Kensington City Council Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2023

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

Members Absent:

Guests: Erik Paulzine

The monthly meeting for the Kensington City Council was held May 1, 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/Green) to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023, council meeting. MCU**

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

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

Correspondence from Douglas County HRA regarding application to Rural Development Housing Preservation Grant for Doulgas County residents.

OTP Big Stone 345-KV Transmission line project will include the Kensington Area.

Erik Paulzine from the ball team was present to discuss the bar selling liquor at the ball field. The ball team would like to paint the dugouts and concession stand team colors blue and yellow if the ball team pays for it and does the work.

The council has noticed an increase in unlicensed vehicles, furniture, and junk in resident’s yards, which is a violation of the city’s nuisance ordinances. The Council asked Jennifer to send a notice out to all residents reminding them of the city’s nuisance ordinance. If residents don’t take action to get these items resolved, personalized letters will be mailed.

STS will be here on Fridays painting curbs and repairing picnic tables at the yard waste dump.

The City of Kensington’s 4-year contract with the Douglas County Assessor’s office is up for renewal in 2024. The Council will renew the new contract for assessing the properties of Kensington for the next four years. In 2024 & 2025 the fee is $ 8.00 per parcel and in 2026 and 2027 the fee is $ 8.25 per parcel.

**Motion (Green/Gran) to approve and sign the new 4-year assessment contract for the years of 2024 -2027 between the City of Kensington and the Doulgas County Assessor’s office. MCU**

The council discussed and approved having the alleys bladed and adding gravel if needed.

Jennifer provided documentation to the council on the differences in the property insurance renewal invoice and premium difference from last year to this year.

Mulch is needed for both the community center and Kensington Memorial Park. Becca will pick it up when it goes on sale and will get it installed prior to Rune Stone Days.

There is a dead tree in Kensington Memorial Park next to the gazebo. The council have permission for Becca to pull it out for now, but we will wait to replace it.

MCFOA Region III Training is potentially scheduled to be held in Kensington on June 8, 2023, at the Kensington Community Center.

USDA Rural Development did an audit for the Sanitary District and as part of that audit they are required to check for ADA Compliance in the building. The only issue they found was there were no pipe covers covering the drainpipe under the bathroom sinks. Jennifer picked up the drainpipe covers at Menards and Joe Miles will install them, so the community center is now back in compliance will all ADA requirements.

West Central Initiative Fund paid for 2 apple trees for planting in the City of Kensington. Jennifer will pick up the trees from Colorful Seasons and Becca will plant and stake them at the ball field along the fence line by the road.

A quote was received from F2H Electric in the amount of $1,543.00 to install a 50-amp outlet on the outside of the Community Center. The council also discussed and approved adding a couple of 110 outlets on separate circuits to the outside of the building while they are installing the 50-amp outlet, that way it can be run inside the same conduit. It was also recommended that cord protectors be investigated, especially now that there may be cords running across the sidewalk that could present a tripping hazard. The council gave Jennifer permission to find something that would work and purchase it.

**Motion (Gran/Green) to approve the quote from F2H Electric in the amount of $ 1,543.00 to install a 50 amp plug on the outside of the Kensington Community Center. Added to this quote will be the addition of two 110 outlets on septate circuits next to the 50-amp outlet. Approval was also given to purchase cord protectors for the sidewalk. MCU**

Kensington animal vaccination clinic and licensing event is to be held on May 22, 2023, at the Kensington Fire Hall from 4 – 7 pm.

Kensington Clean Up Day will be held on Saturday, June 3, 2023, from 9:00 to noon. The council reviewed and approved this year’s pricing sheet. Information will be going out to residents this week. The city will hire Eisel Lawn Care for their services to assist with clean up days again this year.

The council discussed radar speed signs again. The cost per sign has gone up from $ 3,000.00 to $3,600.00 per sign and we would need 4 signs.

**Motion (Miles/Maheux) to approve the purchase of 4 radar speed signs in the amount of $14,400.00. Gran and Green voted no. Mayor Schecker was the tie breaker voting yes. Motion Carried.**

Green Acres Development – Bollig has a successful meeting with MNDOT regarding highway 55 access for our Green Acres project. MN DOT wanted to reopen the Viking Drive entrance the city vacated several years ago; however, in discussing how everything lays out there they were open to a proposed entrance on the back side of Nutrien in between Mike Hagens building and Nutrien. This may require closing access to Mike Hagens building, but they would then have access thru the new road. Jennifer will talk to both Nutrien and Mike Hagen about the city getting an easement for the creation of this new City Street.

**Motion (Maheux/Green) to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m. MCU**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 7 pm.

Jennifer Kangas, City Clerk