

City Council Meeting
May 2, 2022

The Fergus Falls City Council held a regular meeting on May 2, 2022 at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. Rich Iverson of Bethel Church gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Schierer called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. Council members in attendance were Thompson, Arneson, Gustafson, Hicks, Fish, Hagberg, and Kvamme. Rufer was absent.

Approval of Agenda

A motion and second were made by Fish and Thompson to approve tonight's agenda and the motion carried.

Highway 210 Reconstruction Project

Representatives from MnDOT and SRF Consulting were present to share three proposed design alternatives to the Highway 210 junction with I-94. The proposed work includes a new bridge, ramp redesign, bicycle and pedestrian improvements and is planned for 2028 or unless a funding source becomes available before then. The pros, cons and scope of each the three alternates was reviewed:

Alternate A: North Roundabout Option

Alternate B: North Signal Option

Alternate C: South Roundabout Option

The project's accommodations for pedestrian traffic and trail connectivity were discussed. MnDOT is seeking public input on the proposals via an online survey through May 16 and encouraged the community to offer their opinion.

Bid Award: Mowing Services

The city accepted bids for contracted mowing services. The low bid was received by Knutson Lawn Services for the 2022-2023 seasons. If a resident is in violation of the City Code by not mowing their lawn, the city sends the lawn service to perform the work and the bill is sent to the property owner. If left unpaid, the bill is certified to the property taxes. Arneson offered [Resolution #95-2022](#) awarding the contracted mowing services bid for 2022-2023 to Knutson Lawn Services, which was seconded by Gustafson and was adopted.

Proclamation: Child Care Provider Appreciation Day

Mayor Schierer read a proclamation declaring May 6 at Child Care Provider Appreciation Day.

Consent Agenda

The following items were approved under [Resolution #96-2022](#) by Hicks: Motion approving the minutes from the April 18, 2022 City Council meeting and the April 27, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion approving the following licenses: Mechanical Trace Plumbing & Heating Inc., Fire-N-Ice Heating and A/C; Hauler of Building Waste Home Smart Builders; Minnesota Lawful Gambling Permit Fergus Falls Youth Baseball for raffle on June 30, 2022 at DeLagoon Park. [Resolution #97-2022](#) accepting plans and specifications for PI 5353, the 2022 mill and overlay project and authorizing the advertising of bids. [Resolution #98-2022](#) authorizing the City Engineer and City Attorney to execute an easement for Otter Tail Power Company. [Resolution #99-2022](#) accepting plans and specifications for PI 5314, the Union and Lincoln Avenue improvement project and authorizing the advertising of bids. [Resolution #100-2022](#) approving a Conditional Use Permit for a fabricating/repair shop in the B-3 zone at 418 W Stanton Avenue as requested by Paul Daugherty.

Resolution #101-2022 approving a Conditional Use Permit for a 30 room hotel in the B-3 zone at 309 W Stanton Avenue as requested by the Flour Mill (Kevin Bartram). Motion directing staff to submit a letter of support for a legislative appropriation amendment for a water quality treatment for Lake Alice. The resolution was seconded by Hagberg and was adopted.

Conditional Use Permit: 1205 W Lincoln

After asking for clarification about semi-truck traffic and weight limits on the roadways near the affected properties, Hicks offered **Resolution #102-2022** approving a Conditional Use Permit for light industrial (warehouse/distribution) in the B-6 zone at 1205 W Lincoln Avenue as requested by Bergmann (property owner Wayne Enterprises LLC), which was seconded by Hagberg and was adopted.

Ordinance 27

Ordinance 27, Eighth Series, Amending the zoning map for the property located at 432-438 Western Avenue from R-4 to B-2 as requested by SW Properties LLC was adopted by a roll call vote.

Resolution of Accounts

Fish offered a resolution authorizing the payments and claims in the amount of \$390,960.80, which was seconded by Hagberg and was adopted.

Market Structure Policy Committee

As the city prepares for the opening of the downtown market structure, plans and policies need to be finalized for the usage of the facility. A motion and second were made by Kvamme and Fish to appoint Council Members Rufer and Gustafson to serve on the Market Structure Policy Committee and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned to a closed meeting at 5:55 pm. The meeting reconvened at 6:13 pm for a late business item.

Preliminary Engineering Report

A prospective new user and property development has inquired about the capacities of the city's wastewater system as they would be a large consumer of these services. The city got quotes for a preliminary engineering report and are recommending Bolton and Menk be retained to provide this service. The estimated cost of the report is \$87,800 and the prospective new business has offered to pay half of the cost. The city's share of the cost would be paid from the sewer fund. Hicks offered **Resolution #103-2022** authorizing Bolton and Menk to conduct a preliminary engineering report on the city's wastewater treatment plant, which was seconded by Fish and was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm

Lynne Olson