Kensington City Council Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2023

Members Present: Jim Schecker, John Gran, Joe Miles, Brock Green and Emmy Maheux

Members Absent:

Guests: Todd Eystad – Fire Chief, Caden Fernholtz, and Mark Fernholtz

The monthly meeting for the Kensington City Council was held February 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Kensington Community Center Council room and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion (Gran/Maheux) to approve the agenda. MCU**

**Motion (Miles/Gran) to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2023, meeting. MCU**

**Motion (Gran/Maheux) to approve the bills on the claims list. MCU**

**Motion (Miles/Maheux) to approve the financial report as presented. MCU**

West Central Initiative sent an email wondering if the city of Kensington was interested in 2 free apple trees. The council decided to accept the apple trees and plant them at the ballfield along County Road 1.

The Douglas County Sheriff’s Department has requested city ordinances for all cities in Douglas County. They are only interested in ordinances that may require law enforcement. Jennifer will work on getting them our applicable ordinances.

The council had further discussion regarding renting out the Green Acres land. It is the city’s goal to continue to make progress on the development of that subdivision. The Council discussed several options with Caden and Mark Fernholtz who were present at the meeting. The council ultimately agreed to rent the land to Caden Fernholz for $175.00 per acre. The city will be paid rent at the end of the season and gave Caden permission to plant soybeans. If soybeans are planted the crop should be out around the first of October 2023.

Todd Eystad, Fire Chief was present and discussed a county wide fee structure that was established for all fire departments in Douglas County for natural disasters. This same fee schedule would not only be used for natural disasters but would also be used for DNR calls and railroad emergencies. Todd will get Jennifer a copy of the finalized fee schedule to provide to the city council for their review. Todd also suggested that the city put together their own fee schedule for other city employees such as the clerk, council and mayor that may also be involved with a disaster for billing purposes. Jennifer will check with a few other city clerks to see if have fee schedules for something like this. Todd also reported that a new Douglas County Mutual Aid Agreement was signed by all the fire departments in Douglas County in 2023. The mutual aid agreement will be updated every 4 years, the fee schedule will also be updated in conjunction with the mutual aid agreement.

The council reviewed the State of MN Joint Powers Agreement, the Court Data Services Subscriber Amendment to CJDN Subscriber Agreement and Resolution 2-2023 approving the State of Minesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Kensington on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department.

**Motion (Gran/Green) to approve Resolution 2-2023 approving the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Kensington on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department. MCU**

The Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting for the City of Kensington is scheduled for April 20, 2023, at 1 pm at the Kensington Community Center.

There are 3 upcoming training/meetings the clerk would like to attend. The annual MCFOA conference in St. Cloud March 21-24. The MCFOA Region Tree training in Garfield on February 15, 2023, from 11 – 1pm and the League of MN Cities Loss Control Workshop at Arrowwood in Alexandria March 29, 2023.

**Motion (Green/Gran) to approve Jennifer’s attendance at all 3 meetings. MCU**

A resident of Kensington has inquired if the city would have any work that could be done to fulfill about 80 hours of Community Service. The council discussed the possibility and approved it if we have work that she can do. Jennifer said that she would have some work but didn’t know if we could fulfill the full 80 hours.

Bollig has had several internal meetings about our green acre’s subdivision. They would like to have a meeting with the council to discuss some different funding options and a potential plan as to how we would move forward. They are wondering if the council is interested in having a special meeting to discuss or would the council like them to come to a regularly scheduled council meeting. The council decided that a special meeting in February would be the best, otherwise it makes the council meeting too long. Jennifer will get a couple potential dates together for February and let everyone know.

**Motion (Green/Gran) to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. MCU**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 7 pm.

Jennifer Kangas, City Clerk