

Pipestone, Minnesota
June 16, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Pipestone City Council was duly held in-person and via Zoom in the Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m. on the 16th day of June 2025. Mayor Dan Delaney called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared. Members present: Dan Delaney, Rodger Smidt, Scott Swanson, Danielle Thompson, and Verdeen Colbeck, Absent: none. Others present: Linda Ewing, Leslie and Mark Egger, Erica Volkir, Tom Steffes, Kyle Kuphal, City Attorney Jason Hill via Zoom, City Engineer Travis Winter, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Stephanie LaBrune, and City Administrator Deb Nelson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVE AGENDA - ADDITIONS, CHANGE OR DELETIONS

Mayor Delaney stated that he would like to amend the agenda by moving item E. Mayoral Proclamation, under New Business up to item A. and also adding item K. Approval of the Pipestone Country Club Liquor License Manager under New Business.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda by moving item E. Mayoral Proclamation, under New Business up to item A. and also adding item K. Approval of the Pipestone Country Club Liquor License Manager under New Business.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Delaney stated the Consent Agenda contains the June 2, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the June 3, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the May Financial Report, and the Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills. He then asked if there was any discussion regarding these items. No discussion was held.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Colbeck and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda items which consisted of the June 2, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the June 3, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the May Financial Report, and the Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$605,492.56 for warrants #075050 to #075160 to be issued in payment thereof.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Home Tax Abatement

Mayor Delaney stated Jose Fernandez Garcia and Maria Flores Garibay have submitted an application for new home tax abatement. He said the applicants are planning to construct a new home on Lot Two (2), Block Two (2), First Addition in Southwest Acres Subdivision to the City of Pipestone, Minnesota. The proposed tax abatement request on this property is for an amount not to exceed 100 percent (100%) of the city's portion of the real estate taxes related to new residential home construction on the subject property for a period not to exceed three (3) years. He then asked for a motion to open the public hearing to gather input on the proposed tax abatement request.

Motion made by Swanson, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing at 6:37 p.m.

With no public comment, a motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously close the public hearing at 6:38 p.m.

LEGAL

Introduction of Ordinance No. 167 Fourth Series

Delaney introduced Ordinance No. 167 Fourth Series: An Ordinance Establishing a Veteran's Memorial in the City of Pipestone saying at the last city council meeting, the council designated the location of the memorial to be at the north end of Moore Park. He announced that the adoption of this Ordinance will be considered at the next council meeting on July 7th.

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Approval of Safe Routes to School Project (SRTS) Plans

Engineer Winter presented the latest set of engineered plans for the SRTS project and said that the current cost of the project construction is \$847,000 with the grant covering up to \$806,000. Winter added that the initial design was estimated to cost \$825,000 reminding the council that the city would need to cover the difference due to the changes in design. Smidt asked if the parking lot for Kids-N-Kare would need to be moved. Winter responded saying that they should be able to keep their parking area.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to move forward with the most recent SRTS Project design with the sidewalk proposed to be on the east side of 8th Ave. and the north side of 4th St.

Winter stated that he would send the final design to the state for their approval. Delaney also added that this plan seems to make more sense.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayoral Proclamation

Delaney read aloud a proclamation claiming June 28, 2025 to be Erica Volkir Day in the City of Pipestone. He shared that Volkir has served as the Chamber Director for 10 years and listed many of her contributions to the community. He also thanked the Assistant Chamber Director, Tom Steffes, for his work within the community.

Resolution 2025-37

Delaney shared resolution 2025-37 saying, this resolution is being brought forth as a recommendation from Attorney Hill following legislation that was passed relating to remote meeting participation. He said a memo has been included in the council packets which outlines the specific changes made by the State and added that the resolution amends the 2024-65 resolution establishing 2025 meeting dates and times by including language that will allow members of the city council to participate at meetings by interactive technology.

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Swanson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-37: Resolution Amending and Restating the Establishment of the Days, Times and Places of Regular Meetings of the Pipestone City Council, Commissions and Committees During the Calendar Year 2025.

