

City Council Minutes
February 20, 2024

The Fergus Falls City Council held a regular meeting on February 20, 2024, at 5:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. Pastor Eric Uggerud gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mayor Schierer called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm and the following council members were in attendance: Hicks, Fish, Job, Kvamme, Rufer, Kremeier, Thompson, Rachels.

Approval of the Agenda

A motion and second were made by Fish and Thompson to approve tonight's agenda with the removal of the minutes from the consent agenda and the motion carried.

Open Forum

Mark Leighton commented on the general spending of the city. He was reminded the open forum policy limits speakers to address the same topic twice in a 12-month period and he has already addressed the city's spending and budget.

Consent Agenda

The following items were approved under **Resolution #41-2024** by Fish: Motion approving the following licenses: Sign Hanger JH Signs & Designs; Mobile Food Vendor Permit Up from the Ashes, Lone Pine Soup Company; Mechanical Joe's Heating & A/C, Erickson's Plumbing & Heating; Excavator Barry Construction; On Sale Full Liquor License Palmer's Kitchen & Bar; Minnesota Lawful Gambling Permit Fergus Falls Youth Baseball Association for a raffle on June 27 at DeLagoon Park and Church of Our Lady of Victory for raffle on April 6 at OLV Church. **Resolution #42-2024** authorizing the Fergus Falls Fire Department to purchase an inflatable water/ice rescue boat, fire extinguisher training prop and wireless in-cab communication headsets using funds from the Fire Department Trust Fund. **Resolution #43-2024** accepting the project plans and specifications and authorizing the advertising of bids for CP 9148, the DeLagoon Park improvement project. **Resolution #44-2024** supporting the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity grant application. **Resolution #45-2024** accepting MnDOT's state grant offer for an airport tractor. **Resolution #46-2024** accepting the project plans and specifications and authorizing the advertising of bids for PI 5372, the 2024 seal coat improvement project. **Resolution #47-2024** authorizing staff to apply to the Minnesota Department of Health Drinking Water Revolving Fund to fund the replacement of lead/galvanized water service lines. **Resolution #48-2024** authorizing the submission of an application for financial assistance through USDA's Rural Business Development Grant Program to grow the revolving loan funds managed by Business Development for Fergus Falls. **Resolution #49-2024** accepting Interstate Engineering's (Apex) design and construction administration professional services proposal for PI 8232, demolition of the 1914 ground storage reservoir in the amount of \$125,000 and to accept Apex Engineering's professional services proposal for the development of a unidirectional flushing program in the amount of \$10,000. The resolution was seconded by Rufer and was adopted.

Minutes

Kremeier asked for more detail in the open forum comments from the February 5 council meeting. A motion and second were made by Rufer and Fish to approve the minutes from the February 5, 2024, City Council meeting and work session and the February 14, 2024 Committee of the Whole meeting as presented and the motion carried with Kremeier voting in opposition.

Ordinance 52, Vegetative Management

Ordinance 52, Eighth Series, Vegetative Management was adopted by a roll call vote.

Ordinance 53, Tree Management

Ordinance 53, Eighth Series, Tree Management was introduced by Rufer and declared to have its first reading.

Ordinance 54, Amending Definition of Hotels

Ordinance 54, Eighth Series, Amending City Code 154.002, Definition of Hotels was introduced by Fish and declared to have its first reading.

Resolution of Accounts

Fish offered a resolution authorizing the payments and claims in the amount of \$1,656,140.74, which was seconded by Thompson and was adopted.

The meeting adjourned to a closed meeting to discuss a real estate transaction pursuant to MN Statute 13d.05 at 5:42 pm.

Lynne Olson