

MAYER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 11, 2021

Call Regular meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. by Mayor Dodge

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Dodge

COUNCIL PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Council Members Boder, Heldt, and Millender

ABSENT: Council Member McNeilly

STAFF PRESENT VIA ZOOM: City Administrator McCallum, Deputy Clerk Gildemeister, City Engineers Martini and Kota, Fire Chief I Andy Maetzold

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIANCE VIA ZOOM: Don Wachholz, Liz Butterfield, Rod Maetzold, Bob Carlson, Jason Bautista, Kevin Nace, Tice Stieve-McPadden.

OATH OF OFFICE

Re-elect Mayor Mike Dodge and newly elect Council Members Chad Heldt and Larry Millender were recognized.

Mayor Dodge Welcomed the new Council Members and looks forward to working together.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA

A MOTION was made by Council Member Boder with a second by Council Member Millender to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried 4/0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

A MOTION was made by Council Member Heldt with a second by Council Member Millender to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion Carried 4/0.

1. Approve Minutes of December 21, 2020 Special Council Meeting.
2. Approve Minutes of December 28, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.
3. Approve Claims for December 2020 and January 2021. Check numbers 23505 to 23532. E-check numbers 5887 to 5859, 5862 to 5864 to 5897. Bank assigned number 50155.
4. Approve 2nd and Final Pay Request to MN Mechanical Solutions for Water Treatment Plant Improvements.

CITY ENGINEER

1. **Verbal Update on Water Tower, Water Treatment Plant, and Waste Water Treatment Facility Projects** – City Engineers Dave Martini and Ryan Kotta, Bolton and Menk, presented Council with an update on the Water Tower, WTP, and WWTF.

Water Tower Project – In October 2019, the City authorized the City Engineer, Bolton and Menk, to prepare plans and specifications for a Water Tower Rehabilitation project that would include sandblasting, surface repairs and painting of the exterior of the current water tower. In April 2020, the plans were completed, and the City Council authorized the project to be advertised and bid. In June 2020, the bids were presented to Council and the project was approved and awarded to M.K. Painting in the amount of \$271,550.00. The project was performed in September and October 2020 and has been completed.

Water Treatment Plant - In October 2019, the City authorized Bolton and Menk to prepare plans and specifications for the Water Treatment Improvements and Water Systems Upgrades Project. In May 2020, the plans were completed, and Council authorized the project to be advertised and bid. In June 2020, the bids were presented to the City Council and the project was approved and awarded to Minnesota

Mechanical Solutions Inc in the amount of \$980,171.00. The project started in September 2020 and is still in progress.

Waste Water Treatment Plant – In the fall of 2019, the City of New Germany approached the City of Mayer to discuss options to increase the capacity of its sewer system. One of the options that was asked to be considered was a New Germany connection to the City of Mayer’s Waste Water Treatment Plant. At that time, the City Council agreed to discuss the proposal with the understanding that the city of Mayer would not be responsible for any costs related to the study or engineering fees. Following that conversation, New Germany worked with the Metropolitan Council to get funding assistance for a study that would research and provide information on options for the City of New Germany, including connecting into the City of Mayer’s system. At the September 28, 2020 City Council Workshop Meeting, City Engineers provided information on upcoming requirements that the City of Mayer’s Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) would have to comply with. “The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) has recently approved a 10-year compliance schedule for the City’ WWTF to meet a new stringent phosphorus limit. The MPCA also proposed a new chloride limit in which the City of Mayer requested a 15- year variance hold”. City Engineer Kotta explained that the entire “facility plan timeline” process. Kotta stated that funding can take up to 5 years with another 2 to 3 years for designing, bidding and construction. City Engineer Martini revisited the discussion for New Germany to connect into the City’s WWTF. As of September 2020, the Metropolitan Council has offered to fund the study to analyze impacts to the Mayer WWTF, if New Germany connected into the system. A proposal was submitted by Bolton and Menk to do the work for the study. Martini stated that the work that they would do for the New Germany study, paid for by the Metropolitan Council, would cover and fund approximately the first third of Mayer’s Facility Plan that would already be required. The full cost of the Facility Plan for Mayer was stated to be \$45,000. The Engineer explained that if New Germany moved forward with the Metropolitan Council study (performed by Bolton and Menk), Metropolitan Council would pay for \$15,000 of the Plan and Mayer would pay for \$30,000. At the October 12, 2020 City Council meeting, the City Council approved to move forward with the Wastewater Treatment Facility Plan.

