

**JULY 10, 2023**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

The only regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Atwater City Council was called to order on Monday, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Atwater City Hall by Mayor Mark Olson. Council members present were Brian Carlson, Shane Hagstrom, Anthony Holtz and Deb Mickle. Visitors at the meeting were Adam Bosch from Atwater Threshers and Spencer Johnson from Bolton and Menk.

Representing the city departments was Police Chief Ross Johnson, Mike Smith from the fire department and Jason Johnson of the maintenance department.

The minutes of the regular meeting of June 5, 2023, was motioned for approval by Brian Carlson second by Deb mickle. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADAM BOSCH – ATWATER THRESHERS**

Bosch appeared before the council to thank them for the chloride treatment, it should help. Since the solar farm is going in on the North East section of the ponds site, the Threshers were hoping to use the South East section behind the entrance driveway to plant corn for next year. They would like permission to work up the land in preparation for next year's small corn crop. Jason Johnson didn't see a problem with the request – plus it would help get ride of the wild parsnip that is growing in that area. Bosch also mentioned that want to take down two cottonwood trees in that area. Motion to allow the Thresher to prep the ground for next year, including taking down some trees was made by Hagstrom and second by Brian Carlson. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor. Bosch thanked the council.

**SPENCER JOHNSON FROM BOLTON AND MENK**

Spencer Johnson is waiting on PFA acceptance, we should know at the August meeting. In related news Centerpoint should be done relocating their lines in preparation for next years project. Next week Vibrant will be laying their lines down for new service. In regards to the Wellhouse project he will look into Delete Outdoor to see if it is feasible to purchase part of their land to place the new well house.

**MIKE SMITH - FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mike Smith appeared before the council asking permission to close the Idaho on August 19<sup>th</sup> for RIB FEST. The stage will be on the West end of Idaho. This will be the sixth year.

He did inform the council that the fire department will be using the brush site for a drill coming up.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Ross Johnson reviewed the June 2023 Police Report.

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**AMBULANCE REPORT**

Brain Carlson informed the council that the medical director for our ambulance gave a couple weeks' notice before resigning. The ambulance cannot run without director. He did find Fire MD Minnesota for \$500 a year. He is requesting that the pin pad be put back on the ambulance entrance instead of the current key needed. Hagstrom suggested they look into a key pad on the garage door.

**MAINTENANCE/PARKS DEPARTMENT**

Jason Johnson updated the council that there are new lead and copper mandates for 2024. He checked out a plow truck at MN Dot, it has a bi-blade, wing, double sander, and bell scraper. It is a 2009, and asking price is \$10,000. He shared picture of the truck with the council. The lease option through Boyer was \$6,000 per month. Brian Carlson then made the motion to purchase the 2009 Sterling from MnDot for \$10,000. Motion was seconded by Hagstrom. Motion carried with everyone voting in favor. JJ would like to keep the red truck until November or December, then sell it.

**MAYORS REPORT**

Olson reported that he had to call Atwater HAVC to look at the new units at the Community Center during the ACGC Alumni banquet. It was 70 degrees in the room when the program was starting. He updated the council to let them know the windows are in and roof was complete already. Project One is taking off the wainscoting and will put it back up after the dry wall is finished. It will be painted also with new trim around the windows. The ceiling tiles are smaller than originally ordered but look great with smaller size.

**CLERKS DEPARTMENT**

Clerk Smith informed the council that the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust will be visiting to review 31 properties listed on the insurance policy to update the building replacement costs. She handed out the 2024 budget packets to the department heads. Minnesota Department of Revenue asked if we still want to be part of the Revenue recapture program. It is where we (the city) places people who have past due ambulance bills for collection against their state income tax refund. We have had some luck, but not consistent. Council thought this would be a good job for Elizabeth.

Smith received a \$100 grant to attend continuing education through Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers of Minnesota. It will be used in September for Management training. Project One has submitted pay application for the Community center at \$44,468. Motion to approve payment for Project One was made by Holtz and second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried with unanimous vote.

After doing the cash balances for the city checking account Smith requested the council consider moving \$338,406 from the General Fund Street Project Reserve to the 400 Fund North Side

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project for 2024. Motion made by Deb Mickle to move the \$338,406 to the street project. Motion was second by Hagstrom and vote was unanimous.

**SUMMIT FIRE PROTECTION – INSPECTION FOR CITY HALL**

Mayor Olson submitted for council approval an internal pipe inspection contract and testing for the fire sprinkler system from Summit Fire each for \$825 a year. Motion to accept the contract was made by Hagstrom and second by Deb Mickle. Motion carried unanimously.

**SOUTHWEST INITIATIVE FOUNDATION**

A letter of request for 2024 funding of \$250. A motion to approve was made by Deb Mickle and second by Holtz. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION 2023-19 ACCEPTING DONATION**

Resolution 2023-19 accepting a gift of \$4,000.00 from Actively Living Life, Inc. owned by Luke Laidlaw to the Summer Rec program was motioned by Brian Carlson and second by Deb Mickle and carried by everyone voting in favor.

**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: July 8, 2023 (Checks numbers 31825-31856 for \$ 168,957.28. Mid-month bills paid on July 19, 2023, were check numbers 31858 through 31878 for \$ 47,356.69.

A motion was made to adjourn by Brian Carlson and second by Deb Mickle at 8:34 p.m.

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Goldie Smith  
City Clerk/Treasurer