

**CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 10, 2023**

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: 7:00 p.m. at City Hall

- Mayor Lawrence called the Clearwater City Council to order Monday, July 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Mayor Lawrence, Council Members Luhmann, Winkelman, Schwinghammer, and Vazquez. Also present were members of the public, staff, and guests.

2. Approval of Agenda

- **MOTION** by Luhmann to approve Agenda as presented, seconded by Winkelman, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

3. Wright County Sheriff's Report

- Deputy Doiron gave the monthly sheriff's update. Member Winkelman asked about an overnight incident at Kwik Trip. Doiron stated there was an incident of disorderly conduct involving two people. Member Luhmann raised a concern about a person who has been hanging out and drinking in Spring Street Park after hours. Deputies will check into this.

4. Public Forum

a. James Theisen – Children's Home Ride Update

- Mr. Theisen reported that the Children's Home Ride was very successful. There were over 172 bike riders and they raised over \$10,000. He also reported that there are several other upcoming events, including a veterans picnic at the Clearwater Truck Plaza, a benefit hosted by the Clearwater Corners at the rodeo grounds, and a Homeless Vets event in August.

5. Consent Agenda

- a. Claims/Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$ 699,502.84**
- b. Approval of Minutes from 06-12-2023 Regular City Council Meeting**
- c. Res 2023-39 – Accepting Donation of Services for Veterans Memorial Park**
- d. Res 2023-40 – Accepting Donation of Services for Veterans Memorial Park**
- e. Res 2023-41 – Approving Special Event Permit – Flashing Thunder Fireworks**
- f. Res 2023-44 – Approving New Hires for Fire Department**
- g. Quarterly Financial Report – Q1-2023**

- **MOTION** by Luhmann to approve Consent Agenda, seconded by Vazquez, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

6. Old Business

a. Assign Members to Attend Meeting with Clear Lake Township

- Clear Lake Township has asked two members of the City Council to attend a meeting with them on July 20 to outline the city's reasons for desiring an orderly annexation agreement.
- **MOTION** by Lawrence to appoint Members Luhmann and Vazquez to represent the city at a meeting with Clear Lake Township on July 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Clear Lake Town Hall, seconded by Schwinghammer, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

b. Consider Meeting with Lynden Township to Discuss Orderly Annexation Agreement

- Lynden Township has sent a written response to the city's request for a meeting, suggesting a meeting on September 12.

- **MOTION** by Lawrence to appoint Members Lawrence and Winkelman to represent the city at a meeting with Lynden Township on September 12 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lynden Town Hall, seconded by Schwinghammer, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- c. **Accepting Revised Project Quote for Native Planting Project**
 - Mayor Lawrence provided an overview of the proposed native planting project and the benefits. Smythe explained that the two quotes in the materials are updated from last year.
 - **MOTION** by Winkelman to accept the low quote and proceed with the native planting project, seconded by Luhmann, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- d. **Authorizing Grant Application for Native Planting Project**
 - Smythe explained that Wright County has opened a grant application for conservation projects such as the native plantings project and requested authorization to apply. She also explained that there is a 50% city match and that she would also ask for a letter of support from the Soil & Water District.
 - **MOTION** by Luhmann to authorize the grant application, seconded by Winkelman, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**

