

Regular Council Meeting  
February 26, 2024  
7:00 p.m.  
City Hall

Members present were Thomas, Mueller, Merritt, Winter, and Sorensen.

Members absent were none.

City staff and consultants in attendance were Elizabeth Jackson, Mark Rahrick, Brandon Theobald, and Craig Helgeson.

Others attending were Marie Sexton, Vern Owens, Judy Bauer, Dyann Reinhard, Kay Fate and Scott Limberg.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Concerns/Requests from General Public/Organizations – none.

Agenda – add animal control discussion after consent agenda.

Agenda – motion by Winter, seconded by Sorensen to approve the amended agenda. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda – Agenda items are approved by one motion unless a Council member requests separate action.

Approval of the January 3, 2024 and January 29, 2024 special council meeting minutes and the January 22, 2024 regular council meeting minutes.

Approval of the January and February city and liquor store bills.

Approval of the January check register numbers E5054-E5107, 17432-17461, and 51652-51709.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Sorensen to approve the consent agenda as presented. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Animal Control Discussion – Mayor Thomas stated concerns from residents are cats that are being allowed to roam free around the City. Administrator Jackson will put a slide on the digital sign and a message on the utility bills stated animals must be kept on a leash or within the owner's yard.

Planning & Zoning Board – did not meet.

EDA Board – did not meet.

Fire Department – Chief Helgeson gave an update on the Fire Department.

City Attorney –

Ordinance 2024-02 An Ordinance Amending Section 7.03 of the Medford Code Governing Registration and Regulation of Rental Units – motion by Thomas, seconded by Winter to approve Ordinance 2024-02. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Ordinance 2024-01 An Ordinance Creating Section 11.30 of the Medford City Code Regulating Use of Cannabis on Public Property – Council instructed Attorney Rahrick to make revisions and bring to next Council meeting.

City Engineer –

Municipal Liquor Store Bids for Floor – Motion by Merritt, seconded by Winter to approve the bid from Mohs Construction for \$24,906.00. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Connection Memo with Lazy U – City Council instructed Engineer Theobald to continue moving forward with the Lazy U being part of the wastewater connection to Owatonna.

Public Hearing on Facility Plan –

Engineer Theobald presented a memo to update Council on the Facility Plan.

Motion by Winter, seconded by Mueller to open the public hearing at 7:51 p.m. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

- i. Question from Marie Sexton:
  1. Will there be restrictions for Medford's expansion in the treatment agreement with Owatonna?
- ii. Answer from Brandon Theobald:
  1. Owatonna staff have recommended we pay for existing connections when the agreement is finalized. Then as growth leads to new connections in Medford, we would pay Owatonna's SAC charges accordingly. There are currently no restrictions on residential growth in the agreement. However, there will be limits on industrial growth, as there are waste strength limits, Medford will be subject to.
- iii. Question from Marie Sexton:
  1. Is the draft treatment agreement predicated?
- iv. Answer from Brandon Theobald:
  1. WHKS has mediated an agreement for Mantorville/Kasson's regionalization - the provisions for which are conceptually similar.
- v. Question from Marie Sexton:
  1. Why is there an alternative forcemain route?
- vi. Answer from Brandon Theobald:
  1. Main Street was recently refinished, and it would be preferred to avoid installation in that area. However, the alternative route requires easements to access County Road 45 (and those are still in the works).
- vii. Question from Chad Merrit:

1. What will be the extent of Medford City staff involvement after the completion of the project?
- viii. Answer from Brandon Theobald:
1. The City of Medford will be responsible for their own collection system and the proposed lift station and forcemain.

Motion by Mueller, second by Sorensen to close the public hearing at 8:10 p.m. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Resolution 2024-05 A Resolution Approving Facilities Plan Report for Wastewater Regionalization with Owatonna – motion by Winter, seconded by Merritt to approve Resolution 2024-05. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Mayor – none.

City Administrator –

Public Works/General Updates – Administrator Jackson presented a memo.

Sale of Jetter Truck – Administrator Jackson presented a memo. Motion by Thomas, seconded by Winter to authorize Administrator Jackson to sell the City’s Jetter truck the best possible way. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Regular City Council Meeting – Monday, March 25, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Winter to adjourn the regular council meeting at 8:26 p.m. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Minutes approved at \_\_\_\_\_ meeting.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk.

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor.