

Pipestone, Minnesota
May 19, 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 19th day of May 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, Verdeen Colbeck and Danielle Thompson, Absent: none. Others present: Keith Mattson, Derek Anderson, John Draper, City Attorney Jason Hill via Zoom, City Engineer Travis Winter via Zoom, 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

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of the consideration of the approval of the settlement agreements for Pipestone County District Court Files: 59-CV-23-427 to 59-CV-23-435 following the Executive/Closed Session.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Delaney stated the Consent Agenda contains the May 5, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the April 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 Colbeck and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda items which consisted of the May 5, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes, the May 5, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes, the April financial report, and the Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$403,892.04 for warrants #074849 to #074954 to be issued in payment thereof.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

Administrator Nelson stated that Keith Mattson was signed in and no other concerns had been received.

Mayor Delaney invited Mattson to the podium. Mattson stated that he is a resident of 919 N. Hiawatha Ave. and has concerns about predatory behavior involving methamphetamine. He said women are getting exploited by this behavior. He also asked why his friend Rico is getting treated the way he was. He said he (Rico) was railroaded out of the Human Rights Commission and said he had concerns about the Juneteenth celebration having a limit of 3 hours. He also said Cinco De Mayo was cancelled. Mattson said Rico would not hurt a fly and what happened to him was very troubling. Mayor Delaney responded by saying that the city can look into Mattson's concerns and investigate them further.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2025-31

Delaney said this resolution authorizes staff to submit a proposal to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to conduct the Pipestone Sanitary Sewer Project – Part 2. If the proposal is approved, this will allow the city to continue its sanitary sewer improvement loan program and authorize Joel Adelman to serve as the authority on behalf of the city to administer the loan program.

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-31: A Resolution for Authorization to Submit a Proposal with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to Conduct the Pipestone Sanitary Sewer Improvement Project – Part 2.

Resolution 2025-32

Delaney informed the council that the Pipestone Country Club Inc. is requesting a gambling permit so they perform gambling activities at the Pipestone Country Club at a fundraising event in September. Delaney said, if approved their application will be forwarded to the Minnesota Gambling Control Board with no waiting period.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-32: A Resolution Regarding an Application for Authorization for Exemption from Lawful Gambling License.

Resolution 2025-33

Delaney said this resolution if approved will accept a donation from the Prairielands Library Exchange who has given a grant of \$1,000 to the public library to support the library's series of plants program.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-33: A Resolution Accepting Donations.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS

Heritage Preservation – Delaney shared that the commission met with the council to tour the Carnegie library building on May 16th.

Housing and Redevelopment Authority – Delaney reported that there was a special meeting held on April 1st to approve transferring the section 8 program to Blue Earth County. He said it is a serious matter affects people's homes and that the city council will need to approve the move. He also shared that there was a bid awarded in the amount of \$162,000 for updating the windows at the Hi-Rise building.

Human Rights – Delaney shared that the chair and vice-chair were appointed and also talked about the upcoming Pride Picnic and Juneteenth events.

Planning Commission – Delaney shared that the commission met on April 9, April 22, and May 14 to review the sign ordinance.

Board of Appeals & Adjustments – Delaney shared that the board held two public hearings to consider variance requests on May 13th.

Community Improvement – Delaney shared that the commission is seeking two new members, he also talked about the flower boxes and other various ideas that the commission has been discussing.

Park & Rec – Thompson reported that there was no meeting held in April due to the a lack of a quorum.

Utility – Swanson reported that he and Delaney met with the Utility Committee on May 14th. He said there was discussion about a trail easement request from the National Monument. He also shared that the County Engineer gave an update on a project they will be doing on 8th Avenue SE. The project is set to happen in 2030 if the city were to want to coordinate any work being done at that time while the road construction is going on. Additionally, there was discussion held concerning a leak at the outdoor pool and the need to install a lift station at the property Hord Farms recently purchased from the city.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Councilmember Thompson reminded everyone that it is EMS week this week.

EXECUTIVE / CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Delaney requested a motion to go into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) regarding the following: to conduct a closed session pursuant to the attorney-client privilege to engage in confidential attorney-client communications and litigation strategy discussions related to the pending litigation matters in the Special Assessment Appeals related to the City's 2022 Street & Utility Improvement Project, Pipestone County District Court Files: 59-CV-23-427 to 59-CV-23-435.

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) regarding the following: to conduct a closed session pursuant to the attorney-client privilege to engage in confidential attorney-client communications and litigation strategy discussions related to the pending litigation matters in the Special Assessment Appeals related to the City's 2022 Street & Utility Improvement Project, Pipestone County District Court Files: 59-CV-23-427 to 59-CV-23-435 at 6:54 p.m.

Joining the council during the closed session was Deb Nelson, Stephanie LaBrune, Jason Hill, and Travis Winter. All others left the meeting location.

At 7:10 p.m. a motion was made by Swanson and seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to enter back into open meeting.

Consider Approval of Settlement Agreements

Motion made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt, and unanimously carried to approve signing the settlement agreements related to the pending litigation matters in the Special Assessment Appeals related to the City's 2022 Street & Utility Improvement Project, Pipestone County District Court Files: 59-CV-23-427 to 59-CV-23-435.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Dan Delaney
Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie LaBrune
Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk