

TRIMONT COUNCIL MINUTES

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular meeting was duly held at the Trimont Community Building on the 22nd day of February, 2022 at 5:30 o'clock P.M.

The following members were present: Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Borntreger, Council Member Brian Krumwiede, Council Member Jon Holtz, and Council Member JoAnn Russenberger.

Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Borntreger presided over the meeting.

Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

Community comment period: Ryan Faber from Galena Township Board attending the community comment period via zoom. Ryan discussed Galena board questions regarding ponds and the location of them. The also wanted to know of the city plans for ponds verses wastewater treatment plant.

Karen Cavett & Maria McCarty from SEH Engineering came to present an update to the Council. Environmental review came back with the DNR response as they are not recommending to have our pond site by lake on the land the city purchased for the ponds use. Martin County has a few zoned residential around the lake and they are unable to even put septic on properties. The environmental studied prefers site #3 for building the ponds. Discussion of current I & I flow of 242,000 gals/day with cost estimate of \$11.4 million for ponds at current rate of I & I. Reducing the I & I flow to 186,000 within our permit limits with a cost estimate \$9.5 million for the ponds. Discussion of waiting on the screen upgrade as the rag problem has gotten better, and we would qualify for grant dollars if we do wait. Phase 1 would be collection systems and then Phase 2 would be wastewater, must fix I & I first. Council Member Jon Holtz asked about the lower South east corner of town infrastructure problems. The city seems to never have gotten an answer back from county. Bradey will follow up with Shane Fett from Martin County Drainage. SEH noted the city can enforce a point-of-sale confirmation on properties to confirm no cross connections or any I & I issue.

Police Report: Chief Wiggin discussed revenue brought in from traffic citations along highway 4 and around town and call totals for 2021 He reviewed service call totals for the last five years. Officer Austin Claude was deployed overseas. After he gets settled, Chief Wiggin would like to send a care package. Looking for another part-time officer to fill the void until then he will tweak the schedule for now to cover shortages. Council Member Brian Krumwiede expressed concerns over Casey's parking lot with people driving through to avoid the 4-way stop.

Discussion took place around Chief Wiggin retirement plan and what the City's percentage contributions to follow up on his request from council previously. Currently the city pays 6.5% into a deferred retirement compensation plan same as the coordinated employee PERA plan rate for employers' contributions. This was agreed upon in September of 2017 when he was hired as he was ineligible for Police PERA. PERA for police retirement the city would be paying 17.7% in yearly contributions. Chief Wiggin stated he would like a wage increase and increase retirement contribution into his deferred retirement compensation. **Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger to approve an employer contribution rate increase to 9.15% from the current 6.5% retroactive from 1/1/2022, seconded by Council Member Brian Krumwiede. Motion Carried.**

Public Works Supervisor Bradey Schmidt discussed about the radio read upgrades to the well # 5. Great River Energy will pay half of the \$13,936 quote above our monthly maintenance agreement. Discussion took place around the new meter change outs as the guys replaced 4 meters today. Discussion of Software and how we need 2 routes to read meter readings with new meters that were installed. Great River Energy power plant pays \$1535 in monthly maintenance fees, Bradey would like to have the agreement reviewed as it supposed to be done every 2 years and has not been done in a long time.

Discussion took place around the 2021 tree trimming letters and process of letters mailed verses hand delivered. In the past they have been mailed by the Administrative Assistant to residents.

Health insurance premiums were discussed in regards to family premiums and what the cost are based on employees age. City will pay for individuals' premiums with cost to employees of \$100 for individual premiums. If an employee elect's family coverage, the city will only pay the employer's cost of the individual premium and the remaining cost of premiums the employee is responsible for in addition to their \$100 monthly premium cost.

