

**Minutes  
Avon City Council  
December 05, 2022**

**THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WERE PRESENT**

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

**TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING**

The budget and preliminary levy were presented indicating no change in the tax rate, but including a capture of increased market values for a levy of \$1,295,000.

Patrick Murphy of 830 Chinook Ave SW was present to state that his taxes have increased more than he feels that they should. Murphy resides on the south side of the interstate and has experienced an increase in noise pollution from the freeway since the noise barrier wall was installed. Property values have increased, while as Murphy expressed, the properties on the south side of I94 do not receive the same level of services as other properties in Avon due to the lack of sewer and water services on the south side.

Vince Bledsoe of 810 Chinook Ave SW was present to similarly state that his taxes have increased substantially. He is located near the storage facilities in the south side of the interstate. He further stated that there is a drainage issue from the storage facility. Bledsoe also expressed that there is a disturbing amount of noise coming from the interstate. Staff will follow up with MNDOT to request a decibel study be completed.

*Motion Katie Reiling to close the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing at 6:16 pm second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.*

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Greg Jarrett, owner of the property located at 106 Avon Ave South (formerly Dahlin's grocery) gave the council an update. He would like to see the building utilized in a fashion that would be of benefit to the city. He stated that he is willing to partner with investors or business operators to make something happen.

*Motion Katie Reiling to adopt Resolution 2022-33 Adopting Final 2023 General Fund, Special Revenue Fund and Enterprise Fund Budgets as presented second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.*

*Motion Aaron Goebel to adopt Resolution 2022-34 Adopting Final Property Tax Levy for the Year 2023 second Doug Schaefer and carried unanimously.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Council Minutes of November 7<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022
2. Receive Planning Commission Minutes of November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022
3. Paid Check Register, Manual Claims, Capital Expenditures, Payroll Deposits
4. Legal Fees, Engineering Fees, Auditor/Acct. Fees
5. Resolution 2022-37 Designating Polling Place for Elections Conducted in 2023
6. Clifton Larson Allen Master Service Agreement and Statement of Work – Audit Services 2023

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

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

Streets/Stormwater Update – Jeremy Mathiasen, Stantec

Mathiasen presented a memo and updated the council on the 1<sup>st</sup> St SW, Dorado Ave SW, and Stratford St W project of 2022. Plan revisions were sent back to MnDOT and are awaiting their final review and signatures. January 5<sup>th</sup> is being targeted for bid opening. Mathiasen stated that survey work has been completed along 1<sup>st</sup> St SE and adjacent roadways for a potential future project. A quote and resolution authorizing feasibility study will be presented at the next council meeting for consideration.

There was some discussion about the stormwater pipe at 403 Chinook Avenue. It appears that the property owner signed the easement document prior to pulling a building permit for the construction of the home. There is a bit of uncertainty as to where exactly within the easement the pipe is located. It may be worthwhile to request a survey to be done. Council needs to determine whether a repair can be made at an affordable cost or whether they would need to move the pipe out of the driveway. Council consensus to continue to monitor this issue.

Councilman Aaron Goebel gave a brief update on a conversation he had with Dan Zimmermann about the drainage at the ballfield.

#### Michael Novitzki KLM Engineering - Water Tower Cleaning

Justin Kurtz, Water Wastewater Foreman explained that he had reached out to several water tower cleaning contacts to obtain quotes for cleaning the water tower. Kurtz introduced Michael Novitzki of KLM. Novitzki presented a proposal and explained the process for a Remove Operated Vehicle (ROV) Evaluation / or a dry tank cleanout evaluation of the water tower at a cost of \$2,500.

***Motion Aaron Goebel to authorize KLM to complete the ROV Evaluation for \$2,500 second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.***

### **ISSUES BY STAFF**

#### Administration

##### Dog Waiver

Jodi Lieran of 503 Suncrest Apartment #203 has requested a waiver to allow three emotional support dogs. The apartment building is owned and managed by the Central MN Housing Partnership who have indicated they possess doctor's certifications indicating that the three dogs are medically necessary. CMHP has authorized the dogs to reside in the unit with the city's approval.

***Motion Doug Schaefer to allow three emotional support dogs for such time as doctor certifications are in effect, second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.***

##### Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Council reviewed information from planning commission meetings and findings and considered Resolution 2022-35 Approving a Comprehensive Plan / Future Land Use Amendment to change the future designation of several parcels of land from residential/high density residential to a designation of highway commercial.

***Motion Aaron Goebel to adopt Resolution 2022-35 Approving the Comprehensive Plan / Future Land Use Amendment as presented second Katie Reiling and carried unanimously.***

##### Interim Use Permit 42.26213.0000

Council reviewed information and findings from planning commission and considered Resolution 2022-36 Approving an Interim Use Permit for 42.26213.0000 to allow a temporary structure for on-site storage.

***Motion Doug Schaefer to adopt Resolution 2022-36 Approving an Interim Use Permit for 42.26213.0000 to allow a temporary structure for on-site storage second Aaron Goebel and carried unanimously.***

#### Public Works

Chuck Pelkey presented his written report. Lights on the overpass have been changed out. Two lights on main street have been repaired. Population signs will be replaced by Stearns County, but are not high on their priority list. The new public works truck is not available yet. It is supposed to be available by mid-December, however, there seem to be supply chain issues.

Justin Kurtz presented his written report. The UV system install was pushed out a bit. There are several lights out at the wastewater treatment plant.

### **Police Department**

Written report was presented by Chief Nellis. Two new defibrillators were placed into service in the squad cars. These were donated to the police department by the Helmsley Family Foundation. In turn, the PD will be donating their older AED's to local businesses who need them. The PD will also receive new pads at a discounted rate via the foundation.

### **Fire Hall Update**

Assistant Chief Chuck Swenson was present to update the council on the meeting that was held by the Fire Hall Building Committee on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Request for Services has gone out seeking construction managers to assist the committee with the design, bidding, and building process.

### **ISSUES BY COUNCIL**

Mayor Manthe congratulated Mark Schulzetenberge on his recent election to city council and welcomed him. Schulzetenberge will be sworn in at the next regular meeting.

### **Adjourn**

*Adjourned at 7:51 pm.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jodi Austing-Traut  
City Clerk/Administrator