7. New Business

- a. **Public Hearing – Ord 2023-06 - Cannabis Ordinance**
 - Mayor Lawrence opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.
 - Smythe gave a brief overview of the recommendation by the city attorney to implement a moratorium and conduct a study. Members discussed whether the moratorium was necessary. Smythe explained that the attorney’s recommendation is to give the city council time to consider if additional regulations beyond the requirements of the new law are needed in city limits.
 - There were no comments submitted by the public and no one was present to address the council.
 - The public hearing was closed at 7:28 p.m.
- b. **Ord 2023-06 – An Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study and Imposing a Moratorium on the Operation of Cannabis Businesses**
 - **MOTION** by Luhmann to approve Ord 2023-06, seconded by Schwinghammer.
 - Member Winkelman stated that he thinks the city should move quickly and does not think the city should wait until 2025.
 - **AMENDMENT** proposed by Winkelman to change the moratorium date in the ordinance to January 1, 2024. **AMENDMENT ACCEPTED** by both Luhmann and Schwinghammer.
 - All voted aye on amended motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- c. **Res 2023-38 – Authorizing Summary Publication of Ord 2023-06**
 - **MOTION** to approve by Lawrence, seconded by Luhmann, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- d. **Res 2023-42 – Approving Hire of Public Works Maintenance Worker**
 - **MOTION** to approve by Lawrence, seconded by Winkelman, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- e. **Res 2023-43 – Approving Staff Promotion**
 - **MOTION** to approve by Luhmann, seconded by Lawrence, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- f. **Authorizing Addendum to Cleaning Contract**
 - Staff explained quote to add public works restroom cleaning to cleaning contract for \$20/week.
 - **MOTION** to approve by Luhmann, seconded by Vazquez, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- g. **Schedule Capital Budget Workshop**
 - Members scheduled a capital budget workshop for August 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

8. Committee Reports

- a. **Mayor and Council**

- Mayor Lawrence asked if the City Council had been registered for the Heritage Festival parade. Smythe stated that a registration was submitted and that a city truck was available. Member Schwinghammer offered to drive if another driver was not available.

b. Boards

- Sewer Authority – Met June 15, 2023. The primary discussion was disposition of the dirt pile at the plant.
- Fire Relief Association – New member Schwinghammer joined the board. Discussion centered around new service requirements for the pension. The board is working with the Fire Department to ensure consistency with a goal of implementing January 2024.
- Planning Commission – Did not meet.
- EDA – Did not meet. The next meeting is July 18, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. Member Luhmann plans to attend in place of Mayor Lawrence, who is unavailable.
- Park Commission – Discussed the following:
 - Dog Park - Member Vazquez explained that commissioners requested additional fencing quotes for this proposed project. The survey results were 53% in favor versus 47% opposed.
 - Veterans Memorial Park – Vazquez outlined the status report. Benches have been received and await installation. The city is waiting for Xcel to connect the electric meter so the flag lights can be completed. Staff are waiting for fall to seed due to the drought.
 - Splash Pad – staff are working to obtain additional proposals for consideration.
 - Lions Park Paving is in the process of being completed.
 - Shed – Vazquez reported that Israel Carper from the Clearwater River Cats attended the meeting and outlined a plan to raise funds and build their own shed perhaps within two years. Members discussed that they wanted a team representative at the City Council meeting. Members are supportive of the team but also need to address city needs for storage space.
 - After discussion, Members directed staff to request a representative from the team attend the next city council meeting with their shed plans, including cost quotes and timeline.

c. Staff

- Member Luhmann asked staff to place trash cans along the trail by Veterans Memorial Park and closer to Sportsman’s Park.
- Member Vazquez asked staff to begin code enforcement with The Kettle, as there are weeds all over and trash/appliances/etc. sitting outside.
- Members asked staff to begin code enforcement with the property on Main Street next door to Scott Pesola, as the house appears to have holes, the sheds are falling down, etc.
- Smythe stated that she received a counter proposal for one of the properties that the City Council is considering for purchase.
 - Members closed the meeting at 8:12 p.m. under Mn Statutes 13D.05 Subd. 3(c)(3) to consider the counter-offer for the purchase of property located on Elm Street.
 - The meeting was re-opened at 8:19 p.m. Staff were authorized to submit an alternate offer.

9. Other Business

a. Next Regular Meeting – August 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

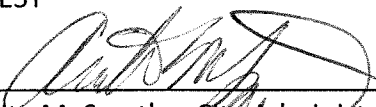
b. Special Workshop Meeting – August 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

- Next meeting dates were confirmed.

10. Adjournment

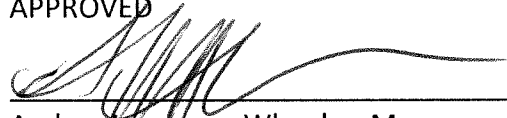
- **MOTION** to adjourn by Winkelman, seconded by Schwinghammer, all voted aye. **MOTION CARRIED.**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

ATTEST



Annita M. Smythe, City Administrator

APPROVED



Andrea Lawrence Wheeler, Mayor