City Engineer Martini provided Council with the schedule of events.

- January 19, 2021 - Open House Virtual Meeting to inform residents of the project, potential assessments, and answer questions.
- January 25, 2021 – Improvement Public Hearing

City Engineer Dave Martini thanked the City of Mayer and Council for the 15-year relationship with Bolton & Menk and looks forward to continuing to work together and improve the community.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

1. **Approve Resolution 1-11-21-1 2021 Annual Council Appointments** – On an annual basis, Council Members are assigned as liaisons to various commissions and boards from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

- Acting Mayor Community – Council Member Boder
- Recreation Advisory to Community Education – Council Member Millender
- Council liaison to Planning Commission – Council Member Boder
- Council liaison to Park Commission – Council Member Heldt
- Council liaison to EDA (2 positions) - Council Members McNeilly and Heldt
- Carver County Leaders (2 positions) – Mayor Dodge and Council Member Boder

A MOTION to approve Resolution 1-11-21-1 2021 Annual Council Appointment was made by Council Member Boder and seconded by Council Member Heldt. Motion carried 4/0.

2. **COVID-19 Reopening City Hall Discussion** – City Administrator McCallum brought discussion on reopening City Hall to Council in lieu of new orders from the governor. On January 6, 2021, the Governor

of Minnesota, Governor Walz, announced measures that would loosen restrictions, however, suggesting that people still take measures to reduce the spread and take precautions by still wearing masks, practicing social distancing, and gathering outside when possible. Council felt, with the loosening of restriction, City Hall could open to the public. McCallum recommended Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Council also discussed returning to in person Council Meetings and Commission Meetings as soon as February 1, 2021. Council was all in agreement. A MOTION to open City Hall at City Administrator's discretion on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 and resume in person Council and Commission meetings as of February 1, 2021 was made by Council Member Boder and seconded by Council Member Millender. Motion carried 4/0.

- 3. Carver County Water Management Smart Watering Program** – City Administrator presented information to Council to determine whether to move forward with this partnership and opportunity. Carver County Water Management Organization is beginning a new program to encourage more residents to use smart controllers on their irrigation systems. Smart controllers link to local weather conditions and provide exactly what your lawn and garden need for water. The program aims to conserve groundwater resources and prevent additional runoff by increasing the efficiency of irrigation systems. The conservation of water supplies will save both residents and municipalities financial resources and protect our groundwater supplies. After hearing a summary of the program, Council agreed the program was worth researching. Council directed Staff to provide information on the number of residents that have irrigation systems installed. Council requested Staff to contact Carver County for more data on other cities using this program. Mayor Dodge directed Staff to relay to Carver County that the City of Mayer has an interest in the program, however, still need to work on logistics.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

- 1. Fire Station In Floor Heating Request** – Fire Chief Andy Maetzold asked Council to approve a request to allow the Mayer Fire Relief Association to donate funds in the amount of \$67,638.00 to cover the cost of installing in floor heating at the new Fire Station. At the December 21, 2020 Special City Council Meeting, Council reviewed the alternate “in floor heating” for the new Fire Station. At this meeting, Council voted against the installation of in floor heating. Council asked Staff to include this information in the bidder contract. A MOTION to Authorize City Administrator to Accept a donation from the Mayer Fire Relief Association for in floor heating at the new Fire Station was made by Council Member Millender and seconded by Council Member Heldt. Motion carried 4/0.

Council Member Boder stated that as someone who donates to the Relief Association, he does not feel this is a good use of the funds. Mayor Dodge shared a concern and stated that if he would have known the Mayer Fire Relief Association was going to make this donation, he would have voted differently at the Special Council Meeting but understands that if the Relief Association want to spend their funds on this, it is their prerogative to do so.

Mayor Dodge thank Fire Chief Maetzold for all the hard work he has done on this project.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, a MOTION was made by Council Member Millender and seconded by Council Member Heldt to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. Motion Carried 4/0.

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: _____
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy Clerk MCMC