

4. Notices/Communications/Announcements or Appearance of Interested Citizens.

4(A) EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION.

Mayor Winter presented a 10-year employee service award to Building Official Brad Henriksen (hired June 25, 2013).

Council member Olson arrived at 7:05 P.M.

4(B) WEED/GRASS ABATEMENT PROCESS DISCUSSION.

Randy Dyrdaahl was present to address the city's weed/grass abatement process. Materials provided by Dyrdaahl to aid in the discussion included photos and a copy of the notification letter sent to the property owners of 806 Lincoln Avenue. City staff had provided copies of the city ordinances dealing with the abatement process.

Mr. Dyrdaahl introduced himself as being a local building contractor and landlord within the community for many years. While working on an adjacent property of 806 Lincoln Avenue, he had stored some equipment on the property, making it difficult to mow under/around. He stated that the property owner who had received a weed letter was quite upset over the threatening tone of the letter and suggested that the council consider amending the language. He added that he felt the five-day timeframe is too short, that the amount of time/effort the city spends on this process is a waste of taxpayer dollars and suggested the council consider different types of letters based on the severity of the violation. City Manager Wolfington explained that a part-time community service officer performs the inspections and sends the notification(s) based on the city's ordinance. He noted that in addition to tall grass and noxious weeds, this individual also monitors nuisance type issues. Dyrdaahl thanked the council for allowing him to be heard.

5. Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to approve the following consent agenda items:

5(A) VERIFIED CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 6 2023 IN THE (MODIFIED) AMOUNT OF \$679,138.93.

6. Public Hearings.

- None.

7. General Business.

7(A) QUOTES - UTILITY SQUAD CARS.

At the April 4, 2022 city council meeting, the city manager had explained that a new squad car was budgeted for 2023 and added that due to the current economic situation and difficulty in getting parts/equipment, staff was planning to begin this process early so that a vehicle could be ordered in a timely manner. At the August 8, 2022 Budget Worksession, the police chief explained that no squad car was purchased in 2022; therefore, funds were set aside for two cars to be purchased in 2023. It had been the intent of staff to bring this item to the council at a future meeting and, even though discussions had taken place, no official council approval had been given. Therefore, staff prepared an agenda item for this purpose.

Police Chief Ken Schule informed the council that quotes had been solicited for two utility squads, with the low quote submitted from Ten Voorde Ford, St. Cloud, at \$47,378.88/squad. The vehicles will be equipped by Guardian Fleet, also located in St. Cloud. Total estimated cost for the (2) vehicles, including setup, would be \$123,668.15. Schule noted that Ten Voorde had informed him of an estimated build date of December 2023, with delivery in Spring 2024.

It was moved by Sulflow, seconded by Curtiss and unanimously passed to accept the quotes of Ten Voorde Ford and Guardian Fleet, as presented.

7(B) FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION PENSION PLANS REPORTING.

The Schedule Form for Lump Sum Pension Plans for the Montevideo Fire Relief Association is required to be presented to the city annually. This report shows the accrued liability for the Association's pension fund for 2023 and 2024. It further presents a financial projection of the pension funds to the end of 2023 and a calculation of the projected surplus or deficit as of the end of 2023. There is no required city contribution for 2024.

Council member Schmidt pointed out an error in the schedule in his plan amount and suggested that a correction be made and the entire schedule be reviewed for any other adjustments prior to council acceptance.

It was moved by Curtiss, seconded by Sanborn and unanimously passed to table action to the July 17th council meeting.

7(C) ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS/GRANTS.

The following gifts/grants have been received by the city:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount/Value</u>
Montevideo Fire Relief Assn.	Donation - Youth Activities	\$ 5,000.00

DAN SANBORN OFFERED RESOLUTION NO. 3872, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFTS/GRANTS, AND MOVED ITS ADOPTION. MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 3872 WAS SECONDED BY STEVE SULFLOW. THOSE VOTING IN FAVOR OF MOTION: DAN SANBORN, STEVE SULFLOW, BEVERLY OLSON, BRYCE CURTISS AND NATHAN SCHMIDT. THOSE VOTING AGAINST MOTION: NONE. RESOLUTION PASSED 5-0.

7(D) BUDGET WORKSESSION DATES.

It was moved by Sanborn, seconded by Olson and unanimously passed to set the following 2024 Budget Worksession dates:

- Monday, July 31st, 5:00 P.M.
- Monday, August 7th, 5:00-7:00 P.M. (prior to the council meeting)

7(E) NATIONAL GUARD USE OF SNAKE HILL.

The Army National Guard submitted a request to use Snake Hill for training purposes on Saturday, July 15th. The training would utilize the full length of the street, as well as a portion of Windom Park as a resting area. Staff recommended Snake Hill be closed and barricaded during the training event to avoid traffic on the street.

It was moved by Curtiss, seconded by Sulflow and unanimously passed to approve the use of Snake Hill and Windom Park, as requested and recommended by staff.

7(F) LAND ACQUISITION PROPOSAL - WINTER FAMILY ENTERPRISE.

Winter Family Enterprise, owner/operator of the Millennium Theater in Southtown Plaza, requested the city sell them a portion of Parcel ID#70-275-0128, a 25' x 14' piece in front of the new section of the theater. As part of an expansion project, the Winters are looking to modify the entryway to the theater and update the aging sidewalk at the same time. The proposal offers a purchase price of \$350, a 50% split of any professional fees and the request for a tax assessment based on any improvements to new and current sidewalks. Jayme & Erich Winter were present to address questions/concerns raised.

Council members questioned the \$350.00 offering price and how that was determined. The Winters indicated that there was no specific calculation used for the \$350.00; however, it was considered to be a starting point for negotiations. Because Erich Winter is the current mayor, the

council wanted to make sure that a selling price is fair/comparable so that there is no favoritism shown or a precedent set. Therefore, staff was asked to conduct research on a square footage cost of similar properties. City Manager Wolfington noted that similar requests may be presented in the future, so such information would also be helpful moving forward. Upon completion of the research, this item will be brought back to the council for additional consideration.

8. Ordinances.

- None.

9. Discussion and Miscellaneous.

- Council member Olson asked staff to look at the main street lights, noting that lights are dim and/or completely out. An update will be provided at the next council meeting.
- City Manager Wolfington provided an update on the 2022 Improvement Project, noting that the final lift was completed on North 6th Street/Eichelberger Avenue and lawns raked by the contractor. Wolfington also noted that a preconstruction meeting for the 2023 Improvement Project will be held July 27th, with work to begin in August. He also informed the council that Lagoon Park had opened last week following the completion of electrical repairs caused by the spring flooding.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Glennis A. Lauritsen, Secretary

Approved by council July 17, 2023:

President - City Council