Discussion took place around the cot of new laser printer. The utility bills need to be printed with a laser jet and the one in the office is printing bills incorrectly and the copier machine prints them but then they fade thorough the mail making them hard to read. **Motion made by Council Member Brian Krumwiede to approve to spend up to \$800 on a laser printer, seconded by Council Member Jon Holtz. Motion Carried.**

Discussion on the filing cabinets cost and replacing them as the key gets stuck and the lock is not working properly. Discussion also took place around new computers for the office as the current desktop is slowing down and could be repurposed to the waste water plant. Brenda Nielsen requested the seconded desktop for a larger screen for an adaption for her disability. Council wants to wait on file cabinets and computer discussion.

Discussion took place around fun fest dates.

Motion made by Council Member Brian Krumwiede, seconded by Council Member JoAnne Russenberger and carried to approve the consent agenda as follows omitting the November Financials:

Approval of minutes from the January 18th, 24th, & 31st, 2022 meetings as printed.

Approval to pay the following bills:

American Welding	\$37.83
Abigail Swensen	\$98.00
B & D	\$210.00
Beemer	\$6,187.50
Bevcomm	\$1,015.53
Blue Cross Blue Shield, Blue Plus	\$3,241.31
Borntrager Auto	\$574.00
Bolton & Menk	\$1,018.00

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Bradey Schmidt	\$102.74
Carquest	\$235.62
Connie Williams	\$240.00
Cardmember Service	\$405.88
Culligan Water	\$2,200.00
Driver Vehicle Services	\$77.00
Delta Dental	\$74.70
EMS Custom Education	\$818.00
Farmers State Bank	\$513.70
Farmers State Bank	\$21,730.00
Flaherty & Hood PA	\$2,305.00
Fleet & Farm Supply	\$79.99
Generator Systems Services	\$1,721.02
Gopher State One Call	\$2.70
Graham Tire	\$463.61
Hach	\$619.58
Hometown Sanitation	\$4,393.86
Janitor Closet	\$153.51
Jason Becker	\$239.86
League of MN Cities	\$300.00
Lacey Schmidtke	\$100.00
Livewire	\$308.40
Local IQ	\$332.40
Martin County Recorder	\$20.00
Martin County Auditors/Treasure	\$87.67
Max Longley	\$2,200.00
Midwest IT Systems	\$424.25
Martin County Star	\$119.00
Minnesota Energy	\$3,450.51
Minnesota Rural Water Association	\$320.00
Moore and Ace	\$732.07
No BS Performance	\$720.00
Postmaster	\$136.40
Quill	\$468.04
SEH	\$11,692.65
South Central Electric	\$5,658.70
Triumph State Bank	\$513.70
Uline	\$347.63
USA Bluebook	\$366.08
US Able Life	\$5.60
Verizon	\$254.93
West Martin Joint Powers	\$3,035.00
Wex Bank	\$841.43
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	\$81,193.40

Discussion took place around 2022 Spring Cleanup. Prairie Land Waste Management will be offering appliance recycling at the Ball field from 9-12pm for a fee, adding a furniture and garbage drop off for a fee as well. The city sponsored curbside will be in the spring of 2023.

Discussion took place around the disconnect notices and how far the city office has come on collecting delinquencies. Letters were sent to owners on February 15, 22 for payment to be by in February 28, 2022. Public works will do shut offs at the end of the month on the outstanding delinquencies accounts.

Discussion took place around 231 Main St E Lot. Brent Meyeraan would like to buy the property and build a house with oversized garage/shop. Mayor Pro Tem Bruce Borntrager will follow-up Brett Meyeraan.

Mayor Pro Tem read Mayor Thomas Hage resignation letter. **Motion made by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger, seconded by Council Member Bruce Borntrager. Motion was a 2 to 2 tie with Council Members Jon Holtz and Brian Krumwiede voting nay. Mayor Pro Tem voted again to break the tie and motion was carried.**

Motion to adjourn made by Council Member Jon Holtz, seconded by Council Member JoAnn Russenberger. Motion carried.

Signed, Bruce Borntrager, Mayor Pro Tem

Attest: Brenda Nielsen CGW, Interim City Clerk