

**Minutes  
Avon City Council  
June 06, 2022**

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT**

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Katie Reiling, Aaron Goebel, Doug Schaefer, Jeff Meyer – City Councilors  
Corey Nellis – Chief of Police, Landon Gudim– Police Officer, Chuck Pelkey – Public Works Foreman, Justin Kurtz –  
Water Wastewater Foreman  
Jodi Austing-Traut, City Clerk-Administrator

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

**AUDIT PRESENTATION**

Christopher Knopik and Kristen Houle were present from Clifton Larson Allen, the city’s auditing firm.

The city had a healthy fund balance in the general fund of about 30 months at the end of 2021. Revenues and expenditures are stable. Knopik suggested that if council chooses to spend down fund balance, it should be used for one-time purchases. Cash flow from operations in both water and sewer are positive. Audit report and financial statements are available for viewing at the city clerk’s office during regular business hours.

**Public Forum**

Dennis Ryan at 315 1<sup>st</sup> Street SE was present to discuss stormwater drainage issues. He is pumping massive amounts of stormwater from his sump pump. Councilman Meyer explained the elevations and drainage pattern of ditch 25. It appears that there is likely something blocking the flow of the ditch as the water is backing up into the city rather than flowing out of town.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Council Minutes of May 2 and May 10, 2022
2. Receive Fire Department Minutes 04/25/2022
3. Paid Check Register, Manual Claims, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits
4. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
5. Resolution 2022-18 Adopting a Comprehensive Performance Measurement Program
6. Resolution 2022-19 Appointing Primary and General Election Judges for 2022
7. Resolution 2022-20 Resolution Adopting an Eyewitness Identification Policy and Procedures
8. Resolution 2022-21 Resolution Adopting a Confidential Informants Policy and Procedures

*Motion Aaron Goebel to approve consent agenda second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.*

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Patrick Murphy – 830 Chinook Ave SW Stormwater Flooding

Mr. Murphy presented photos and expressed his belief that the flooding is the result of runoff from the Scepaniak Storage Facility that was constructed near his property. Overflow from the stormwater retention pond was designed to release into the ditch along I94. With the excessive rains, the area on and around Murphy’s property have been flooded. A representative of Scepaniak’s was present to state that there is a likely design flaw and they are willing to raise the berm to provide for more containment of the water. They are also willing to provide additional preventative measures at the primary pond as well. Changing to a smaller pipe size would also help slow the flow of the stormwater. City Engineer Jeremy Mathiasen will review this situation and work with the property owners for a resolution.

Jim Metz – Pickleball Courts

Jim Metz was present to request that the city manage the project to convert the existing tennis courts into pickleball courts. The request is that the city receive the donations directly and authorize the expenditures to flow through the city. We have obtained two quotes for concrete, resurfacing, and fencing. Metz would like the city to authorize the work to be completed by the low bidders as soon as donated funds are received in an amount sufficient to cover the work.

*Motion Katie Reiling to act as fiduciary agent for the pickleball court project and to accept donations for the project, second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.*

*Motion Katie Reiling to authorize project expenditures and disbursement of funds to the low bidders (quotes) as funds come in second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.*

Luke Hartog – Rugged Wellness MN

Rugged Wellness MN is requesting use of city property for their mobile barrel sauna. They would like to host regular and planned events throughout the year that would require use of the public bathrooms and 1-2 parking spaces. These events could take place at the public beach or the Wobegon Trailhead Park and would last approximately 4 hours. A Rugged Wellness staff member would be present at all times. Council consensus to have Hartog provide a few dates and to try it out and see how it goes.

Wayne Birkholz – Lake Wobegon Outfitters

Wayne Birkholz was present with his idea for a business that would rent out paddle boards, bikes, canoes, and other outdoor equipment. Birkholz hopes to raise funds to purchase a truck to run his business out of. He is not looking for action at this time, but wanted council to be aware of his idea.

Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec – 2022 Streets Project Update

Mathiasen requested approval to begin the process of stormwater master planning by shooting elevations. Council consensus to authorize approximately a half-day of work for the engineers to shoot elevations for stormwater management.

Ad for Bid is out, but delayed due to the State of MN not having provided plan approval as of yet. Council consensus to open the completion date to allow for more flexibility in hopes of getting better bids. Austing-Traut will check with the DNR to see if the grant agreement would need to be amended.

## **ISSUES BY STAFF**

### **Administration:**

Cliff Borgerding of the Lake Wobegon Regional Trail Board is requesting participation on the board. Anyone interested should contact Cliff. Austing-Traut will request Wayne Birkholz consider the board position.

### **Public Works:**

Written report was presented by Chuck Pelkey. Public Works requested approval for quotes for electrical hook up for the sprinkler system at Avon Estates Park. Recommendation to award quote to Freeport Electric for \$2,650. A quote was presented for \$4,350 from Lange Trenching for the sprinkler curb stop connection dirt work. Several unsuccessful attempts were made to obtain quotes from another contractor. Sprinkler system quotes were received back in May, Council consensus was to go ahead with Dan's Sprinklers over Traut because at that time Dan was able to get it done this year. Chuck Pelkey stated that Dan's schedule is now likely out farther. Consensus to go ahead and get the sprinkler system installed, and the electrical connection completed, as well as the grading work at Avon Estates Park. Staff has made several attempts to obtain quotes for the basketball court concrete, but has not been successful. Council requested staff attempt to obtain one more quote on the concrete work for the basketball court itself.

*Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize the electrical work to be done by Freeport Electric with the addition of a larger service to allow for future basketball lighting second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.*

*Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize the sprinkler system install, grading of the park, and curb stop connection at Avon Estates Park for \$4,350 as no other quotes were able to be obtained second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.*

### **Chloride Monitoring Program**

Representatives from S.E.H. Engineering were present to offer the city participation in a free chloride monitoring pilot program. Implementation would begin late June. Chloride monitoring sensors would be placed in the city's wastewater collection system toward the end of June. Council consensus to move forward with these efforts to monitor and decrease chlorides in the city's system.

Justin Kurtz presented quotes for flow meters for \$2,159 (influent) and \$2,195 (effluent) from Calibrations & Controls.

*Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize purchase of both flow meters, second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.*

**Police Department**

Chief Nellis presented his written report. The new squad had \$7500 in hail damage. An insurance claim was made and approved. Repairs will be made.

**Fire Department**

WSN and Stantec provided engineering proposals for the architectural design and project management for a proposed fire hall expansion. Chuck Swenson, Assistant Chief was present to discuss the fire department's plans for expansion. Council discussed depreciation and how to finance the project relative to the other entities involved in the fire and rescue service area. Council further discussed space needs. A fourth stall, if feasible, would provide extra room if needed for police squads. Greg Bohl will put estimates together for a fourth stall.

*Motion Aaron Goebel accepting project proposal and authorizing Widseth to put together a project bid package to move forward with the Avon Fire Hall Expansion project second Jeff Manthe and carried unanimously.*

**ISSUES BY COUNCIL**

Councilmember Schaefer requested that public works trim a rogue limb in Suncrest as well as a few other trees in the city right of way and parks. Pelkey will follow up on these issues.

**Adjourn**

*Adjourned at 9:25 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jodi Austing-Traut  
City Clerk/Administrator