

GOOD THUNDER COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes of the Meeting
June 10, 2024

Acting Mayor Tom Froehlich 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 & Jon Brude were present. Mayor Robert Anderson was absent. Raece Johnson, City Maintenance, Sue Petty, City Clerk-Treasurer and Brian Severns were present.

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

Acting Mayor Froehlich asked for a motion to approve the agenda, Councilor Brude asked for an addition to the agenda under unfinished business to discuss water and sewer rates. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the agenda with the above addition, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Acting Mayor Froehlich asked for a motion to approve the May 13 Council Meeting Minutes, Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the May 13, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

Acting Mayor Froehlich asked for a motion to approve the following bills: Check # 18124 to #18152, EFT#56675 to #56688, payroll EFT# 50087E to 50094E, Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the bills, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Acting Mayor Froehlich asked Clerk Petty to check with Burkhardt & Burkhardt to move some funds from general fund to the sewer fund to make it whole.

Community comments: Clerk Petty stated Mr. Lindsey wanted to thank Raece for making sure to contact him when there is a water shut off that involves his residence.

Omar Gonzalez, representing Chris Hanke, owner of 310 Graham St., presented to council their request to rezone the lot from residential to industrial. They would like to build 3 storage sheds approximately 42' x 64' and rent them out. Discussion was had regarding the requirements for water and sewer, uses of the sheds, and traffic to and from them. According to the city zoning map it is currently a business district, per Beacon it is residential. Council asked Clerk Petty to find out exactly what it is zoned for and contact Chris Kennedy to start the process. Acting Mayor Froehlich asked for a motion to proceed with the rezoning project at 310 Graham St., Councilor Stoltzman made the motion, councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried.

Joe Smith from Bolten & Menk presented to council an update on the current projects. The 2024 Halladay backyard Sewer project will be starting approximately July 8. All permits have been acquired and once the manhole covers are ready, they can start. The bonding bill request did not make the final cut. Joe suggested we contact our Representative and his assistance via email and a letter and ask for feedback and to keep it on their radar. Clerk Petty will connect with Joe and get a letter sent to Representative Bjorn Olson and his assistant. The Project Priority List (PPL) and the Intended Use Plan (IUP) have been completed and submitted for a local match for funding. The IUP will need to be updated and submitted. Joe will get that updated application

and send it to Clerk Petty for signature. Lastly, for the 2024 Phosphorous Treatment project at the ponds, quotes have been solicited to 4 contractors who specialize in this project, only 1 returned a bid. Bids were solicited from Reuben Construction from Tyler, KHC Construction from Marshall, MM Mechanical from St. Cloud and Municipal Builders from Elk River. Reuben Construction returned the bid; however, it was very high. Brian suggested Web Construction may be an option. Bolten & Menk will send bid requests to a few smaller local companies and hopes of getting a better return. The targeted completion date would still be Mid-September to allow for the fall discharge to be treated if needed. Engineers are estimating the cost to be between \$40,000 to \$60,000. Brian asked about adding another chemical feed pump as a backup if the primary pump should fail. Acting Mayor Froehlich asked if Joe would work with Clerk Petty on sending a letter from the city regarding the Bonding bill. Acting Mayor Froehlich asked about progress on a solution to the water issue on S. Houk St., Joe suggested we get a topography survey done of the area. There is an existing right of way continuing from the intersection of Houk and Willard, to get the water to the bottom of the hill. This is also included in the bonding bill application. Joe suggested that section of Willard St. be excavated out about 10 inches and shape swell, put down fabric and rip rap to slow and direct water down the hill. Joe also suggested a Bituminous curb be constructed on the west side of Houk St. in front of 300 S. Houk going down to the bottom of the hill. The approximate cost of the project should be around \$3,000.00 to \$4,000.00. Acting Mayor Froehlich called for a motion to allow Raece to get some quotes for the drainage repair on that section of Willard and Houk and construct a Bituminous curb when WW Blacktopping come back into town. Councilor Stoltzman made the motion, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried.

Sheriff's Department – 69 hours. suspicious circumstance, ATV complaint, paper service, disturbances, parking violations, HRO service, driving complaint. Clerk Petty shared she is receiving a lot of complaints regarding ATV's driving too fast and loud noise complaints. Acting Mayor Froehlich suggest Clerk Petty send another email to our Liaison and let them know.

Fire Department – 8 calls: 5 medical, 2 lift assist, 1 mutual aid fire

Streets Update – The replacement of the sidewalk on Ewing St has been started, there may be a small additional cost because there was not a lot of rock under the sidewalk, so more rock will need to be put in. Depending on the weather, they will pour cement this week and the pad at the ponds. Right now, Kellon is using his own truck and weed whip for weed whipping the town. The question of whether he needs a medical card to drive the city truck came up. Clerk Petty will check into. If Kellon cannot drive the city truck, he will get paid mileage, when trimming. The city weed whip is broken, the motor is cracked, the shaft is bent. Council asked by the city weed whip has not been fixed or replaced. Raece suggested a combo set with a weed whip, power broom, and pole saw, however the cost of that is substantial, and the city already has a pole saw. Raece stated there are 40 miles of mowing and 6 hours of trimming in the town. Councilor Brude made a motion to purchase an industrial weed whip ranging from \$400-\$600, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Thunder Valley Park was used Memorial Day for a family picnic. The family was very impressed with how nice the park looked. Kellon had dragged the field prior to the picnic, which was very much appreciated.

