

TRIMONT COUNCIL MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular meeting was duly held at the Trimont Community Building, and also remotely via Zoom, on the 20th day of September, 2021 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Troy Schmidtke, Council Member Bruce Borotrager, Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, and Council Member Thomas Hage.

The following members were absent: Council Member Brian Krumwiede.

Mayor Troy Schmidtke presided over the meeting.

During the Community Comment period, Ryan Faber addressed the council regarding a citation he received for junk and a hazardous tree on his property that were not cleaned up in timely manner. Jon Holtz asked about installation of a street sign on 4th Avenue NW.

Jerry McGee was present to discuss the Town Center EDA loan that is due on September 30th. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borotrager and carried to extend the loan for an additional year, to September 30, 2022.**

Police Chief Ross Wiggin reviewed the department report.

The now vacant clinic building was briefly discussed. A letter, and photos of the facility, will be sent to area health care providers to try to find a new tenant. Mayor Schmidtke will work with the clerk to do so.

Public Works Supervisor Mike Paulson reviewed the department report. Replacement of the PLC at the wastewater plant was discussed. SEH will be contacted to provide assistance, and also to put a plan together for other repairs needed at the plant.

Fire Chief Ryan Kuehl and Assistant Chief Kristian Melson were present to go over fire department business. James Nelsen resigned effective 9-13-2021. **Motion made by Council Member Bruce Borotrager, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to accept the resignation.** The USDA grant application has been approved for \$52,000. The city match is \$17,607. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to accept the grant award, with the source of city matching funds to be determined later.**

Discussion took place regarding the purchase of land to construct sewer ponds. There is a land owner currently considering if they would sell their land. Council Member Hage advised that if they aren't willing to, SEH should be contacted to take over land procurement. A decision will be made at the October work session. The land obtained as a possible trade option will be rented out for the 2022 season and it was decided to offer it to the current renter with the same terms as this year.

Community development and the sale of a city owned lot were discussed. The city attorney reviewed the purchase agreement for the sale of 540 Ash Street East. He advised that future lot sales should be done with a quit claim deed. Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage to approve the purchase agreement of \$2250. The motion did not receive a second.

The purchase agreement was considered further, with a detailed discussion on how the closing costs were split between the buyer and seller. **Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, seconded by Council Member Thomas Hage and carried to approve the purchase agreement to sell 540 Ash Street East to Austin Holm for \$2250.**

Hage provided a proposal from SEH to assist with determining if land is suitable for residential development for \$3300. The community development committee will consider the proposal at their next meeting.

Council reviewed the proposed 2022 budget and levy. **Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to approve the proposed levy of \$386,948, an increase of 10%.** Mayor Schmidtke announced the Truth in Taxation public hearing to discuss the 2022 budget and levy will be held on December 20, 2021 at 6:00 P.M., at which time the public will be given time to comment and ask questions.

Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to adopt the following resolutions

**Resolution 2021-19 and 2021-20
Resolution approving contributions**

In old business, Mayor Schmidtke advised the installation of a new door on the fire hall is scheduled to be done yet this year. A local contractor is coming in to look at the other repair items in the hall. Glen Coudron with DOT will be coming down to meet with Mayor Schmidtke and Nuway to discuss plans for the city trail and DOT plans for Highway 4 and their right of way. Work continues on the easement needed from Nuway for the trail. A public meeting will be held to provide information about the trail once engineers are done with the plan.

Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntreger and carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Approval of minutes from the August 16, 2021 meeting as printed.**
- Approval of financial statements from July and August, 2021 as presented.**
- Approval of zoning permit applications from: Jim Schulte.**
- Approval to pay the following bills:**

Active 911	\$ 416.00	All Seasons Services	\$ 350.00
American Welding	\$ 37.83	Bevcomm	\$ 92.85
Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$ 2927.66	Boekett Building Supply	\$ 62.37
Bolton & Menk	\$ 12,575.00	Borntreger Auto	\$ 251.92
Bound Tree Medical	\$ 904.78	Cardmember Service	\$ 68.33
Connie Williams	\$ 50.00	Delta Dental	\$ 74.70
Expert Billing	\$ 450.00	Farmers State Bank	\$ 513.70
Fleet & Farm	\$ 75.52	Frontier Communications	\$ 612.74
Gopher State One Call	\$ 59.40	Hach	\$ 361.88
Hawkins	\$ 3428.08	Hometown Sanitation	\$ 4369.40
Indoff	\$ 14.99	Kuehl's Electric	\$ 78.00
Lacey Schmidtke	\$ 506.11	League of MN Cities	\$ 928.00
MacQueen	\$ 1053.86	Maguire Iron	\$ 34,050.00

Martin County Attorney	\$ 2583.00	Martin County Auditor	\$ 637.68
Martin County Star	\$ 20.00	Mayo Clinic Ambulance	\$ 596.40
MN Assn. of Small Cities	\$ 438.60	MN Mayors Assn.	\$ 30.00
Midwest IT Systems	\$ 373.75	Mike Paulson	\$ 21.27
Minnesota Energy	\$ 219.25	Moore & Ace	\$ 1000.09
Nicklasson Athletic	\$ 132.00	Postmaster	\$ 136.80
Quill	\$ 44.98	River Bend Business	\$ 35.94
SC MN EMS	\$ 500.00	SEH	\$ 148.75
South Central Electric	\$ 5348.79	Town Center Super Valu	\$ 12.94
Triumph State Bank	\$ 513.70	UC Laboratory	\$ 818.85
US Able Life	\$ 5.60	Verizon	\$ 477.83
WW Goetsch	\$ 1075.00	Wex Bank	\$ 785.08

In other business, council was advised of ongoing problems with residents blowing grass into the street, which causes problems with storm drains. The problem was handled as an ordinance violation in the past. No action was taken on the matter. Ceiling fans in the Triumph Hall may need to be replaced. More information will be obtained for discussion.

Motion made by Council Member Thomas Hage, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger and carried to adjourn.

Signed, Troy Schmidtke, Mayor

Attest: Melissa Sirovy, City Clerk