

**Meeting Minutes  
Grove City Regular Council Meeting  
Monday December 11, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: McCoy, Evenson, Lokken, Sordahl, Simota

ABSENT: None

Mayor McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

CONSENT TO AGENDA:

- A. Agenda
- B. Minutes of the following City Council Meetings: November 13, 2023 Regular meeting and November 27, 2023 Special Meeting
- C. November 2023 Claims Totaling \$630,016.13; Payroll \$18,248.20

Council Member Evenson made a motion to accept the consent to agenda. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

VISITOR RECOGNITION

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Violations: Owner of R1 property renting three apartments will come into the city to discuss options. Mayor McCoy will contact the owner on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street N to finish their fence. Gabra will be talking with the City Attorney on Wednesday about the abatement process for 300 2<sup>nd</sup> St S. The seller and buyer of 104 Sunset Ridge will be notified that once the temperature reaches 40F they must commence the repairs they said they would have done by November 2023. They need to remove the tarp and clean up the yard right away which isn't dependent upon temperature.

Office Blinds: We need to have blinds that have safety features. Another bid will be obtained.

NEW BUSINESS

Building Permit for Deck – Mayor McCoy will investigate a permit request that was received for a deck.

2024 Budget: David Spencer went over the 2024 Budget with the Council.

Truth and Taxation Hearing Opened at 7:05p. Two visitors spoke. Sue Laabs of 505 S 1<sup>st</sup> Street inquired why the taxes have gone up so much and why market values have increased substantially. Traci Huewe spoke regarding the increase she has had on her property taxes and property valuation last year and this year. The Council explained that the county determines the value of the properties and that the City initially proposes an increase for the levy but it will be lowered tonight. Mayor McCoy made a motion to lower the proposed levy from 5% to 1%. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried

with all members voting in favor. Mayor McCoy made a motion to adjourn the Truth and Taxation meeting at 7:31p. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Audit Engagement Letter: Council Member Evenson made a motion that Mayor McCoy sign the contract. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

MMDC Fraud Awareness Training Room Rental: Mayor McCoy made a motion to allow the MMDU to conduct the fraud awareness training sessions at City Hall on March 27, 2024 from 12:15pm to 1:45pm and on April 9, 2024 from 2:15pm to 3:45pm for the community training. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

ACGC Community Ed Firearm Training Safety Room Rental: Council Member Evenson made a motion to rent the Bluebird room free of charge for the firearm training. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Resolution 2023-27: Mayor McCoy made a motion to pass Resolution 2023-27 Resolution Requesting Vehicle Speed Feedback Signs to install vehicle speed limit feedback signs. Council Member Sordahl seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Earned Sick and Safe Leave of 2024: Mayor McCoy made a motion to adopt the ESSL law of 2024 and update the personnel policy. Council Member Evenson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.

#### STAFF REPORTS AND COUNCIL

Fire: Chief Joe Jans reported that the tanker batteries have been changed. They had a call on Saturday morning.

Rescue: No report.

Sheriff: Deputy Sam Swisher said that they had 48 calls last month.

Clerk's Report: David Spencer reported that our New City Clerk, Alysia Listerud, will start on Monday, December 18, 2023. Timesheets were distributed to council members for the second half of the year payment.

Public Works: Jack Ramthun presented a contract with Missouri River Energy for backup power outage assistance. Council will solicit bids from other companies.

Mayor's Report: Mayor McCoy will schedule a training meeting for the new sign. At 4p on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 Mayor McCoy and Council Member Evenson will meet with the owners of the trailer court. Missouri River Energy contract will be discussed at workshop.

Council Member Evenson's Report: Council Member Evenson requested we discuss Windmill Days at the next workshop. He also wants workshops to be the place where any personnel issues are discussed. Would like to see name plates on the doors of the offices and for council members. Jake brakes are getting out of hand and he is getting complaints from the public regarding the noise. Mayor McCoy will

check with the state on noise ordinance signs. Train noise was discussed. There is a MN statute 209.166 regarding train whistles which we can discuss with the Federal Railroad Administration.

Council Member Lokken's Report: Council Member Lokken purchased Christmas pots from Nyla Stafford after missing the Falcon Dance Team sale. The Lions Club sold the City two wreathes. She requested that we wrap the main street power poles with gold lights year round to beautify our main street more. Jack Ramthun will look into what type of lights to get and costs. We will look into having Falcon Country banners added to the next Community Ed board meeting agenda. Council Member Lokken also noted that she has been paying the monthly Microsoft account bill for the City since August or September when the contract abruptly ended due to non payment. She will provide documentation for reimbursement and the City will provide the correct billing information to Microsoft.

Council Member Sordahl's Report: Council Member Sordahl would like to look at the committee list at the next workshop.

Council Member Simota's Report: Council Member Simota would like to discuss the quiet time ordinance at the next workshop.

ADJOURNMENT: Council Member Evenson made a motion to adjourn at 8:25p. Council Member Simota seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting in favor.