

**DECEMBER 5, 2022
REGULAR MEETING**

The only regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Atwater City Council was called to order on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers by Mayor Mark Olson. Council members present were Brian Carlson, Shane Hagstrom, Deb Mickle, and Sandy Walsh. Visitors at the meeting were Connie Halvorson from Atwater Area Help for Seniors, Tony Holtz, Erick Narragon, and Spencer Johnson from Bolton and Menk.

Representing the city departments were Police Chief Ross Johnson, Fire Chief Chad Busskohl and Jason Johnson Maintenance Supervisor. Fire and Police Chief had to leave the meeting at 7:35 for a fire call. The minutes of the regular meeting of November 7th, 2022, were motioned for approval by Sandy Walsh second by Brian Carlson. Motion carried unanimously. The minutes of the Board of Canvass meeting held November 18h, 2022, were motioned for approval by Sandy Walsh second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2023 TAX LEVY

Mayor Olson opened the public hearing asking if anyone would like to speak. He asked three times – no one in the room had any comments. Mayor Olson then closed the public hearing at 7:02.

CONNIE HALVORSON FROM ATWATER AREA HELP FOR SENIORS

Halvorson gave a review of the past year – the population served, introduced the staff and explained each person’s responsibilities. Classes available were from health and wellness to Senior scams and safety. Services are rides to appointments, home visits, meals, chore services and phone calls. Various outreach and outings have been done and over 70 volunteers keep the organization running. Funding various from grant from DHS, the City of Atwater and surrounding townships donate toward the program as well as small fundraisers as caramel rolls, pork chop supper, golf tournament and gambling proceeds from the Handle Bar.

TONY HOLTZ

Holtz appeared and decided to not talk about the snow plows after visiting with Jason Johnson before the meeting.

ERICK NARRAGON – WALKING PATH NEAR HIS HOME

He was wondering why his Dad (Vern Narragon) had never paid property tax on the parcel that contains the walking path. It was explained that when Erick built it was found that Vern Narragon never signed over that land to the city and only has an easement (March 10, 1982 minutes). The easement was recorded #286127 for March 25th of 1982. The county must have corrected the ownership back to Vern Narragon and now Erick will be paying the property tax.

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2023 NORTH SIDE STREET PROJECT – SPENCER JOHNSON – BOLTON MENK

Spencer Johnson reviewed the Preliminary engineering report which updated the addition of Lincoln Street N, and Idaho Ave. The additional streets were estimated at \$ 1,050,326.76 changing the total project to \$8,432,012.52. After a long discussion a motion was finally made to pass Resolution 2022-2, was introduced by Brian Carlson, and seconded by Deb Mickle. This will set the public hearing for the added street for January 9th of 2023 at the Community Center at 7 p.m. Motion was approved by all present. Motion passed. East Road manhole repair won't be done until next spring.

MAINTENANCE/PARKS DEPARTMENT

Jason Johnson approached the council with the request of ordering a new F350 crew cab. He brought two bids, first was from Mills in Willmar a crew cab was quoted at \$57,165 and Super cab at \$55,480. Next Atwater Ford crew cab at \$50,918 and Super cab at \$49,407. A motion was made by Brian Carlson and second by Deb Mickle to purchase the crew cab from Atwater Ford. Motion was carried, Sandy Walsh abstained.

He has received the lift station report for all four from Electric Pump, in summary 2 of 8 pumps need to be replaced. He will prioritize the needs for next years budget. Only one application for maintenance opening – council said to advertise with League of Mn Cities, and Rural Water. He has a two-day class in January to prep for the water and waster water test in St. Cloud.

AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

Brian Carlson introduced a service agreement for the Power-Load prevent maintenance for \$2019, power cot prevention for \$1537 and LUCAS prevention maintenance for \$1637. The cot and lift haven't been on maintenance for the past couple of years and is now requesting putting the cot and lift on a schedule. Motion to approve the Stryker maintenance agreement for \$ 3556 was made by Hagstrom and second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried by all.

CITY CLERKS OFFICE

The November check summary register was in the agenda, November cashflow was handed out during the meeting. Clerk Smith asked the council to consider designating the \$122,286.83 Cares money to help decrease the cost of the 2023 North Street Project. Motion to designate CARES (210 Fund) to Street Project fund 400 was made by Deb Mickle and second by Brian Carlson. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor. There is a Fire Relief Association meeting on December 7th at 7pm at the Community Center, Mayor Olson and Smith will attend. Smith handed out the 2023 meeting calendar. Council decided to hold the July meeting on the 10th. We received the 2022 final tax levy payment of \$ 255,726.08 on December 3rd.

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2023 FEE SCHEDULE

Council reviewed the city's fee schedule with only four changes Garbage hauling to \$100, cigarette vendor license to \$75 rent the park shelter to \$50 and dance/reception to \$500 after renovation at the Community Center. Motion to approve the changes was made by Brian Carlson and second by Sandy Walsh. Motion carried.

2023 LICENSES

Motion by Hagstrom and second by Deb Mickle to approve to 2023 alcohol, tobacco, games and mobile home permits. Motion carried; Brian Carlson abstained.

2023 DANCE PERMIT FOR HANDLEBAR

Motion made by Brian Carlson and second by Walsh to approve the on-premise dance permit for The HandleBar for 2023.

RESOLUTION 2022-20 2023 FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION

A motion was made by Brian Carlson and second by Walsh to accept the 2023 Final budget as presented in September. An increase of 3.210% from previous year. \$592,259 will be the amount of the levy collected in 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following verified accounts were presented for payment, upon approval of the Finance Committee; it was moved by Brian Carlson and second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make such disbursements: December 6, 2022 (Checks numbers 31459 thru 31476 for \$ 33,757.10. Mid-month bills paid on December 15, 2022 and were check numbers 31477 through 31497 for \$ 12,167.17. Then on December 29th invoices were paid again due to fiscal year end using check numbers 314XX through 31XXX for a total of \$ XX,XXX.XX.

A motion was made to adjourn by Brian Carlson and second by Deb Mickle 9:21 p.m.

Goldie Smith
City Clerk and Treasurer