Zoning Permit GT-04-24 – Councilor Brude made a motion to approve zoning permit GT-04-24, councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

City Wide clean up day is June 15, rain or shine from 8am-noon. Residents are being encouraged to participate.

Water/Sewer Update – Brian Severns asked Raece to spray the weeds by the ponds. Brian shared a bar chart with council and Joe Smith. It shows the increase in I & I when the ground thaws and rains start. So far this year we have 2.5 million gallons of I & I in a few months. The discharges that he did this spring was water that was held from late fall over the winter to later in the spring, the phosphorous was 1.7 parts per million (28kg of Phosphorous) our limit is 227kg, which shows the longer we hold the water the lower the phosphorous level.

Unfinished Business: Councilor Brude and Clerk Petty met with Jeff Dale from DSG to help us evaluate the water rates and if an increase in water/sewer rates is necessary. Once we have read the new meters, we will have a better idea if where the city is at in terms of covering costs of water and sewer.

New Business: Clerk Petty asked the council what they would like to do with the Itron Reader since we no longer use it. She included 2 resolutions (Resolution 2024-08) in the council packets, 1 for selling the Itron Reader and 1 for donating it to Milroy. Clerk Petty researched the cost of a used Itron Reader and found it was worth between \$100-\$150 on eBay. She also posted an inquiry on the League of MN Memberlink asking what other towns have done with their Itron Reader and if there is a need for them. 2 cities stated they were interested as a 2nd and 3rd backup to their reader. The city of Milroy called stating they did not have an Itron Reader and were doing manual reads or estimates. Clerk Petty discussed this with our city attorney, and he stated the city could either donate or sell it, however the cost to sell it may not be worth what the actual cost of the Itron Reader is. Council discussed the options. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-08 donating the Itron Reader to the city of Milroy with the understanding, the city of Milroy will cover the shipping costs, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Clerk Petty will contact the city of Milroy and send out the Itron Reader. The Friendship Wagon train will be in Good Thunder June 28, 2024 and residents of Good Thunder are putting together a free will donation supper, they are having Linda's Place from Amboy serving alcohol. The committee is asking the council to approve the serving of alcohol by Linda's Place on Friday June 28. Acting Mayor Froehlich asked for a motion approving the request for Linda's Place to serve alcohol contingent upon receipt of a copy of the license and required insurance. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve said motion, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Currently our website is maintained by Catalis and the cost for renewal is \$2114.70 a year which was due in June. Clerk Petty has been reviewing other city websites and contacted Municipal Impact, LLC and received a quote for \$665 a year and a one-time set up fee of \$449.00. Petty has a zoom meeting with Municipal Impact, LLC the end of June to learn more about it. Council discussed the options that are needed for the website and suggested we look into the .gov websites. Councilor Klammer made a motion to approve the switch from Catalis to Municipal Impact, LLC when our website is up for renewal in June, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried. Clerk Petty will meet with Municipal Impact,

LLC and start the process late fall, or early next year. Clerk Petty updated council on current investments and information for 4M Fund which is through League of MN Cities. 4M Fund is strictly for cities to invest funds. Currently LPL is at 2.12% interest. LPL funds mature 6/20/2024 and 12/20/2024. If we do not reinvest in LPL right away, the funds will sit and not accrue any interest. Discussion was held on moving the funds from LPL that term 6/20/2024 into the 4M Fund and the fees 4M Fund charges. Council Brude asked Clerk Petty to make sure we are not charging a fee for moving the funds from LPL after they mature and verify any fees charged by 4M Fund. Clerk Petty will contact 4M Fund for more information. Councilor Brude made a motion to table this discussion until the July meeting to obtain more information, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried. Councilor Brude stated the CD at Community Bank will mature 7/20 and the council may want to take some of that out and put into the general fund.

Misc. Business: Clerk Petty reported to Council information regarding the Actuarial report for Fire Dept that will be needed if the city wants to obtain funding for future projects. VIA has done Actuarial reports prior to 2019, they reached out in 2020 and did not get a response from the city. VIA is requesting electronic copies of audit reports from 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023. We have the electronic copy of the 2023 audit report, however we do not have electronic copies of 2019-2022. We would need to request those from Burkhardt & Burkhardt and there may be a fee involved. Clerk Petty would like a motion to obtain these because there may be a fee. Councilor Brude made a motion to request these documents, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried. Last month Clerk Petty discussed the water bills from the old meters that were not read in prior months due to malfunction of either the meter or the reader. Clerk Petty broke down the usage using the minimum charge and asked Council to approve the estimated charges for the 5 accounts in question. Councilor Stoltzman made a motion to approve the manual entry of the fees for the July billing as a one-time entry, Councilor Klammer seconded; motion carried. Clerk Petty presented council with a quote from NetMedix for \$1401.58 for a new computer. The current computer randomly blacks out and can last from a few minutes to over an hour. Council discussed the need for a new computer and asked if they will set it all up and transfer all documents to a new computer. Councilor Brude made a motion to approve the purchase of a new computer for \$1401.58 and necessary charges for set up and transfer of files to new computer with a total of \$2000. Total, Councilor Stoltzman seconded; motion carried.

Councilor Klammer made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Councilor Brude seconded; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.

Submitted Respectfully by:

Susan Petty, City Clerk/Treasurer