

**CITY OF ZUMBROTA
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2023
6:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Todd Hammel called the Zumbrota City Council to order at 6:00 PM. PRESENT: Mayor Todd Hammel; Council members Sara Durhman, Joan Bucher, Bob Prigge, and Kevin Amundson. Others present: City Administrator Brian Grudem, Police Chief Pat Callahan, Public Works Director Mike Olson, Finance Director Kim Simonson, Library Director James Hill, Sergeant Justin Wallerich, Holly Galbus (remote) and Beth Stumm.

AMENDMENTS/ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION Durhman, second Amundson to adopt the agenda as amended with the addition of item “8-E. Support Letter for Removing TIF Housing District Income Requirement”. Approved 5-0-0.

MINUTES – MARCH 16, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION Durhman, second Prigge to approve the March 16, 2023, meeting minutes. Approved 5-0-0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – APRIL 6, 2023

MOTION Amundson, second Durhman to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$199,489.71. Approved 5-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

PUBLIC HEARING

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

8-A. ASH TREE REMOVAL PARK

Olson asked the Council for approval to remove up to 63 diseased ash trees in the park for \$273 per tree for a total of \$17,200. The trees would be dropped by bucket truck and then City Staff would cut and dispose of the brush. Hammel asked about the added costs of grinding stumps the project and was concerned this would add several thousand dollars onto the amount requested. Olson stated they would only remove as many trees as there were funds approved for and that not all trees would need to be ground. **MOTION** Durhman, second Prigge to approve removal of diseased trees in the Park not to exceed \$17,200. Approved 5-0-0.

8-B. SUPPORT LETTERS FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION STUDY

During the pandemic southeast Minnesota lost key transit services. Communities are asking local governments to support HF2560 and SF 3078 establishing an appropriation of \$350,000 to develop a comprehensive assessment and financial plan for transportation management organization in the counties of Rice, Goodhue, Dodge, Steele, Wabasha, Olmsted, Winona, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore and Houston. Amundson stated this additional \$350,000 would be in addition to a \$300,000 request for a proposed study for the metro area. **MOTION** Durhman, second Bucher to approve support Letters for a regional Transportation Management Organization study (SF3078 and HF 2560). Approved 4-1-0 (Amundson, nay).

8-C. SALE OF IMPOUNDED VEHICLES

MOTION Durhman, second Prigge to approve the sale of two forfeited vehicles by the Zumbrota Police Department for scrap and at auction. Approved 5-0-0.

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8-D. NORTH ZUMBRO SANITARY DISTRICT UPDATE

Grudem gave an update on the progress of the sanitary district funding at the state level. There will be more conversations had at the state in the upcoming weeks.

8-E. LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR REMOVING TIF HOUSING DISTRICT INCOME REQUIREMENT

SEMLM is asking local governments to draft letters of supports to request the income limit requirement for TIF housing districts. Removing this limit could allow smaller cities to attract more developments to their communities. **MOTION** Prigge, second Sarah to draft a letter of support for removing TIF hounds district income limits. Approved 5-0-0.

COMMENTS

Public Works Director Mike Olson

Reported the Jefferson project is beginning and the ground has been broken for the new Christ Lutheran School. Prigge and Hammel attended the groundbreaking.

Council Member Joan Bucher

Stated she had been approached by a senior citizen asking for the city to consider establishing a senior center.

Council Member Kevin Amundson

Reported on the March Zumbrota Area Ambulance meeting. A new ambulance has been ordered with deliver expected in three years. A fund raiser will be held in mid-May.

The meeting adjourned 6:30 p.m.

Brian Grudem, City Administrator