

**Minutes
Avon City Council
October 03, 2022**

THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT

Jeff Manthe – Mayor, Katie Reiling, Aaron Goebel, Doug Schaefer - City Councilors
Chad Klocker – 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.

Public Forum

None present.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Minutes of September 12, 2022
2. Receive Fire Department Minutes
3. Paid Check Register, Manual Claims, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits, Quarterly Reports
4. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees

Motion Katie Reiling to approve consent agenda with a correction to a motion in the 9/12/22 minutes second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Community Center Update/Prints – Joann Dirkes

The Over the Hills of Avon Club presented their architectural drawings for a proposed community center. Council and senior group discussed at length the spatial needs, staffing, and general ideas for a proposed community center. Many details still need to be worked out. At this point, the group needs a designated site (address) in order to proceed with fundraising.

Motion Aaron Goebel to designate the Avon Lions Park site (140 Dolphin Ave) as the preferred location for a potential future community center, second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.

Streets/Stormwater Updates – Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec

Mathiasen stated that the revised plans and specs for the 1st St SW (boat landing area), Dorado Ave Sw, and Stratford St W street project have been submitted to the county and will be forwarded to MnDot. Once we receive comments back from them, we can set a bid letting date.

1st St SE preliminary field and survey work is ongoing and will continue through the first couple of weeks of October.

Storm Pipe 403 Chinook Ave – Clare Graham Property

Mathiasen stated that the majority of the storm pipe at 403 Chinook is in good workable condition. The last 20-25 feet appear to be sagging and holding water, and the last pipe or two are broken. That last section before it hits Middle Spunk Lake needs to be replaced. Mathiasen also advised placing a solid lid cover on the catch basin on the west side of Chinook and potentially moving the pipe out of the driveway and onto green space in order to alleviate some of the heaving that is occurring on Ms. Graham's driveway.

Motion Aaron Goebel to move forward with getting bids on making repairs to the storm pipe as presented including shifting the pipe out of the driveway and into greenspace second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Council discussed ideas for 6th street and the ballfield stormwater drainage. Council will continue to work with the engineer on this issue.

ISSUES BY STAFF

Administration

Half Cent Sales Tax Update

Austing-Traut presented updated information on the local sales and use tax (half-cent sales tax) legislation. The city is authorized to collect a maximum of \$1,500,000 and has already collected \$575,000. The remaining amount to be collected will not cover all of the street projects that were originally proposed. Austing-Traut suggested council consider going back to the legislature to request authorization to collect the amount needed in today's dollars to complete the projects that were intended for completion as part of the initial legislative request. Council consensus to begin the process of obtaining legislative authority to collect funds necessary to complete the street projects identified in the original legislation.

Fire Hall Update

A group of representatives from the City of Avon, Avon Township, Collegeville Township and the Avon Fire Department met to discuss the scope of the fire hall project as well as the best way to move forward cooperatively. Township Reps expressed disappointment that their feeling was that the city had decided to "move forward" with a Fire Hall expansion project without township participation in the process. Mayor Manthe and staff explained that the intention was not to exclude the townships, but rather to have a basic idea of what the fire department was looking to accomplish prior to asking the townships to weigh in on it.

After further discussion, the townships requested that the council form an advisory fire hall planning committee to consist of fire department, township, and city council representation to work together to make recommendations to the city council about the fire hall expansion project. Greg Guggenberger of Collegeville Town Board of Supervisors, suggested the city consider the "design build" process rather than hiring an engineer to design and bid the project and a separate contractor to build it. Austing-Traut and Assistant Chief Chuck Swenson met with a construction management firm to discuss the idea of a design build process. Swenson described his opinion of the benefits of the design build process.

Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize a Letter of Intent to form a Fire Hall Building Committee and to nominate Mayor Manthe to represent the city on the Fire Hall Building Committee, and to cancel the contract with Widseth per the contract termination provision, second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.

Public Works

Chuck Pelkey presented his written report and updated the council on the Avon Estates park improvements. Concrete for the basketball court is being poured. Grading is planned for this fall, seeding will likely be done in spring. Pelkey presented quotes for changing out the overpass lights to LED's. The low bidder was Freeport Electric was \$8,100 to replace 6 lights. Staff will check with both Xcel and Stearns County to see if there is any opportunity for cost sharing and/or rebates.

Motion Doug Schaefer to authorize Freeport Electric to replace the lights, second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.

Justin Kurtz presented his written report and requested council authorize payment of \$1926.10 to Liberty Electric for the final VFD hook up of the air exchanger at the headworks building. Having the ability to control the amount of air being taken in and out of the air exchanger will decrease the ongoing heating bills in that structure.

Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize payment of \$1926.10 to Liberty Electric for work indicated on invoice #6315 second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously

Staff is meeting with MN Rural Water the end of October to develop a utility rate study. Flow meters at well house will be installed tomorrow. Hydrants will be flushed in the coming weeks.

Police Department

Written report was presented. Austing-Traut informed council that body cameras have been ordered.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 8:45 pm by motion of Doug Schaefer.

Respectfully Submitted, Jodi Austing-Traut - City Clerk/Administrator