

MAYER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2021

Call Regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Dodge.

PRESENT: Mayor Dodge, Council Members Boder, Heldt, and Millender

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Council Member McNeilly

ABSENT: Council Member Boder

STAFF: City Administrator McCallum, Public Works Lead Kuntz, and Deputy Clerk Gildemeister

ALSO PRESENT: Don Wachholz, Commander Moline, Deputy Sheriff Kamerud

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

1. Approve Minutes of the March 22, 2021 Regular Council Meeting.
2. Approve Claims for the Month of April 2021. Check numbers 23679 to 23709. E-check numbers 5964 to 5988. ADP assigned check number 50188 to 50189.
3. Approve Park Board Commissions Appointment-Ryan Kusske
4. Approve Pay Application Request No. 1 for Fire Station.
5. Approve Pay Application Request No. 4 for Water Treatment Plant.
6. Approve Resolution 4-12-21-15 Partial Reverse of Fund Transfer.

Mayor Dodge welcomed Ryan Kusske to the Park and Recreation Commission.

ADMINISTRATION

1. **Approve Resolution 4-12-21-16 Summer Hours 2021** – City Administrator McCallum stated that historically, City of Mayer has implemented summer hours and recommended approval of summer hours for 2021. Council Member Millender asked if there is any benefit to these hours and City Administrator indicated the benefit allows Public Works to get a jump on projects because they have more projects during the summer and starting earlier in the day means less time in the heat; also gives residents the opportunity to come to City Hall before going to work. Mayor Dodge shared some background and stated it has worked in the past and gives an advantage to residents to come in before work to pick up building permits. Dodge clarified that Public Works can be flexible with hours and Staff is available by phone. Council Member McNeilly agreed and stated there has been no issues or complaints and Staff has been flexible and will still accommodate residents by appointment. Millender asked if Staff could rotate shifts, so someone gets the whole day off verses being closed, and McCallum stated that it is very difficult with the limited Staff, two City Hall employees and two Public Works employees, and what ends up happening is a Staff member ends up working overtime when another Staff is off or gone for emergency reasons. Public Works Kuntz added, typically Fridays are very slow especially at City Hall and even with Public Works and this is common with bedroom communities.

A MOTION to approve Resolution 4-12-21-16 Summer Hours for Public Works, 6 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Thursday, 6 am to 10 am on Friday and City Hall 7 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Thursday, 7 am to 11 pm on Fridays, starting May 31st, 2021 through September 6th, 2021 was made by Council Member Heldt and seconded by Council Member McNeilly. Motion carried 3/1. (*Millender a nay*).

2. **Approve Request for Conduit Financing through the City of Mayer for Groves Academy** – City Administrator McCallum recommended acting as a conduit for Groves Academy in St. Louis Park for the refinancing of the 2014 3 million bond issuance and the new financing for building improvements in the amount of approximately \$3.6 million.

Grove Academy serves a unique student base that is drawn from a very large service area. Its students are those with ADHD, dyslexia, and other learning difficulties.

Back in 2014, the City of St. Louis Park was unable to issue bonds to its Groves Academy due to insufficient bank-qualification capacity. Because of that, the City of Mayer was asked to act an issuer in 2014. At the October 13, 2014 City Council Meeting, the City of Mayer held a public hearing on the request by Groves Academy to have the City of Mayer issue conduit financing on their behalf.

State and deferral law allow local government units to enter arrangements to issue tax-exempt obligations and loan the proceeds to nonprofit corporations to finance or refinance capital expenditures. By doing this, it reduces the borrowing costs for the entity (Groves Academy). City Administrator explained how it works. McCallum stated that the City would enter into a Loan Agreement with Groves Academy under which they will agree to pay all principal and interest on the Note. The City would assign all its rights to payments under the Agreement to the Lender under a Pledge Agreement. The City is merely a conduit and the money and obligations flow only between the Lender and Groves Academy. The Note is structured as bank-qualified bonds, which each City is limited to issue in the amount of up to \$10,000,000 in each calendar year for its own governmental purposes and for 501(c)(3) organizations.

