

**CITY OF COKATO
AGENDA
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 12, 2022, 7:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 7:00 p.m. Council Chambers

- Mayor Erickson called the Cokato City Council to order Monday, December 12th, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers. Members present were Mayor Erickson, Council Members Harju, Martinson, Sebring, and Wilson. Also present were members of the Public and Staff.

2. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion** by Harju to approve the agenda seconded by Wilson, all voted aye.

3. Public Forum

- Dan Bravinder of Cokato Township thanked Mayor Erickson for his years of service on the council and as mayor.

4. Consent Agenda Items

- a. **Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2022**
- b. **Sheriff's Report**
- c. **Res 2022-49 - Approving 2023 Liquor Licenses**
- d. **Res 2022-50 - Approving 2023 Waste Hauler Licenses**
- e. **Res 2022-51 - Approving 2023 Auction House License**
- f. **Res 2022-52 – Approving 2022 Donations**
- g. **Res 2022-53 - Hiring Nick Vergin for Public Works Worker**
- h. **Res 2022-57 – Approving members on Ambulance**
- i. **Res 2022-59 – Donations to Fire Department**
- j. **Joint Powers Agreement with DC Schools**
- k. **Safety Group Agreement Approval**
- l. **2022-2024 Audit Contract**

- Items 4h, j, and l were pulled for further discussion.
- **Motion** by Harju to approve items a, b, c, d, e, f, g, i, and k seconded by Martinson, all voted aye.
- Council member Martinson asked for clarification on what the drivers added to the ambulance will be paid. Drivers will be paid at the current minimum wage while on a run and half of the rate of on call pay for EMTs.
- Council member Wilson stated that an updated Joint Powers Agreement was not included in the council packet. Administrator Potter said that the agreement only had slight updates that were agreed upon at the November council meeting.
- Council member Martinson asked how many years the audit contract should be for.
- **Motion** by Martinson to accept a 3-year contract with the auditors, seconded by Wilson; all voted aye.
- **Motion** by Sebring to approve 4h. Resolution 2022-57 and 4j. Joint Powers Agreement with DC Schools, seconded by Martinson; all voted aye.

5. Public Hearings

- a. **Review for Ord 2022-08 – Fee Schedule Ordinance – Water and Sewer Rates - Water 2.5% and Sewer 4.5%, 2.5% Storm Sewer**
 - Preliminary levy was 8.9%. Administrator Potter said that 2023 would be the last year of paying on the water treatment plant. Martinson suggested lowering the percentage to 4%. Sebring stated that

if we do have a surplus the city would use the money wisely to catch up on some of the other projects or equipment needed. Mayor Erickson suggested lowering the levy to 5%.

- **Motion** by Martinson to approve the levy at 5%, seconded by Wilson; all voted aye.

b. Truth in Taxation Public Meeting

6. Mayors Report

a. Ord 2022-08 Adoption of Annual Fees for 2023

- Administrator Potter stated that there was one correction to the Fee Schedule, the rental damage deposit is \$150 and the water no meter accounts are \$50.
- **Motion** by Sebring to adopt the fee schedule, seconded by Harju; all voted aye.

b. Final Property Tax Levy Rate at 5% Res 2022-54 and Res 2022-55 2023 Budget Adoption

- **Motion** by Wilson to approve resolution 2022-54 and 2022-55, seconded by Sebring; all voted aye.

c. Res No 2022-56 – Approving Year-end Transfers for Fire Department

- Administrator Potter stated that the year-end transfer should occur yearly but had been missed in 2020, 2021, and now we also need to approve 2022.
- **Motion** by Harju to approve the year-end transfers to the fire department, seconded by Martinson; all voted aye.

d. Ordinance 2022-09 Request of the City of Cokato to amend Chapter 151 amending a Floodplain Ordinance regulations

- The floodplain being discussed is mainly Sucker Creek. Administrator Potter has been working with Bolton & Menk and the DNR to simplify the floodplain ordinance. The process will be easier to understand.
- **Motion** by Harju to approve ordinance 2022-09, seconded by Martinson; all voted aye.

e. Cokato Development Corporation and City of Cokato Agreement

- The agreement has been drafted between the Cokato Development Corporation and the City of Cokato. The agreement describes who is responsible for each task. Any revenue from the sales of the land would be split proportionally.
- **Motion** by Sebring to approve the agreement, seconded by Martinson; all voted aye.

7. Public Works/Parks Report

a. Res 2022-58 Skating Rink Attendants and Workers Hired

- Currently have two attendants hired. Currently still seeking ice rink attendants. If the city receives no other applications people will be able to skate but the warming house won't be open and the lights may not be on at night.
- **Motion** by Martinson to approve the attendants and for approval to look for additional applicants, seconded by Harju; all voted aye.

8. Reports & Information

9. Financial Reports

a. Approval of Claims - \$755,913.30

- **Motion** by Sebring to approve the claims, seconded by Harju; all voted aye.

b. Cash and Budget Reports

- **Motion** by Harju to approve the cash and budget reports, seconded by Sebring; all voted aye.

10. Adjournment

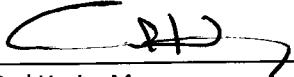
- **Reminder – City Hall Closed December 23, 2022 Closed at Noon and December 26, 2022**
- Mayor Erickson thanked the council members and community for a great 12 years.
- **Motion** by Harju to adjourn seconded by Sebring; all voted aye.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED BY:



Megan Gustafson, City Clerk



Carl Harju, Mayor