

## MINUTES FROM 12-2-24 DAVENPORT CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Davenport City Council met Monday, December 2nd, 2024, for regular city meeting.

Present: Mayor Lotzer, Aldermen Leslie, Hanson, Beauclair, Gjestvang. Auditor Roster, City Maintenance Hans. Guests: Eric Larson, Interstate Engineering, . Meeting called to order at 7:11 pm. Pledge was said.

Guests recognized first: Eric Larson addressed the pumphouse situation. Contracted contractor and manufacturer. Original seals installed were determined to being the wrong ones and not approved by council. Manufacturers volunteered to send replacements. CC Steel will replace parts in the near future. There should be no extra cost to the city even though past warranty due to the error.

Motion to accept minutes made, seconded by, passed. The treasurer's report and bills were presented as consent items, with correction. Motion to accept and pay made, seconded by, passed.

Following bills to be paid:

Ottertail Power Co.	1690.02
Cass Rural Water	1584.86
Steve Hans	745.83
Mark Roster	682.89
Carol Mitchell	146.61
Fat Man Trash	1504.00
City of Fargo	14.00
MLGC	96.66
City Utilities Office	74.50
Cass county Reporter	57.01
Park Board	411.95
Team Labs	975.00
Great Plains Site work	1650.00
Oscar Hanson	67.50
Jason Lotzer (Mayor stipend)	975.00
Dale Leslie (Alderman stipend)	650.00
Oscar Hanson (Alderman stipend)	650.00
Stephen Beauclair (Alderman stipend)	650.00
Nick Gjestvang (Alderman stipend)	600.00

OLD BUSINESS:

Auditor noted that he is receiving numerous photos from residents of connections to their internal water meter as per request from the state and federal government. He keeps them in a separate file on the computer. Auditor was asked to keep this task at the forefront in each city notice that is included in utility bill so we can get this completed.

Auditor noted that the request for the spending information on the 21-23 Infrastructure relief fund (covid) has been received and accepted by the state.

NEW BUSINESS:

Auditor presented letter from Cass Rural water that they are raising their rates. Discussion ensued and resulted in motion and second for the following resolution:

Resolution #226 12/2/2024 Water rate increase.

Be it resolved that the City Council of Davenport has determined to raise the water usage rates to the following amounts. Base rate for 2,000 gallons shall now be \$23.00 (a \$1.00 increase from \$22.00) with an additional adjustment of 0.70 cents per additional 1,000 gallons usage. (\$7.50 per thousand, up from \$6.80) This will take effective starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, usage. Passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Auditor tasked to check about insurance liability on equipment needed to be used by the city, if owned by another person. Also, can other person be put on city roll with a W-4, as a will call position. The auditor will check with the city lawyer and report back to city council.

Auditor pointed out to the council they need to discuss their stipend payment for the positions they hold and to consider the number of extra hours they have donated to the city. Some over 2,000 hours this past year. Auditor noted that no one is here to make money - or even a livable salary and it is a labor of community service. However, these positions are not limited to just a monthly meeting and have become more demand on their time, especially with all the projects that continue within the city. The auditor also noted that there has not been an increase in the stipend since before he took over Bev's position in 2018. Discussion ensued.

Motion made to increase the Mayor stipend to \$100/meeting, up from \$75 and Alderman stipend to \$75/meeting, up from \$50. This includes a request to attend special meetings. There is no payment for any and all non-attended meetings. Passed. This stipend increase will be effective Jan 2025 and paid in December 2025.

Discussion ensued for a pay raise for the custodial position for the Community center and the fire hall/seniors (shared expense with the City). Motion made and seconded to increase the pretax salary to \$250/month, up from \$175/month. Motion passed. This increase will take effect with January 31, 2025.

Auditor asked about whether we could now publish minutes on our city web site or if we need to continue to publish in newspaper. Auditor tasked to check with state attorney or League of Cities for ruling and report back in January.

Steve Hans tasked to contact Butler to do a annual service on the generator at the pumphouse. Motion made and seconded to renew beer and liquor license for Davenport Supper Club and Lounge beginning January 1, 2025, through June 30, 2025. Passed.

Addendum made to the consent to pay monthly bill. Added to pay \$5417.00 to Great Plains Siteworks for work behind community center. Motion made, seconded, passed.

Motion to adjourn, seconded, passed. 8:32 pm

Next City Council meeting scheduled for January 6th, 2025, at 7:00 pm at Community Center. All are welcome.

Faithfully submitted, Mark Roster, City Auditor