

**City Council Regular Meeting  
March 8, 2021  
Monday 7:00 p.m.**

The regular session of the City Council, City of Sacred Heart, Minnesota was called to order on March 8, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Dan Agre.

City Council Members present were Brooke Hebrink, Dick Ashburn, Randy Johnson, and Andy Stauffer. Also present were Administrator Amy Hubbard, Public Works Supervisor Scott Agre, Liquor Store Manager Brooke Busack, Jared and Nikki Jackel, Aaron Walton, Ron Mortensen, Fire Chief Jeff Agre, Brian Bollig, Nathan Feist, and Ross Rieke.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Additions to the agenda included seal coating county-owned roads and a motion to approve the Certificate of Final Approval for improvements made at the Community Center. A motion was made by Brooke Hebrink and seconded by Dick Ashburn to approve the agenda as presented along with the additions. The motion carried 4 to 0.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Andy Stauffer and seconded by Randy Johnson to approve the February 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes. The motion carried 4 to 0.

**3. Invoices Payable**

A motion was made by Randy Johnson and seconded by Dick Ashburn to approve the invoices payable as presented. The motion carried 4 to 0.

**4. Ag-Zoned District Concerns – Aaron Walton, City Attorney**

City Attorney Aaron Walton was present at the meeting to answer questions that the council had regarding Ag-Zoned District. Walton explained that the council could amend the current zoning ordinance however that does not apply to those who are already established within the current ordinance guidelines. Those established within the parameters of Ag-District must comply with all ordinances, including nuisance ordinances as outline in the City Code. Walton stated that he would help with the amendment process once the council decides what it should read. Walton was questioned why ag-zoned properties are listed on the county property taxes as RES HSTD instead of AG HSTD. Walton advised that we clarify with the Renville County Assessors office

as he was not sure on the answer to that. Administrator Hubbard will contact the Assessors office.

## **5. Liquor Store Report – Brooke Busack, Liquor Store Manager**

Liquor Store Manager Brooke Busack was available to answer any questions regarding the revenue and expenses report. Brooke informed the council that the Pepsi cooler in off sale stopped working. This cooler holds single cans and wine for purchase. Brooke mentioned that she can get a 15-year-old used one for \$500.00 or a brand new one for roughly \$2550.00. Council advised that she looks at other quotes from other vendors and compare however they would like her to get a new one instead of a used one due to life expectancy of the cooler.

Air fryer went out again over the weekend. Brooke continues to fix it. Scott Agre will go over to the Liquor Store and see if he can provide some assistance.

Brooke explained that Sundays are “great”. In previous years, the Liquor Store has not been open on Sundays due to the lack of business, however this year there is almost the same revenue as a Friday or Saturday.

## **6. Hwy 212 Project – Ron Mortensen, MNDOT**

Ron Mortensen from MNDOT provided an agenda to the council regarding the upcoming Hwy 212 Project along with computer drawings of the changes that have been made. There were three (3) bump-outs that were to be added to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave S. The council has expressed to Ron at several meetings that bump-outs are unfavorable and should be removed from the drawings. Ron presented the council with bump-outs removed from 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave N and S, however the bump-outs on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave N will stay. Ron was also able to present to the council the plan to avoid having to replace the sanitary sewer system by moving around it. This was a concern previously as the City recently replaced the sanitary sewer system. The last large concern for the council was regarding the ponds that will be placed on either end of the city. The council continues to stand firm that ponds are unnecessary as our current storm sewer system is preventing ponding on the streets. Ron presented the council with an updated computer drawing showing the size of the wet pond to be decreased. Ron stated that the ponds are required based on MNDOT regulations. It was agreed by Ron and Council that no major crosswalks would be needed in town.

Ron explained to the council that there will need to be a municipal consent to be signed at the April council meeting. Letting would begin in September 2022 and the project would start in 2023. Ron did not have a current cost estimate with him, however that would need to be paid prior to the start of the project.

Council requested Administrator Hubbard to contact Shannon Sweeney for financial assistance regarding this project. The council would request that Shannon come to the April meeting to discuss funding options.

