



MINUTES OF MANKATO CITY COUNCIL

MAY 2, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mankato City Council was called to order by the Mayor, Justin Schoonover beginning at 7:00 p.m. on May 2, 2023. Mayor Justin Schoonover was present. Councilmen present were Sam Becker, Kevin Ost, Rodney Payne, Lyle Dauner and George Hennion. Also present was City Attorney, Darrell E. Miller and Interim City Clerk, Sharon McCormick.

Visitors present were: Jerry Beecker; Darren Prince, KMEA; Wayne Gardner; Sheriff Don Jacobs; Carl Murray; City Employee, Matt Badger; Eldon Dunstan; City Employee Jim Zadina; Don Koester; Abby Elkins; Rokesh Pie; Shelby Bohnert; Shelby Denard

Mayor Schoonover requested that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheriff Don Jacobs requested an increase of \$5,000 in the amount that the city pays the Sheriff's office for law enforcement services within the city limits. The matter was deferred to the business section of the meeting.

Shelby Bohnert and Abby Elkins made a presentation and provided the council with a grant application for a program sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Shelby and Abby advised the city that if the council was interested, they would need to make a request by May 15 and pass a resolution by July. The council deferred a decision to the business section of the meeting.

Eldon Dunstan inquired as to the possibility of building a duplex on the free land in Johnson's Addition. Eldon was advised to select the lots upon which he wished to build and to submit an application and a detailed building permit application.

Wayne Gardner requested rezoning of the lots south of the Mankato Express for RV purposes. Wayne was instructed to leave a filing fee and to prepare and submit an application for rezoning.

Councilman Becker moved to approve the statement of Ashton Cates in the amount of \$33,850 for repairs and repainting at the swimming pool. Councilman Ost seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

City Employee Jim Zadina updated the council on the sewer project and also the removal of sludge from the city ponds. Zadina suggested that no action be taken at this time.

Rokesh Pie, owner of Travel Inn & Suites, requested an adjustment on his water bill and the council advised Mr. Pie that it was not the city's practice to make a leak adjustment when the leak was on the property owner's side of the meter. Mr. Pie also requested that the city allow him to use city equipment to make needed repairs on his property. The council advised Mr. Pie that the city did not make a practice of allowing city equipment to be used by private parties. City Employee Matt Badger agreed to go to Mr. Pie's motel and try to assist him to identify areas of concern with electrical and water usage.

Darren Prince and Jerry Beecker of KMEA made a presentation of the projected costs of electricity generation through the use of caterpillar engines. Prince and Beecker also discussed possible financing arrangements. No action was taken.

Don Koester presented a building permit that had been submitted by Jewell County Strong for the construction of the fitness center. The council deferred taking any action on the building permit and requested that representatives from Jewell County Strong appear and present further information regarding the project.

Councilman Dauner moved to approve Jamie Potts as a new member of the Library Board of the Trustees. Councilman Becker seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Becker moved and Councilman Payne seconded a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously and the consent agenda was approved.

Councilman Becker moved to approve the quote of Pierce Electronics in the amount of \$23,877.30 for SCADA System, to replace the current system, which is not functioning properly. Councilman Payne seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Becker moved to approve the quote of Pierce Electronics for repairs and improvements to the cameras at the Mankato City Park. Councilman Dauner seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

City Clerk Sharon McCormick advised that a new Splash Pad Committee had been organized and the members of the committee were Abby Elkins, Kayla Dunstan, Jessica Ruthstrom, Myka Zadina, Lori Zadina, Mackenzie Kohler and Sharon McCormick.

Councilman Dauner moved to sign a pledge with Pathways-BC/BS for grant funds. Councilman Hennion seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Sharon McCormick gave a report on the Jayhawk program.

Councilman Ost moved to hire employee Aundrea Badger as the Pool Manager for the 2023 pool season at a rate of \$15.00/hr and Avery Brown as Assistant Manager at a rate of \$13.00/hour. Councilman Hennion seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

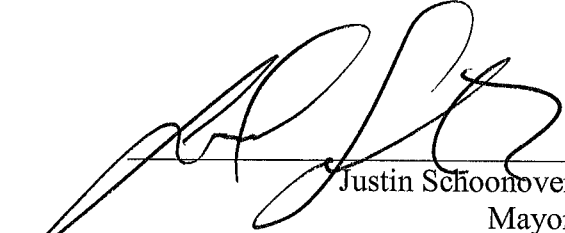
Councilman Becker moved to authorize Matt Badger to purchase a water line tap. Councilman Payne seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

The Mayor, with the consent of the Council, appointed Scott Wright as Municipal Judge at a salary of \$300.00; Carol Wakefield as City Treasurer; Darrell Miller as City Attorney; and Sharon McCormick as City Clerk.

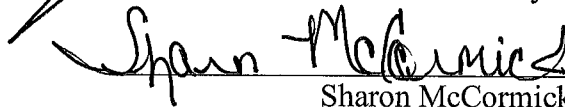
City Attorney Miller provided the council with an update on the process of securing easements for the sewer replacement project.

The Council, by consensus, agreed to schedule a special meeting on May 24 @ 6:00 p.m. to consider the adoption of a new personnel manual, building permit of Jewell County Strong; Amendments to the animal ordinances. The City Clerk was advised to give notice of the special meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.



Justin Schoonover
Mayor



Sharon McCormick
Interim City Clerk