

City Council Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2023

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger called the regular City Council Meeting to order. Council members present were Sharon Haun, Jason Booker, Mark Berner, Denise Hartman, Larry Siegrist, also present were the City Administrator Nick Jones, , Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest. Others attending were Jan Sciacca, Sharon McVay, Pastor Billy Kryger, John Steinkuehler, John Petz, Pat Reardon, Matthew Firnhaber.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

Pastor Billy Kryger

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented in the packet. Councilperson Denise Hartman seconded the motion. Motion Carried 5 – 0. The consent agenda consisted of:

- August 1, 2023, Minutes
- August 1, 2023, to Current Appropriations.
- Cabin Transfer

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

- **Audit Report - Adams Brown CPA's: Jami Benyshek:**
Jami Benyshek with Adams Brown CPA's join the meeting virtually to give the city's 2022 Audit Report. Mrs. Benyshek said the financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear and noted that there were no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing the audit. Mrs. Benyshek said one area that was discussed with management was encumbrances and the need to track them for future projects to ensure funds are not spent. There were 3 recommendations to improve internal controls that she said city management has already started. One area Mrs. Benyshek said there was one area of Internal Controls the city could not do anything to correct is the proper segregation of duties sense it would require the hiring of additional staff, which is not feasible for small municipalities. Overall Mrs. Benyshek said the Audit went smoothly. After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Jason Booker to approve the Audit report from Adams Brown CPA's. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Mark Berner. Motion carried 5 – 0
- **Community Events Application: Council Grove Christian Church:**
John Steinkuehler representing the Council Grove Christian Church requested the use of the Council Oak Park on August 19th from 4pm – 7pm for the purposes of the Kick-Off event for Awana. Mr. Steinkuehler said there would free food, games, train rides, and a bounce house. After discussion Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to approve the Community Events Application. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0
- **Executive Session: City Lake Attorney Pat Reardon:**
Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to go into Executive Session for City Lake Attorney Pat Reardon. A motion was made by Councilperson Mark Berner to go into Executive Session to meeting with City Lake Attorney Pat Reardon for 30 minutes, which included the City Council, City Administrator, City Attorney's, Pat Reardon and his clerk Matt Firnhaber. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Jason Booker. Motion carried 5 – 0
No action was taken when the session resumed.
- **City Lake Committee Recommendation: C-41:**
The City Lake Committee recommends the City Council approve a variance request of 12ft on the lake side of the cabin for a covered sunroom on a deck for Carl Berry Cross Rev. Trust, C-41 The addition will not restrict or interfere with the neighboring cabins or access to the area. The neighbors are aware and have provided written approval. After discussion a motion was made by Councilperson Mark Berner to approve the variance request for C-41. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

• **City Lake Committee Recommendation: B-18:**

The City Lake Committee recommends the City Council approve a new lift pump on City Commons for Dorothy Devine of Devine Properties LLC. B-18, Contingent on the following guidelines.

- System must be located at the location discussed with City Lake Committee, and approved by Council.
- Sign annual agreement.

The installation will not restrict or interfere with the neighboring cabins or access to the area. Councilperson Mark Berner inquired if the agreement included the requirement to hook up to City water and sewer. City Administrator Nick Jones said it does include the requirement to hookup to city water and sewer and the City Inspector Dan Drube spoke with Mrs. Devine regarding the requirements. After discussion Councilperson Mark Berner made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Lake Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

• **Police and Fire Committee Recommendation: Breanna Canby**

The Police and Fire Committee recommend the appointment of Breanna Canby from part-time Police Officer to full-time Police Officer at a pay rate of \$19.75 per hour. This appointment is contingent on passing a drug/alcohol screening, background check, and psychological evaluation. After discussion Councilperson Jason Booker made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Police and Fire Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Sharon Haun. Motion carried 5 – 0

• **Police and Fire Committee Recommendation: Police Vehicle =**

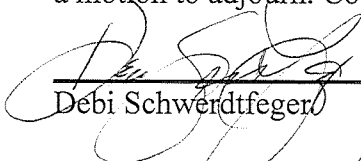
City Administrator Nick Jones presented to the City Council the recommendation from the Police and Fire Committee to approve the purchase of a 2021 Chevy Tahoe Police unit with 34,412 miles from the City of Cheney Police Department for \$39,000. Administrator Jones said the original plan was to purchase the vehicle in 2024 but The City of Cheney had the opportunity to purchase a 2023 Tahoe and offered the sell the 2021 Tahoe to us now. After discussion Councilperson Sharon Haun made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Police and Fire Committee with the funds coming from Equipment Reserve and the Police Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilperson Denise Hartman. Motion carried 5 – 0

GOVERNING BODY COMMENTS


- Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger – N/A
- Councilperson Mark Berner – N/A
- Denise Hartman – Going to get hot out again
- Councilperson Sean Honer – N/A
- Councilperson Larry Siegrist – N/A
- Councilperson Sharon Haun – N/A
- City Attorney Brian Henderson – N/A
- Assistant City Attorney Molly Priest – N/A
- City Administrator Nick Jones – said that on September 10th that H-3 will hold their annual fishing tournament at City Lake.

Adjournment:

Mayor Debi Schwerdtfeger asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Denise Hartman made a motion to adjourn. Councilperson Sharon Haun seconded the motion. Motion carried 6 – 0



Debi Schwerdtfeger Mayor

ATTEST:


Nick Jones City Administrator

