

**Minutes
Avon City Council
May 02, 2022**

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Katie Reiling, Aaron Goebel, Doug Schaefer – City Councilors
Corey Nellis – Chief of Police, Landon Gudim and Chad Klocker – Police Officers, Chuck Pelkey – Public Works Technician
Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk-Administrator

Mayor Manthe called the Avon City Council meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Forum

None present.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of April 4, 2022
2. Receive Planning Commission Minutes of April 19, 2022
3. Receive Fire Department Minutes of March 28, 2022
4. Paid Check Register, Manual Claims, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits
5. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
6. Approve Liquor Licenses for July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 Contingent Upon Completed Apps & Insurance
7. Approve Amended Tobacco License (Avon Quick Mart)
8. Resolution 2022-14 Approving Gambling License for St. Benedict's Church

Austing-Traut made a correction to the minutes that were included in the packets under “Wastewater Treatment Plant Sand Filters”.

In regards to the legal fees, Aaron Goebel wanted it noted that he would like clarification on his understanding that Councilman Meyer would be paying all fees incurred by the city related to his inquiries about the city's internal controls process.

Motion Aaron Goebel to approve consent agenda with amended minutes second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Parks Board/Community Center/Avon Estates/Ballfield

Dan Zimmermann was present to state that the Lion's Club would consider donating \$7,500 toward the Avon Estates basketball court. Zimmermann will update the city once those decisions have been made.

Jeff Lange has been working with the Over the Hills of Avon Senior Citizen Club to tighten up the basic concept plan for a community center to be located at the existing Lions Shelter site near City Hall. Next step would be to move ahead with an architectural drawing.

Dan Zimmermann presented a drawing for a new bleacher system which would block traffic lights and provide additional seating. This would allow the Lakers to host a state tournament. The Lakers would attempt to raise funds for this improvement. Council consensus to move forward.

Zimmermann updated the council on the lighting project at Blattner field. Xcel is indicating that the transformer that they need to install may not be available until June.

Zimmermann also presented a proposed fencing improvement at Blattner Field. There is approximately a 50' area of fence that will be lowered to 4' high. A double gate will be added to allow access to the batting cage. Staff will process a building permit per normal for the improvement.

Jim Metz, representing the Avon Pickleball Players requested approval to convert the tennis courts into pickleball courts. Fencing would be installed as well as 6' of concrete. Four courts would have permanent nets and two of them would be moveable. The club is planning to raise the \$40k -\$45k to have this project completed. This would include some minor parking lot improvements as well. Council consensus to allow the conversion of the tennis courts into pickleball courts.

Sam Butler, Stantec – 2022 Streets Projects Presentation. Sam presented an overview of the project design (available for viewing at city hall). 1st Street will be reconstructed to 34 feet of roadway (face to face) with a parking lane on the north side and will include a storm water management device at the west end of the roadway. Stratford Street will be widened to 26' (face to face) and have curb and gutter added, along with a 60' diameter “cul-de-sac type” feature on the west end. Dorado will be rotated to better center the roadway in the right-of-way which will result in an approximate 5' shift on the south end and 6 inch shift on the north end. Property owners have been contacted. 6th Street will maintain its existing roadway and shoulder widths and involve pavement reclaiming and repaving.

Motion Doug Schaefer to approve Resolution 2022-15 Approving Plans & Specs and Authorizing Ad for Bid for 2022 Street & Utility Improvement Project (1st St SW, Dorado Ave SW, Stratford St W, & 6th St) second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.

Pay Study

Mark Goldberg of David Drown Associates was at the meeting to walk through the elements of a pay study plan as requested by council. A PowerPoint Presentation on file for viewing at city hall. Council discussed in depth what they are looking for in terms of a pay study, market analysis, job descriptions, etc...

Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize Option #3 on the pay study proposal from David Drown Associates for \$5500 pay study second Doug Schaefer carried unanimously.

ISSUES BY STAFF

Administration:

Consider Approval of Lease Agreement with Fisher's Club to allow Fisher's Club to use a section of city property adjacent to their patio for additional seating and service.

Motion Aaron Goebel to approve the lease agreement as presented, second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.

Austing-Traut stated that ten applications had been received for the public works foreman position being vacated by Jason Molitor. Council has received copies of the applications. Austing-Traut requested two council people to serve on the interview committee. Schaefer and Manthe are available. Interviews will be scheduled for later in the week.

Fire Department

Austing-Traut provided an update on the status of the Fire Hall expansion. One engineering firm has already submitted a proposal. Stantec should have their proposal in shortly. The proposals will be brought to council for their consideration at the next regular meeting. Goebel asked if the fire department is considering enough of an expansion for the future, including the potential for police space. Austing-Traut will follow up on this question.

Fire Department plans to apply for a DNR Grant for up to \$5,000 for backpack tanks and battery-operated chain saws. This is a 50/50 matching grant so the Fire Department would be responsible for up to \$2,500 if the grant is approved.

Planning/Zoning:

Aaron Goebel briefed the council on the planning commission's review of alternative energy sources.

Motion Katie Reiling to approve Resolution 2022-16 Amending Zoning Ordinance related to Alternative Energy Sources second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Motion Katie Reiling to approve Resolution 2022-17 to include Ground Heat Pumps as a Conditional Use in all Districts second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.

Public Works:

Written report was presented by Chuck Pelkey. Public Works requested approval for quotes for sprinkling at Avon Estates Park. We received two quotes for the Avon Estates Park Sprinkling System. Dans Sprinklers \$16,500 Traut \$12,820. It should be noted that Traut cannot complete the project this year and there is not necessarily a guarantee that the price would still be good next year. There is an additional component that still needs to be quoted which involves tying the sprinkler system into the existing curbstops and electricity being brought up to the pavilion. These items could run another \$3k-\$4k. Council would like this added to the agenda for the special meeting on May 10th if quotes are available by then.

Pelkey requested approval to purchase bouys for the beach. Rolyan Buoy are \$2792 for six buoys which are 40" above waterline with a 320 lb buoyancy. Sur Mark Buoy are running \$2700 for 39" above waterline and 40 lb buoyancy. Pelkey recommended the Rolyan buoys because they are more durable.

Motion Katie Reiling to order six of the Rolyan Buoy second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Pelkey updated the council on the status of the city's dock. Three to four of the side rails have and several posts were broken. Staff will follow up with DNR on making those needed repairs.

Street Sweeping quotes were presented - Lange Trenching \$6,500 Astech \$6750.

Motion Doug Schaefer to approve Lange Trenching street sweeping for \$6,500 second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.

Police Department

Chief Nellis presented his written report.

ISSUES BY COUNCIL

Schaefer asked staff to check with Stearns County about the possibility of placing a flashing speed sign near the beach.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jodi Austing-Traut
City Clerk/Administrator