## **7. Sludge Tank Update and Water Tower – Brian Bollig and Nathan Feist, Bollig, Inc**

Nathan Feist from Bollig, Inc provided an agenda of topics to be discussed. Nathan provided an update to the council regarding sludge tank progress. The sludge tank is “up and insulated”. There will be a construction meeting at 10:00am on March 9<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. Nathan stated that the heating cost of the sludge tank will be removed from the invoice as this was a concern of the council based on lack of timing on Bollig’s part. Nathan requested an extension of 23 days of the contract time to complete the sludge tank due to extreme cold weather endured. A motion was made by Brooke Hebrink and seconded by Randy Johnson to accept a 23-day time extension of the contract due to extreme cold weather. The motion carried 4 to 0. Nathan provided a substantial completion date to be March 15, 2021 with a final completion date of June 15, 2021.

Brian Bollig questioned the council regarding the water tower cleaning and possible coating. Brian explained that there are USDA funds available for water tower coating. Brian advised the council that the water tower should be inspected prior to any coating being applied. A motion was made by Andy Stauffer and seconded by Brooke Hebrink to approve KLM Engineering to complete an inspection of the Sacred Heart water tower. The motion carried 4 to 0.

Brian explained that at the water plant, the RO system will create more waste and it is recommended to put a tank in the water plant.

## **8. Certificate of Final Approval for City Hall Improvement Project**

A motion was made by Brooke Hebrink and seconded by Dick Ashburn to approve the Certificate of Final Approval for the City Hall Improvement Project. The motion carried 4 to 0.

## **9. Parcel of Land Around the Sewer Plant – Jeff Agre, landowner**

Andy Stauffer provided the council and Jeff Agre with a computer drawn picture of the parcel of land surrounding the sewer plant. The council questioned Jeff on the purchase of 2 acres close to the sewer plant for future expansion, if needed. Jeff explained to the council that he currently has a prospect who will be purchasing the entire parcel at \$12,000/acre. The parcel includes 9 acres. The council discussed the need for an access. The council will continue to discuss options and approach Jeff soon with a decision.

## **10. Maintenance/Water/Sewer Report – Scott Agre, Public Works Supervisor**

Public Works Supervisor, Scott Agre, presented the council with quotes from Force America regarding the replacement of the plow switch. Council explained that this would be considered regular maintenance and it should be fixed. Council also advised to get other quotes as well.

Sanitary sewer report was presented to the council as informational. Scott discussed issues with chemicals being in the same room. Scott will look at other options.

## **11. Proposal of Purchasing Jeff Agre's Parcel – Jared Jakel**

Jared Jakel, Sacred Heart resident, was present in the room while there was discussion with Jeff Agre regarding his parcel of land. Jared approached the council with a proposal. The proposal included Jared purchasing the parcel for the amount requested by Jeff Agre with the intention of farming it until he could secure a developer. Jared requested that if he were to purchase the parcel that he would want the taxes to be abated for 10 years or reduced to the amount of county taxes. The council will discuss further on this option.

## **12. Seal Coating of County-Owned Roads in Sacred Heart**

Randy Johnson presented the council with information received from Renville County. As stated, the county will put the seal coating on the county-owned roads as well as the center line. However, the county will not put lines on for parking. The city will need to do that as they fit necessary. The county would like it to be done this year.

## **13. SHEDA Report – Randy Johnson and Andy Stauffer**

Randy Johnson and Andy Stauffer provided the council with updates regarding SHEDA. It was discussed that SHEDA is currently working with Warner Manufacturing on expanding the current size of the buildings by adding more square footage. SHEDA is currently waiting for communication from the executives at Warner Manufacturing.

Randy and Andy provided an update on the apartments. New renter in apartment #6. No issues to discuss.

Jordan Zeller will be in town with some prospective developers looking at open lots. Jordan also requested an updated listing to present to developers.

#### **14. Ross Rieke – Sacred Heart Homeowner**

Ross Rieke approached the council stating that he looks forward to working together. Ross feels that the City and Council can all be on the same page with him in order to move forward with the repair of 243 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Ross expressed his happiness with how much work has been done to the building. Ross explained that he had hip surgery and will be able to climb ladders in 4 weeks. Councilmember Andy Stauffer explained to Ross that the City Attorney, Aaron Walton, can better update him on the process moving forward. Ross made several more comments regarding making the community better. Ross then stated that he wants the agenda to be available on the city website.

#### **15. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Brooke Hebrink and seconded by Dick Ashburn to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 4 to 0. Meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

BY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Hubbard, City Administrator/Treasurer/EDA Director

The next Regular Council Meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The City of Sacred Heart is an equal opportunity provider and employer.