



**MINUTES**  
**June 2, 2020 / 6:00 pm**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

- **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 PM
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- **ROLL CALL:** Martell, Oldenburg, Bissen, Pfiffner, Walsh
- **ACTION TO CHANGE AGENDA:** Add Payables to Acentek, Vessco, Visa Merchants, La Crescent Rock Products.

**1. Consent Agenda:** Bissen requested more information for the Payables to Jeff Langen and Bobcat. Motion to consent the agenda with the addition of Acentek, Vessco, Visa and La Crescent Rock Products made by Martell. Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.

*All items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.*

**1.1** Minutes:  
May 5, 2020

**1.2** Bills Payable Through: May 29, 2020

**1.3** Consolidated Balance Sheet May 29, 2020

- 2. Water/Waste Water/City Engineer Report:** Matt Vetsch informed the Council that they have finished up the jetting and televising sewer lines for the year. They also needed to finish up a portion of last years section as well. He noted the reason for the additional costs were due to some roots. They did not find any bad spots and they will be trying some root killer in some areas. He said overall it turned out well this year. Vetsch also informed the Council that there is a need to replace the UV lights at the plant which are important for killing bacteria. This usually needs to take place every two years and the cost is \$640 for the bulbs, O-rings and shipping. Vetsch put in the order.
- 3. Library/City Hall/City Center Report:** Kirsten Plummer provided an update for the Council and reviewed the minutes from the Library Board meeting. She informed the Council of a scavenger hunt and bingo card event which would be coming up. She presented the Council with a re-opening plan and the Library Preparedness plan for re-opening the library. Motion to approve the Library Preparedness plan and delegate authority to make any changes needed to the City Clerk, Emergency Managers and the City Attorney. Motion made by Martell. Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.
- 4. Police Dept./City Attorney Report:** Chief Schuldts informed the Council that the speed trailer needs the battery replaced and he would be working with the neighboring Cities who share the trailer for the purchase and reimbursement of the new battery.
- 5. Streets / Maintenance Report:**
- 5.1** Sidewalk Repairs: Matt Vetsch presented his sidewalk inspection results for 2020. He noted there were 9 residents along Main street that need repairs including 126 (100ft), 128 (70 ft), 132 (30ft), 134 (6 ft), 138 (60 ft), 142 (25ft), 144 (60 ft), 152 (85 ft), 210 (85 ft) for a total of 521 feet needing repairs. He also discussed the retaining walls near 126 Main Street that would also need to be replaced. The Council discussed the 50/50 cost share and the sidewalk policy. The Council requested the notice be sent to the residents giving them 45 days to complete the work. If they did not complete the work, then the City would move forward with the sidewalk repairs and bill the residents.
- 5.2** Nancy Von Arx Culvert: Matt Vetsch has been in contact with Nancy and discussed the need to install a culvert along her property. The estimated cost of a culvert would be \$854. The Council had a discussion about who was responsible for adding blacktop. The Council asked Vetsch to reach out to Nancy to cover the cost of the blacktop and the City would install the culvert.
- 6. Recreation Board Report:**
- 6.1** Summer Recreation/Pool Plan for 2020: Sam Mullen asked for direction on whether the pool could open and begin Summer Rec programs. The Council noted that the State was currently not allowing the pools to open however summer rec programs could move forward with groups of 10 or less. Sam had agreed that they could run T-ball with a group of 2 coaches and 8 or less participants. Jim Scholze also had informed the clerk prior to the meeting that he would move forward with no

games and practice in small groups if approved. Mullen also discussed cleaning and projects that need to be completed at the Pool and asked if they could hire individuals to work on projects at the pool. The Council decided that the pool would not be opening for the season but advised the Rec board to get together and discuss other options for programs to be offered to different age groups. They approved Summer Rec to move forward with baseball and T-ball while following the State guidelines.

7. **Planning Commission / Zoning Report:** No new business.

8. **New Business:**

8.1 COVID Preparedness Response Plan: Clerk Lindsey presented the COVID Preparedness Response Plan and requested the Council delegate the authority to make any changes to the plan to the City Clerk, Emergency Managers and City attorney and allow the group to move forward with a Summer Recreation Preparedness Plan. Motion made to accept the COVID preparedness plan and delegate authority to make changes and prepare a Summer Recreation Preparedness Plan to the City Clerk, Emergency Managers and City attorney made by Martell. Second by Bissen. Unanimous.

8.2 Resolution 2020-05 Granting Regulatory Flexibility to Businesses. Clerk Martell presented the Resolution which would Grant Bars and Restaurants the ability to open and serve the public outdoors if they meet all guidelines. Chief Schuldt had met with all owners to make sure they met all restrictions. Motion to approve Resolution 2020-05 made by Martell. Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.

9. **Old Business:**

9.1 MN Basic Code: No update.

9.2 Wastewater Treatment Plant Energy Efficiency Report: No update.

9.3 Highway 16 Speed Limit Reduction: Chief Schuldt thanked the Argus reporter for printing the Highway 16 Speed Limit story. This did have an impact and we received a response from MNDOT. MNDOT noted that they would be grinding strips on the shoulder in 2021, however, there was no indication of the changing of the speed limit.

10. **Council Member's Comments/Community Input:**

**Martell:** requested the Council work with City business owners and credit all businesses their sewer and water expenses for the months of March, April and May. Clerk Martell asked for clarification and the Council noted all businesses including bars, restaurants, and salons. Motion to credit all businesses for April, May and June sewer and water expenses made by Martell. Second by Oldenburg. Aye: Martell, Oldenburg, Pfiffner, Walsh. Abstain: Bissen. Martell also discussed the back hoe owned by the city and recommended making modifications to allow it to work with the Bobcat equipment.

**Bissen:** Asked for volunteers to work down at Como Falls to finish work. Chief Schuldt said if they decided on a date they could let the City office know and they could share the information and make sure they are following the social distancing and small group guidelines. Tom Bernsdorf mentioned that Travis Zenke could donate some material and he would donate his machinery.

**Walsh:** Asked about the status of the hill along Highway 16.

**Community:** Tom Bernsdorf discussed his opinion regarding the condition of Como Falls and the Ball Park and noted that he would like to donate his time if the City would pay for material. The Council noted that all plans up to this point had been put on hold due to the Pandemic. They agreed that Bernsdorf could go ahead and work with Public Works to get screenings and work at the City Ball Park and the field at the Veterans Park.

11. **Mayor's Comments:** Meet the Mayor – May 19

12. **Staff Correspondence:** Matt Vetsch discussed the playground equipment at the City of La Crescent Elementary School that will be donated to the City of Hokah if they would like to move it. The Council discussed different locations for the equipment but decided for now to put it in a temporary location. Clerk Lindsey discussed the office opening for appointments only beginning June 8<sup>th</sup>.

13. **Correspondence Received:**

14. **Announcements:**

15. **Next Council Meeting**

15.1 July 7, 2020

16. **Items for next Agenda:** MN Basic Code, Wastewater Treatment Plant Efficiency Report, Playground Equipment

17. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made at 7:56 PM by Bissen. Unanimous.