

City of Cleveland
Minutes
City Council Meeting
Monday, June 6, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
205 4th Street, Cleveland, MN 56017

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Don McCabe, Council Members present: Nancy Gens, Justin Schabert, and Mark Hintgen. City staff present: Val Jorgensen, City Clerk-Treasurer; Gwyn Ploog, Assistant City Clerk; Randy Tieg, Police chief and Julie O'Malley, head bartender. Also present, Steve Mohr from MetroNet.

Motion by Schabert, seconded by Hintgen to amend the agenda to remove item #7 (Interview job applicant for Public Works Supervisor – applicant was unable to attend the meeting) and replace it with Nathan Steinhaus to discuss connecting to city sewer. Voting: Yes—All.

Approval of Minutes and Bills. Motion made by Hintgen, seconded by Schabert. Voting: Yes – All.

Public Comment – first to talk was Michelle Mettler. She wanted to discuss having the city clean-up after city-wide garage sales next year. It was discussed that since we are new customers of LJP, we were put on the schedule after all their other customers and the weekend it was held was the only one available. Second she wanted to inquire about going back to curb side clean-up. It was discussed that when the contract was drawn up in 2021, the city clean-up was not very specific and due to LJP being short staffed, they wouldn't have been able to secure enough people to pick up curb side. The third thing she talked about is cleaning her steep street more often. She mentioned she has seen people slip and fall down on her steep street from all the sand and gravel on her street. It was discussed that we are looking into hiring a street cleaning company to clean our streets because of the dilapidated condition of the current city street sweeper.

Second to speak was Ryan Ponwith. He has been approached by several community members who are upset with the corn stalks blowing from his field onto people's yards. He was present in case anyone had any questions regarding the corn stalk issue. He wants to be a good neighbor and is going to be planting beans in the field which should take care of debris blowing out of his field in the future. He also mentioned that corn stalks get composted back into his field so when he loses a lot of stalks, he's losing quite a bit of money in compost. Therefore, having the corn stalks blow off his property costs him money. He also wanted to mention that several people had put the corn stalks back onto his property, which he was completely fine with. However, about half of the piles put back onto his property also contained garbage.

Steve Mohr from MetroNet was present to answer questions about the contract regarding the cabinet placement in town. There were no questions and Steve said the construction for the cabinet may start as early as next week. He also gave an update on MetroNet's fiber optics installation in town. He said services should start becoming available in December. Motion to approve MetroNet agreement made by Gens, seconded by Hintgen. Voting yes – all.

Police Report: Tiegs gave his report –

- * There has been an increase in illegal drugs found during traffic stops.
- * He provided a list of what the costs are associated with hiring part-time officers.
- * He told about a lights-on program that gives auto owners with non-working headlights a voucher to receive a free bulb replacement rather than writing citations.
- * Tiegs attached an invoice from Motorola for purchase of a new radio. The prices are going to go up and he is in need of updated equipment. Motion by Hintgen to approve purchase from Motorola for \$5362.11, Gens seconded, vote yes – all.
- * Tiegs also talked about the city wanting a minimum number of hours for his part-time officers. It is difficult to require that because they all have full-time jobs elsewhere. He hasn't had any issues filling the schedule and he also has one officer that only works special events.

Public works – no report.

Liquor Store report – Julie O'Malley was present to discuss the Eric Koskinen concert scheduled for August 12th, 2022. The show will run from 8:30 – 10:30 p.m. at a cost of \$1250.00 plus \$500.00 for sound and lights. She mentioned last year he gave a concert; it was very well received. A frequent Muni customer pitched in to help pay last year and the only cost to the city was \$500.00. O'Malley didn't feel right having a patron to help pay for it and requested the city pay the full amount of \$1950.00. Last year, the concert brought in \$4448.00. The amount was slightly under the amount that was taken in during the last entire Cherry Creek weekend event in 2019. Motion by Gens to approve \$1950.00 for the Eric Koskinen concert in August, seconded by Schabert. Vote yes – all.

Planning & Zoning – no report.

EDA –McCabe received a phone call regarding building a Dollar General in our area. They want to build on Highway 99 but the city doesn't have any property available on 99. Tiegs asked if the EDA is willing to donate for the new shelter at the park. He thought there was enough money that the EDA could do that.

Personnel Committee – no report

Nathan Steinhaus was present to ask permission from the council to connect his house to city sewer. He is in the process of selling his house and he is required to connect to city sewer or repair the septic system before he is allowed to sell. He is abandoning his septic because of the cost. Motion by Schabert, Hintgen to allow Steinhaus to connect to city sewer, voting yes – all.

A former applicant for the Public Works Supervisor position reached out to a council member to negotiate a wage to hire him. A Motion was made by Hintgen, Gens to revise the agenda to move discussion of wages for this person to the end of the meeting. Vote yes – all. The council discussed possibly hiring PeopleService to help with our sewer system and hire a secondary Public Works worker without the licensing to do all of the street maintenance.

Resolution 21-2022 hiring part-time summer workers. Motion by Schabert/Hintgen, voting yes – McCabe, Gens abstained.

Gens gave report on City Cleanup from May 7th. There were a lot of complaints, long lines, very little help and assistance with residents dropping off their items and residents not informed they may need gloves or extra helpers to unload. Most people mentioned they would like to go back to curbside pickup. It was requested to invite Jesse Samuelson from LJP to the next council meeting in July. One resident mentioned the storage facility was blocked by vehicles that morning so people were unable to access their storage units. Another resident suggested contacting someone to serve to help next year.

There was discussion regarding dedicating the new park shelter to Glenn Beer. Motion was made by Schabert, Hintgen to dedicate the park shelter to Glenn Beer with the permission from Glenn's wife, Linda. Voting yes – all.

Discussion regarding hiring a company to sweep the streets of Cleveland in the spring and fall. Jorgensen said she has requested information from a few companies but has not heard back from any of them yet.

Regarding the Cherry Creek balance – it was agreed that any leftover money should be put into capital outlay and roll over to next year. In 2019, there was a negative balance at the end of the year that was never written off so the fund from this year started out with a negative balance. Motion by Gens, Schabert to transfer money back into Cherry Creek fund to show a zero starting balance for 2022. Voting yes – all.

Motion by Hintgen, Schabert to allow Church of Nativity to apply for a temporary liquor license for August. Voting yes – all.

Resolution 22-2022, declaring a vacancy for a city council seat formerly occupied by Glenn Beer. Motion by Schabert, Gens. Voting yes – all.

City council appointment was discussed. A City Council application was included in the packet. The city can start advertising a city council appointment to fill out for the rest of the year.

Resolution 23-2022, Accepting Donations to the City. Motion by Schabert, Gens. Voting yes – all.

The city council would like to recognize Renee Koch and Rick Lloyd for all their hard work this year and for previous years with beautifying the city of Cleveland with plants and flowers. A certificate of recognition, signed by the mayor, will be given to them to let them know they are appreciated.

Discussion started in regards to 2 items from the personnel policy draft - PTO accrual (vacation) and health insurance coverage. The council members would like to review the materials so they are more informed for next month's meeting when discussion will continue.

Meeting was closed to the public at 7:10 pm to discuss negotiations with an applicant for Public Works Supervisor. Meeting was reopened at 7:15 pm. The mayor will contact the Public Works applicant to discuss further negotiations.

Motion by Schabert / Hintgen to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Voting: Yes – All.

City Clerk / Treas.

Mayor