McCallum consulted with the City's financial advisor informing Council that the City of Mayer has already issued part of its bank qualified 2021 bonds for the Fire Station Project and the 2021 Street Improvement Project. Groves Academy is asking for 3.6 million of the remaining 5 million, leaving 1.4 million for the City of Mayer to use if needed. As part of City policy, the applicant is responsible for all during the process. Per policy an applicant must pay a fee of one half of one percent of the proposed issuance amount with a minimum fee of \$5,000 and a maximum of \$25,000. To cover Staff time and other consultant fees. In 2014, the Groves Academy paid \$25,000 for administrative fees on the 3 million bonds issued. Groves Academy asked Council to approve one half of one percent charge on the new issuance amount of 3.6 million for a fee of \$18,000 and to waive the fee on the refinancing issuance amount of 3 million.

A MOTION to authorize Staff to continue working with Groves Academy and approve the partnership with Groves Academy and the City of Mayer for conduit financing was made by Council Member Millender and seconded by Council Member McNeilly. Motion Carried 4/0.

A MOTION to approve the request from Groves Academy to waive the portion for the refinancing amount but collect the one half of one percent of the 3.6 million for a fee of \$18,000 was made by Council member Heldt and seconded by Millender. Motion carried 4/0.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

1. **Verbal Update from Carver County Sheriff's Department** – Carver County Sheriff Kamerud was present to provide the history of police services and contract services with Carver County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Kamerud presented a PowerPoint to Council highlighting the reasons and specific cost connected to the services Carver County Sheriff's Department provides. After his presentation, Sheriff Kamerud shared the need for a coordinated effort on how governmental services are provide and suggested the City start having more cooperative discussions with Staff regarding future strategy. Mayor Dodge agreed that a lot of discussion has come to Council later than sooner and need to make a better effort to reaching out to the Sheriff's Department. Dodge questioned, due to the civil unrest currently happening in Hennepin County, how will Carver County impacted and who's responsibility would it be. Sheriff Kamerud stated it would fall on his team laid out the plan of action and reassured all they are staffed and reasonable prepared. Dodge asked if the City of Mayer would have to implement a curfew, who would make that decision. Sheriff Kamerud stated that there has been discussion to include local officials, however, State Commissioner Harrington would contact Carver County and the Sheriff's Department would then contact the City. Council thanked Sheriff Kamerud and Commander Moline for everything they do for the Department.

PUBLIC WORKS

1. **Authorize Staff to Obtain Pricing for Hwy 25 Roundabout Landscaping** – City Administrator McCallum presented two concepts for the roundabout landscaping with a sign with the Mayer logo as well. The concepts showed an 82-foot roundabout with a 30-foot garden. The landscaping portion is estimated to be \$15,000 to \$20,000 and the signage is estimated to be \$3,500 to \$15,000. Public Works Lead Kuntz stated that one garden is fancier with boulders and white spruce than the other one. Both concepts have low level plantings with mulch for easy maintenance. Mayor Dodge clarified that the landscaping company would be installing all the landscaping and the sign company would install the sign. Kuntz stated that possible Public Works could install the sign. After viewing the various signage options, Council agreed they would like the sign to match the south sign. Council stated they liked both concepts and stated which ever was easiest for Public Works to maintain. After much discussion on lighting, Council asked Staff to get quotes on solar lighting and the cost for a would sign like the one south of town.

COUNCIL REPORTS

- Council Member Heldt stated that he will be attending the Park Board Meeting tomorrow.
- Council Member Millender stated he will be attending a Watertown Mayer Community Education meeting next week.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Resolution 4-12-21-17 Accepting Resignation, Declaring a Vacancy, and Opening Process for Appointment of Acting Mayor.** A MOTION to approve Resolution 4-12-21-17 accepting Council Member Erik Boder's resignation effective April 12, 2021, declaring vacancy on City Council and establishing a timeline effective immediately was made by Council Member Heldt and seconded by Council Member Millender. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Dodge expressed Council Member Boders apologies for not being at tonight's meeting. Dodge thanked Boder for his commitment of 11 years as a City Council Member and as a Volunteer Fire Fighter. Council Member McNeilly thanked Boder for his service and enjoyed working together for the past six years.

A MOTION to appoint Council Member McNeilly as Acting Vice Mayor was made by Mayor Dodge and seconded by Council Member Heldt. Motion carried 4/0.

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 7:44 p.m. Motion Carried 4/0.

Mike Dodge, Mayor

Attest: _____
Janell Gildemeister, Deputy Clerk MCMC

DRAFT