

Pipestone, Minnesota  
February 18, 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025. Mayor Dan Delaney called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared. Members present: Dan Delaney, Rodger Smidt, and Danielle Thompson, Absent: Scott Swanson, and Verdeen Colbeck. Others present: Kyle Kuphal, City Attorney Jason Hill via Zoom, City Engineer Travis Winter, Steve Everett, James Hartke, Justice Fletcher, Brian Schneider, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, and Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Stephanie LaBrune.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **APPROVE AGENDA - ADDITIONS, CHANGE OR DELETIONS**

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Delaney stated the Consent Agenda contains the February 1, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, the February 3, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the February 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the January 2025 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 Thompson, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda items which consisted of the February 1, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, the February 3, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the February 3, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the January 2025 Financial Report, and the Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$324,648.78 for warrants #074181 to #074328 to be issued in payment thereof.

### **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Assistant City Administrator LaBrune stated that there was no one signed in for community concerns and she did not receive any calls or e-mails with concerns.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Public Hearing Relating to the proposed permanent concrete pavement improvements to the gravel portion of Industrial Road pursuant to Minnesota Statute 429.011 to 429.11

Mayor Delaney stated this public hearing is to hear public comment of the consideration of permanent concrete pavement improvements to the gravel portion of industrial road pursuant to Minn. Stat. §429.011 to 429.11. He said, the area proposed to be assessed for such improvement is all adjacent parcels and the estimated cost of the improvement is \$261,000 and all adjacent property owners have received letters in the mail showing the estimated assessment impact to their properties. He then called for a motion to open the public hearing.

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Thomson, and unanimously carried to open the public hearing at 6:33 p.m. to consider permanent concrete pavement improvements to the gravel portion of Industrial Road pursuant to Minnesota Statute 429.011 to 429.11.

Delaney then invited the public to speak.

James (Rusty) Hartke, owner of Gorter Clay and Dairy, stated that he felt the cost of the project was pretty expensive. He said he has always questioned why there was curb and gutter installed on Industrial Road because he felt a gravel surface is all that is needed. He also stated that he wondered why other streets were not assessed and challenged the council in the past to get grants for the road project and told the council that he thinks the decision to pave the road should be tabled until funding is available for the road.

Brian Schneider, owner of Pipestone Livestock and Auction, stated that he has owned property in Pipestone since 1987 and said he has heard a lot of promises and is sick of getting dinged for more taxes without seeing any of it. He said the city has a dental clinic but does not think a low-income person with a bad tooth brings a lot of people or business to town like his business does. He also questioned why the city wants another industrial park. He said maybe the city should work at keeping current businesses. He explained that it is hard to get new businesses when Pipestone is located so close to South Dakota. He said the city needs to take care of the people already here. He shared that there have been several other nearby livestock barns that have closed. He said he has heard a lot of promises and has a respectable business and wants to be treated fairly.

Steve Everett, owner of Everett Tire and Auto, said he agrees with Brian. He said he has spent a lot of tax money plus thousands in gravel to do the street initially. He said there is a lot of traffic and about 80% of the traffic is semis. He suggested putting up a toll booth to get reimbursed. He also asked if the estimates on the project included a reimbursement for the gravel that would need to be removed.

Mayor Delaney asked Engineer Winter if the Public Works Director's original quote showed any salvage value for the gravel. Winter stated that there would be some salvage value there with seven inches of gravel needing to be removed and said it would be up to the bidder how they wanted to incorporate that into their final bid. Winter also shared that there was a petition for the road to be paved in 2018 and at that time the proposal was to install an eight-inch road. Delaney said if the process continues there would be bids received for the project.

With no other comments, Delaney called for a motion to close the public hearing.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to close the public hearing at 6:43 p.m.

Delaney said he appreciated the opinions and said the council will arrive at a decision at a later date.

## **ENGINEERING**

### **Harmon Park Pickleball Court Pay Request No. 3 and No. 4**

Winter shared that the pickleball court project has been completed and said pay request no. 3 is for a total of \$3,472.05 and pay request no. 4 is for \$12,186.28. He explained that the two pay requests are the final requests and if approved would release the retainage and start the warranty period for the project.

Smidt had concerns about paint that was redone in places on the courts that does not match. He also said that there are dips in the surface that hold water and did not feel that the work was done to everyone's expectations.

Winter agreed with Smidt saying that the paint did not look right but said that it seems to be blending in now. He also said that the water ponding seemed to become an issue after the fence was installed and said if you try to fix the ponding in one location it may cause ponding in another due to the asphalt surface. Winter said if it was a concrete paved surface the results may have been different and said he feels it was the best that could be done with the starting conditions.

Delaney called for a motion. After additional discussion, a motion was made by Delaney and seconded by Thompson to table the agenda item to the next meeting to allow Winter to do more research on the project warranty. The motion was unanimously carried and approved.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Farmers Market Request**

Delaney said the Pipestone Farmers Market vendors are requesting permission to close the south half of the city parking lot located behind the Historic Calumet for their Farmers Market every Saturday beginning June 14th through October 25th from 7:30 a.m. to 1 :00 p.m. and every Wednesday evening beginning July 2nd through October 29th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve the request by the Pipestone Farmers Market Vendors to close the south half of the city parking lot located behind the Historic Calumet for their Farmers Market every Saturday beginning June 14th through October 25th from 7:30 a.m. to 1 :00 p.m. and every Wednesday evening beginning July 2nd through October 29th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

#### **Resolution 2025-17**

Mayor Delaney stated that the following donations have been received and this resolution accepts the donations:

- Prairielands Library Exchange      \$600.00 – to assist Meinder's Library with craft supplies

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-17: A Resolution Accepting Donations.

#### **Resolution 2025-18**

Delaney said this resolution is a resolution declaring vacancies on the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Board of Commissioners. He then explained that it was recently discovered that the HRA Board has been operating with board members who are not residents of the City of Pipestone according to Minnesota State Statutes, section 469.003, subd. 5. Delaney said this is only to ensure that the city stays in compliance with state statute and thanked the outgoing members for their good work on the HRA board. He also said that he hoped they can continue their good service on other community boards.

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution

2025-18: Resolution Declaring Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Pipestone.

### **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS**

Heritage Preservation Commission – Delaney said an organizational meeting was held on January 14<sup>th</sup> to elect officers. He said the commission talked about a geo caching project and their desire to rehabilitate and preserve the Carnegie library building.

Hiawatha Pageant Park Commission – No report.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority – Delaney gave a report due to Swanson's absence. Delaney said there was an organizational meeting and it was discovered that there were discrepancies with the HRA bylaws and state law.

Human Rights Commission – Delaney said there was an organizational meeting and during the meeting there was an update provided on the Magellan Pipeline. He also said Travis' law was discussed and the commission is doing research to find out if the city is interested in assisting with the Pride Picnic. Delaney said it would be difficult for the city to do but said it will get looked into.

Planning Commission – Delaney said the Planning Commission is currently reviewing a 70-page sign ordinance draft in attempt to update the city codebook. He said the process will take some time yet and said a draft will be presented to the council at a later date.

**CLOSING COMMENTS** – None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m.

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Dan Delaney  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Stephanie LaBrune  
Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk