

GOOD THUNDER COUNCIL MEETING & TNT MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting
December 9, 2024

Mayor Robert Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at City Hall at 130 S Ewing Street in Good Thunder, MN 56037. Councilors Scott Stoltzman, Amy Klammer, Tom Froehlich & Jon Brude were present. Raece Johnson, City Maintenance, Sue Petty, City Clerk-Treasurer were present, Brian Severns was absent.

The pledge was recited, immediately followed by a moment of silence.

Agenda: Councilor Froehlich made a motion to approve the agenda, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson called for a motion to suspend the Regular Council Meeting and open up the TNT meeting, Councilor Froehlich made a motion to suspend the regular council meeting and open up the TNT meeting, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried.

The Truth and Taxation meeting was opened. The Council proposed a 0% tax increase. There was a discussion on the budget numbers and tax valuations for residential properties and commercial properties. A resident presented to council her business property taxes that increased 37% for the city portion only. Council suggested she contact our BEC Commissioner Kevin Paap and also Michael Stalberger from BEC for further explanation. Councilor Brude made a motion to pass Resolution 2024-19 to set the budget for 2025 and pass Resolution 2024-20 to set the Tax Levy, Councilor Froehlich seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson called for a motion to close the Truth and Taxation meeting, Councilor Brude made a motion to close the TNT meeting, Councilor Stoltzman seconded, motion carried. Mayor Anderson called for a motion to open the regular December Council Meeting, Councilor Froehlich made a motion to open the regular December Council Meeting, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Minutes: Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the November 12 Special Council Meeting Minutes and November 12 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Bills: Mayor Anderson questioned the check for Babe Plumbing for more than \$500. Raece stated there was a ball valve at the TVP bathrooms that he couldn't get loose. Babe Plumbing came out and removed and replaced the valve. Check # 18306 to #18337, EFT#556767 to #556781, payroll EFT# 500137E to 5000143E, Fire Dept CK #3776 to #3795, Council CK #3796 to #3800. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the bills, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

Community comments: No Community Comments were presented.

Sheriff's Department – 55 hours. Directed patrol, juvenile nuisance, disturbance, suspicious vehicle, welfare check, trespassing, HRO, assist fire dept and ambulance

Fire Department – 6 calls: 5 medical, 1 lift assist

FD Received a \$4000 grant for emergency response equipment. Santa will be at GTFD Dec 14 from 12:30-1pm.

GTFD Relief Association is requesting to increase the annual benefit from \$2200 to \$2500 per vested eligible member. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the increase in the annual benefit to \$2500, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Streets Update – Raece has been getting the snowplows and sander ready for the season. The new water meters have the ability to find leaks inside houses, due to the leak detector function. So far Raece has found 4 residents that have had water leaks. With the acoustic listening device, he found a leak at the shut off valve on S. Halladay which will be fixed this week. Currently Raece is reading meters weekly. This process takes about 15 minutes. He can also pull a log for a specific water meter which helps when residents have a question about the usage. Clerk Petty can pull up the information and show the resident the usage. Raece can also run a temperature report which found a frozen water line which resulted in a frozen water meter.

Mayor Anderson asked Clerk Petty about any community response to the monthly billing coming in February. Clerk Petty presented a letter she will be sending out in December and one in January. She will also post on the website and Facebook.

A resident asked about putting up No Parking signs on the West end of Willard. The signs would be approximately 100ft from Graham St. Councilor Froehlich made a motion to put No Parking signs on the West end of Willard, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Mayor Anderson abstained.

Deputy Hagen addressed a few trailers parking on the street as well as vehicles being parked for more than 24 hours.

Water/Sewer Update – Brian was not present. The fence around the ponds has been finished and the gate is working properly.

Unfinished Business – Council reviewed the options presented by the city attorney: wait and see what happens with the other judgments, Prepare and serve a post judgment discovery and request for disclosure, or assign the debt to a debt collector. After some discussion, Mayor Anderson asked for a motion to prepare and serve a post judgment discovery and request for disclosure. Councilor Froehlich made a motion to prepare and serve a post judgment discovery and request for disclosure, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried. Council asked if Dakota Mart has received a letter regarding the miscellaneous items outside and behind the property, Clerk Petty had sent a letter and received no response.

Ordinance review – Chris Kennedy drafted some ordinance changes; There are several properties that are habitual offenders, and nothing seems to change. Council asked Clerk Petty to contact the city attorney and have him draft letters that will result in compliance. If the ordinance needs to be updated to reflect this, council made a motion to have Chris Kennedy draft the ordinance that will help produce compliance, Councilor Froehlich made a motion to have the attorney draft letters to send to the habitual offenders, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Emergency Management Director – if a director is not appointed, it defaults back to the mayor. The Mayor may appoint the fire chief as the director.

Cannabis Ordinance – The city attorney drafted a Cannabis Ordinance for council to review. Council will review next year with the new council.

Mayor Anderson discussed having monthly clean up during the summer to help with these properties. This was discussed at last month’s meeting. Clerk Petty has been trying to get ahold of Jesse at LJP to check into this.

Employee Raises – Council Brude stated the Personnel Committee met with the employees and is suggesting the following raises based on performance: 1.5% raise for Raece Johnson and a 2% raise for Sue Petty. Councilor Froehlich made a motion to approval for a 1.5% raise for Raece Johnson, and a 2% raise for Clerk Petty, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

The agreement between St. Joseph’s Catholic Church and the city has been signed by both parties and is good for 15 years.

New Business: MN Waste Processing prices increased. Council already raised the refuse and recycling rates for residents. Council will review in 6 months to make sure they are set correctly.

There has been an update to the ESST leave in the personnel policy. This update includes Bereavement leave. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the additional ESST leave information, Councilor Froehlich seconded; motion carried.

BEC Election Amendment No1 “Voter Account Agreement” and BEC Election “Agreement for sharing of election expenses”. Council Froehlich made a motion to approve the previously stated resolutions, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Misc. Business: Clerk Petty presented a mileage reimbursement request. Councilor Froehlich made a motion to approve the mileage reimbursement, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson asked if council would approve a gift certificate to Paulette Nelson in appreciation of her time volunteering to plant and take care of the flowers around town in the summer. Councilor Froehlich made a motion to get a \$50 gift certificate from the Thunder Bar and Restaurant, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Mayor Anderson along with the council presented Councilor Froehlich with a plaque in recognition of his dedication and commitment to the city of Good Thunder over the past 30 years. Councilor Froehlich will be retiring after tonight’s meeting. Councilor Froehlich thanked the council and the residents for the opportunity to serve the city for the past 30 years.

Adjourn: Councilor Froehlich made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilor Brude seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm

Next Regular Council Meeting January 13, 2024, at 7pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Susan Petty, City Clerk/Treasurer