

**JANUARY 8, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

The only regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Atwater City Council was called to order on Monday, January 8, 2024, 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. Council member Deb Mickle was absent from the meeting. Visitors at the meeting were Adam Bosch – Atwater Threshers, Jake Frericks from the Atwater Karters, Greg Tauer with the Atwater Lions group, and Logan Whitcomb and Spencer Johnson from Bolton and Menk.

Representing the city departments was Fire Chief Chad Busskohl, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Smith, Jason Johnson Head of Maintenance department.

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 4, 2023, were motioned for approval by Deb Mickle and Brian Carlson. Motion carried unanimously.

2024 ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS AND RESOLUTIONS

A motion was made by Brian Carlson and seconded by Hagstrom to pass the 2024 annual appointments and resolutions 202401 through 2024-06 setting forth the official deposits, President Pro Teem, official newspaper, Worker Comp agent, building official and allowing the finance committee to sign mid-month bills. All resolution passed with unanimous vote.

ADAM BOSCH – CHLORIDE AT POND SITE

Bosch along with Jake Frericks from the Karters, asked how much they would like the volunteer groups to donate to have the pond site chloride on the Kandi-Meeker Road to the entry of the front of the gate for the ponds. Jason Johnson will get a new quote for chloriding.

GREG TAUER – TREES AT FUTURE SOLAR SITE

Tauer wants the ash trees for wood burning, Mayor concerned about Ash Boar bugs coming into town if the wood is brought in.

LOGAN WHITCOMB – L & S CONTRACTING

Logan explained that told Lee Mickle two septate bids one was time and material, but he went over budget of \$6,000. If he had billed for all the time spent it would have been over \$13,487. He only billed the City for \$9955. He admitted that he messed up in the quote where labor was concerned, and the weather didn't help either (zero degrees outside). Motion by Hagstrom and second by Holtz to pay the \$9955 to Logan. Motion carried by all voting in favor.

SPENCER JOHNSON – BOLTON & MENK - UPDATE

Spencer introduced Resolution 2024-07 to order preparation of Plans for the Well and Water treatment plant project. This gets the project on PPL list, with the North Side improvement the City would meet the affordability threshold and would kick in 80% of needed \$900,000. Motion to pass resolution 2024-07 was made by Hagstrom and seconded by Brian Carlson. Motion passed unanimously. Spencer asked the council if they would like a proposal

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for a Planning and Zoning ordinance review by Bolton and Menk.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Johnson couldn't be here, so Brian Carlson gave the police report for December, Mayor Olson opened the bid for the police department's confiscated vehicle for the 2010 Ford Fusion-one bid was received from Brandon Schultz for \$200. A motion was made not to accept the bid because he felt it was too low and was second by Mickle. Motion carried. It will be sold at auction.

FIRE/AMBULANCE REPORT

Fire Chief Chad Busskohl informed the council the desk for the office area is in and the cabinets are on order. They are buying wildland (grass fire) gear for \$17,136 - \$7000 will come from their equipment fund. DNR grant will cover \$5,000. A motion was made by Mickle permission to use \$7000 from the equipment fund and seconded by Hagstrom. He reviewed the upcoming meeting for the department.

In ambulance news Carlson made a mistake last November in not giving 2 EMTs the annual stipend of \$500. Lee Mickle and Gerald Schwartz should be given the stipend from November since they did qualify by keeping their license current. Motion to pay Mickle and Schwartz was made by Brian Carlson and second by Tony Holtz. Motion carried with Deb Mickle abstaining.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

Jason Johnson informed the council that the road grader is not fixable by Hennes. Mn Rural Water contacted him regarding the Wellhead Protection Plan – there might be grants for purchasing land.

PARKS

Hagstrom brought to the Council a quote for new roof on the log shelter. Bork Lumber for supplies of steel and flashing for \$2768.39, estimate from R & M Construction of Atwater for "labor only bid" of \$4800, and an estimate of \$4950 for "labor only bid" from Brian Hovey Construction. Motion made by Hagstrom to approve Hovey Construction for \$4950 and was seconded by Deb Mickle, motion carried.

CLERKS DEPARTMENT

Clerk Smith submitted a dance permit for the HandleBar for the year 2024. Motion to approve was made by Brian Carlson and second by Tony Holtz. Motion carried unanimously.

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PROJECT ONE - PAYMENT #8

A motion was made by Brian Carlson and second by Hagstrom to approve payment to Project One – payment #8 for \$6919.80. Motion carried unanimously.

PROJECT ONE - FINAL PAYMENT

A motion was made by Deb Mickle and second by Hagstrom to approve payment to Project One – final payment for \$19,43.70. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hagstrom that everyone is forced to use the city approved emails. A second was made by Brian Carlson. Motion carried.

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 Tony Holtz. Motion carried authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make such disbursements: January 9, 2024 (Checks numbers 32215-32230 for \$ 46,178.23 and Mid-month bills paid on January 24, 2024, were check numbers 32231 through 32250 for \$ 9,173.65 all approved by the finance committee.

A motion was made to adjourn by Deb Mickle and second by Brian Carlson at 8:17 p.m.

Goldie Smith
City Clerk/Treasurer