

City Council Minutes  
October 3, 2022

The Fergus Falls City Council held a regular meeting on Monday October 3, 2022, at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. Pastor Duane Smith gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Schierer called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm and the following council members were in attendance: Gustafson, Hicks, Fish, Hagberg, Kvamme, Rufer, Thompson and Arneson.

**Approval of Agenda**

A motion and second were made by Arneson and Gustafson accepting the agenda as presented and the motion carried.

**Consent Agenda**

The following items were approved under **Resolution #191-2022** by Thompson: Motion approving the minutes from the September 19, 2022 City Council meeting and the September 28, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion approving the following licenses: Excavating Mark Lee Excavating Inc., Abbott Excavating; Mechanical Voss Plumbing & Heating; 2023 Wine and 3.2% Malt Liquor (Strong Beer Authorization) Northern Aire Lanes; 2023 Full On Sale Liquor VFW Post 612; 2023 Tobacco Olson Oil Company, Lakeway Express, King Tobacco, Joanne New Age, Walmart, Holiday; 2023 3.2% Malt Liquor Lakeway Express, Walmart, Holiday; Minnesota Lawful Gambling Permit Fergus Falls College Foundation for raffle on December 12, 2022 at M-State. Motion appointing Donald Mayo to the Human Rights Commission. **Resolution #192-2022** awarding the construction services contract for PI 9348, the airport fuel system replacement project to MN Petroleum Services, inc. in the amount of \$687,450 contingent upon the receipt of a state grant offer; accepting SEH's professional services proposal for construction administration in the amount of \$54,300 and authorizing the submission of a state grant offer for this project. **Resolution #193-2022** approving a Conditional Use Permit to operate/own a permit to own a federal firearms licensing business in accordance with ATF & FBI regulations in a R-2 zone at 1233 Northern Avenue with conditions. **Resolution #194-2022** appointing election judges to serve at the November 8, 2022, General Election. **Resolution #195-2022** calling for a public hearing to consider housing tax abatements on October 17, 2022, at 5:30 pm. The resolution was seconded by Hagberg and was adopted.

**Resolution of Accounts**

Fish offered a resolution authorizing the payments and claims in the amount of \$2,192,351, which was seconded by Hagberg and was adopted.

**Active Transportation Grant**

Patrick Hollister of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee met with Superintendent Drake and Principal Rund at Cleveland School to discuss possible bicycle and pedestrian safety projects around the Cleveland and Kennedy schools. They identified seven possible projects and would like to apply for a state Active Transportation Grant. Letters of intent for the \$50,000-\$500,000 grant are due October 14 with a full application due at the end of the year. Hollister asked the council to consider a motion authorizing staff to submit the letter of intent by the October 14 deadline and authorize a committee of himself, Katrina Johnson, Jeff Drake, Tindy Rund, Chief Kile Bergren and Brian Yavarow to put together the application. A motion and second were made by Kvamme and Fish to authorize the city to submit a Letter of Intent to apply for an Active Transportation Grant for safety

improvements around Cleveland and Kennedy Schools and to form a committee to work on the applications and the motion carried.

### **Sales Tax Projects Communications Strategy**

Communications Manager Jean Bowman reminded the community there are 36 days until the General Election when residents will be asked to vote on two sales tax questions on the ballot: improvements at DeLagoon Park and the development of an Aquatics Center. The city cannot advocate for these projects, only educate the public. Bowman announced the new website [www.PlayYourWayFergusFalls.com](http://www.PlayYourWayFergusFalls.com) has been formed to provide information and answers to the questions surrounding these projects. In addition to public speaking engagements, social media, sponsored ads, surveys and other media programs, the city plans to provide a direct mail piece to each household within the city. After receiving some feedback on the flyer, Bowman said residents can expect the flyer to be sent out next week and she encouraged everyone to visit the website to learn more about the projects.

### **Other Business**

Hicks remarked he heard from candidates who are missing signs and he himself had two signs endorsing a council candidate removed from his personal property. He asked the community to be respectful of differing opinions, especially during the election season.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 pm

*Lynne Olson*