack of a second.

Ross moved to grant a 2% increase to the City Clerk, PW Director and full time PW department employees and Police Chief. After two calls for a second, DeGross seconded the motion. Roll call vote resulted in 2 votes in favor and 4 votes against. Motion failed.

After a period with no additional motions, Kletscher moved and DeGross seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. Voice vote carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon L Rosenow
Clerk Treasurer