Resolution 2025-38

Delaney said this resolution if approved will accept a \$1,000 memorial donation from Bob & Cecelia Bunkers to be used at the Ewert Recreational Center.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-38: Resolution Accepting Donations.

Resolution 2025-39

Delaney said this resolution is a resolution relating to a tax abatement request on property being developed by Jose Fernandez Garcia and Maria Flores Garibay. He said earlier in the meeting, the council held a public hearing relating to the request saying if this resolution is approved the city's portion of the real estate taxes related to new residential home construction on the subject property will be abated for an amount not to exceed 100 percent (100%) of the new home construction value for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-39: A Resolution Relating to a Tax Abatement on Property Being Developed by Jose Fernandez Garcia and Maria Flores Garibay; Granting the Abatement.

Resolution 2025-40

Delaney explained to the council that if the resolution is approved it will accept the engineer's recommended low bid for the Industrial Road improvements project for low bidder Musch Construction in the amount of \$248,600.25. Winter also added that there was good interest in the project with five bids being received. He also said the numbers were accurate and very close to the engineer's estimate.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-40: Resolution Accepting Bid.

SRTS Project SAP 059-591-006 Agreement

Delaney stated as a part of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project, Pipestone County has agreed to be a sponsor for the city. This agreement between the City and Pipestone County further defines the responsibilities, indemnification, financial responsibilities, and accountabilities of each party.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to approve the SRTS Project SAP 059-591-006 Agreement between the City of Pipestone and County of Pipestone.

TIF District 13 Reimbursement Request

Delaney shared that Economic Development Director (EDA) Schroyer has been working with the Volunteers In Mercy (VIM) who have recently installed a new furnace in their building on Main Street. He said the building falls in the TIF 13 District and is eligible to receive financial assistance through the district. VIM is requesting 50% or \$2,547.02 of the total cost of installing their new furnace.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve the TIF District 13 reimbursement request from VIM in the amount of \$2,547.02.

Discussion on Proposed Land Detachment

Delaney shared with the council that there is information on the proposed detachment in the council packets; however, due to technical difficulties, Attorney Hill is not able to explain the detachment process to the council.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to table the discussion on the proposed land detachment to the July 7th council meeting.

Alcohol and Beverage Dispenser Agreement

Delaney said Tally Ho Koffee and Gray Wolf Saloon is a licensed food and alcohol caterer who has signed an agreement to serve alcohol at the Hiawatha Lodge for events through the remainder of 2025. Council action is needed to accept the agreement and authorize Tally Ho Koffee and Gray Wolf Saloon to serve alcohol for events held at the Lodge.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to approve the Alcohol and Beverage Dispenser Agreement at the Hiawatha Lodge with licensed alcohol caterer Tally Ho Koffee and Gray Wolf Saloon for the year 2025.

Interim Administrative Assistant

Delaney announced that City Administrator Nelson is requesting council confirmation on the hiring of Megan DeWitte who began working for the city as the Interim Administrative Assistant on June 10th.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck and unanimously carried to hire Megan DeWitte as the Interim Administrative Assistant with a retroactive start date of June 10, 2025.

Resident Liquor Manager for the Country Club

Delaney stated that staff is recommending the approval of Brady Legler as the new Liquor License Manager for the Pipestone Country Club. Delaney asked if a background check had been completed and LaBrune replied saying the Sheriff's office has completed the background check.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Swanson and unanimously carried to approve Brady Legler as the new resident manager in regards to the on sale liquor license at the Pipestone Country Club.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Administrator Nelson shared that Attorney Hill wanted to remind the council that if a remote meeting is held in the future roll call votes will be required with the new law change.

Mayor Delaney announced that he has heard several concerns about property maintenance. He reminded residents to keep things looking as nice as they can with the Water Tower Festival coming up. Additionally, he stated with the tragic events over the weekend he wanted to remind everyone to work together and for the common goal of making Pipestone the best we can.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Dan Delaney
Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie LaBrune
Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk