

City of Zumbrota

Work Session Minutes

Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Todd Hammel called the Zumbrota City Council to order at 5:30 PM. PRESENT: Mayor Todd Hammel; Council members Sara Durhman, Joan Bucher, Kevin Amundson, and Bob Prigge. Others present, City Administrator Brian Grudem, Police Chief Pat Callahan, Public Works Director Mike Olson.

UCC CHURCH BUILDING

City Administrator Grudem and Public Works director Olson gave a report on a meeting that took place with representatives of the first Congregational Church (USS) with regards to the church building. The UCC congregation has passed a resolution to dissolve the congregation at the beginning of 2024. They want to partner with someone who would preserve the historic structure and use of for community purposes. Staff is looking at doing a feasibility study to see if a community/Senior Center would be a good use for the building. Council also asked staff to research community centers in other communities to see how they are used, and how maintenance, staffing costs are funded.

TRESTLE DISCUSSION

On Saturday May 5th a forklift was given over the Trestle which serves as a waking bridge connecting the city trail system to the Goodhue County Pioneer Trail. The heavy vehicle caused substantial damage to the surface boards of the bridge. Staff is working to get the bridge repaired as soon as possible, ICON Construction was out to view the damage and give an estimate of repair costs.

CODE – COMMISSION FOR ORDINANCE DEFINITION AND ENFORCEMENT

A number of months ago council directed staff to explore putting together an ordinance review commission. The draft of the proposed CODE – Commission for Ordinance Definition and Enforcement commission was presented. The proposed commission would be charged with reviewing all city ordinance, making recommendations to council on updates, enforcement methodology and would also act as an ordinance violation appeal board, in which they will make recommendations to council on ordinance violation appeals. Members will include the Mayor, City Administrator, a member of the Planning Commission, a representative from the police department and two citizens.

NO MOW MAY

Discussion was had regarding city participation in the “No Mow May” initiative. Several cities in our area participate in the program. They require registration and display of a no mow may sign to avoid grass length ordinance violation complaints. Council decided since we are in the middle of May already, we will consider this for 2024.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT/INVESTMENT PLANNING

Discussion was had about the approval process for the Capital Financial Planning Document as a tool for budgeting. The plan will be presented by Jessica Cook from Ehlers at the May 18th council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.

Brian Grudem, City Administrator