

**Wahpeton City Council**

**January 3, 2022**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Present:** Lambrecht, Carlson, Goltz (remotely), Wateland, Bohn (remotely), Woods II, Fobb (remotely), and McNary

**Absent:** Dale

**Also Present:** Huwe, Hatting, Rogahn, Broadland, DeVries, Bakken, Thorsteinson, Amos, and O'Meara

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Council President Wateland.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS/CITIZEN CONCERNS/ETC.**

**Joint Public Hearing with Planning Commission – Ord. 993 Annexation (continued from December 6, 2021)** – DeVillers said the Planning Commission was reconvened and explained this ordinance was in reference to the annexation of land into the City of Wahpeton which includes Jerry Meide property, Tim Stromberg property, some CDC property purchased from Dickerson's, and some strips of land west of the 210 Bypass the CDC purchased from Jerry Meide. He referred to Hatting who added that Tim Stromberg has communicated that he is fine with proceeding today. It was asked if there was anyone present to speak about the proposed ordinance, of which there was none. When asked, Huwe said the only inquiries received have been resolved by the City Attorney's office. The Planning Commission was asked for their recommendation. **Motion by Cook, seconded by Hickel, to recommend to the City Council to approve Ordinance No. 993 Annexation. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Council member Lambrecht offered the second reading of the following Ordinance:

**ORDINANCE NO. 993**  
**AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING LANDS**  
**TO THE CITY OF WAHPETON, NORTH DAKOTA**  
**(LEGAL DESCRIPTION)**

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Ordinance was duly seconded by Councilmember Carlson. Motion carried with all roll call vote of 8-0.

**Motion by Hickel, seconded by Cook, to adjourn the Planning Commission meeting at 5:05 p.m. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

**Statement from Mayor Steve Dale** – A letter of apology in reference to the Leadership Code prepared by Mayor Steve Dale was read by Wateland as Dale was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Discussion was then held regarding an update on the investigation into the allegations against the mayor and communicating those findings to the City Council members. **Motion by McNary, seconded by Lambrecht, to approve paying Dennis Miranowski during his 30-day suspension.** Discussion held. It was noted this had already been addressed and voted on at the Public Hearing. **Motion failed 2-6, with McNary and Lambrecht voting 'aye', and Carlson, Goltz, Wateland, Bohn, Woods and Fobb voting 'nay'.** Wateland stated the situations with Miranowski and Dale are now closed, with the investigations having been closed and the penalty phases having been served or almost served and completed.

**CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (presented by the Council President)** –

**Approval of minutes of regular meeting held December 20, 2021**

**Games of Chance Licenses, Site Authorizations & Special Permits: None**

## **Presentation/Approval of Reports**

Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative Public Notice – Land Application

Wateland asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent agenda and there were none.

**Motion by Lambrecht, seconded by McNary, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented.**

**Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

## **REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND STAFF**

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR**

**2021 Budget Amendments – request referral to Finance Cmt.** – Huwe said as part of the City’s fiscal year end and preparation of the final financial statements a reconciliation of budgeted expenditures to actual costs is prepared. The final fund transfers will also be incorporated into the budget to actual statement. She requested 2021 budget amendments be referred to the Finance Committee. Council President Wateland will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

**2021 Fixed Asset Additions & Disposals – request referral to Finance Cmt.** – Huwe said in preparation for the close out of the 2021 fiscal year, additions and disposals to the City’s fixed assets will be reviewed. She requested 2021 proposed fixed assets additions/disposals be referred to the Finance Committee. Council President Wateland will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

**Election 2022** – Huwe reported City elections are held in the even numbered years opposite of the legislative sessions. The City of Wahpeton contests on the June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022, ballot include Ward 1, Ward 3, (2) At-Large Positions, and Mayor. The ballot will also include 3 At-large Park Board Commissioners. Information and the required filing forms are available on the City’s website and at City Hall. Candidates may not circulate the petition of nomination until January first and are due to City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Huwe requested suspension of the rules to discuss a topic not on the agenda regarding approval of a 2022 business license renewal application. **Motion by McNary, seconded by Woods, to approve suspending the rules to discuss a topic not on the agenda. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.** Huwe said Schmit Incorporated of Wyndmere has requested to renew their House Moving License for 2022. She requested a motion to approve the 2022 House Moving License for Schmit Incorporated. **Motion by Lambrecht, seconded by Carlson, to approve renewal of the 2022 House Moving License for Schmit Incorporated of Wyndmere. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

## **City Hall Closed January 17<sup>th</sup> in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

### **ATTORNEY**

**Parking Violation Fees – second reading of Ord. 1032** – Hatting explained this ordinance is repealing and replacing Section 42-533. This is the City’s parking fine ordinance and would increase the parking fines from \$5 to \$20.

Council member Carlson offered the second reading of the following Ordinance:

**ORDINANCE NO. 1032**  
**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTION 42-533**  
**PENALTY.**

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Ordinance was duly seconded by Councilmember Woods. Motion carried with all roll call vote of 8-0.

Hatting then requested referral to the Finance Committee of a Potential Development Agreement between the CDC and City of Wahpeton related to some proposed changes with the TIF District. Council President Wateland will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

**Community Development Report – Win Column** – This issue featured ways to keep entertained during the winter months.

**Recreation Center Cmt.** – DeVries introduced Amanda Fisher and Stacia Henningsen who provide an update from the previous proposed Wahpeton Recreation Center Committee on their vision moving forward. Fisher said there was a referendum last October that narrowly failed for a recreation center to be built in Wahpeton. After that a lot of support and encouragement was received to keep moving forward with the concept to make it a reality. Some things they have learned over the past few weeks were shared. They met with the Breckenridge group as their school referendum failed also. Part of their proposed project was for an Infinity Center whose concept is different from the Rec Center concept, and they would like to keep moving forward with that also. Both groups feel an economic impact study would be very valuable to both communities and Breckenridge would be willing to share in the cost if it gets to that point. Some companies have been contacted regarding this service. It was noted the CDC donation of the land is still on the table. It was felt there should be more Council involvement if it is agreed that this is something the Council wants to pursue. Woods requested the Proposed Wahpeton Recreation Center be referred to the Finance Committee. Council President Wateland will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

## **LIBRARY DIRECTOR**

**Library Report** – Bakken reported the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sock Tree at the library was a success collecting over 2,000 pairs of socks and 78 other undergarments for the Three Rivers Crisis Center. She thanked everyone who made donations. The items will be delivered to the Crisis Center on Thursday about 2:30 p.m. and donations will continue to be collected until that time. It was announced the library carries certain tax forms that are available to the public. A reminder was given to business owners that tax forms can also be ordered from the IRS. This week's programming includes story time, and story time and a craft/activity. A calendar of scheduled events can be found on the library's website. A family movie will be shown on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Judy Ben will be making a \$1,000 donation to the Children's Library/Polly's Place in remembrance of her parents. The library will be closed on January 17<sup>th</sup> in observation of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**Public Works Report** – Rogahn reported on the Public Works/Street Department tasks/activities in the past few weeks that have been completed or that are being worked on. He noted snow removal/hauling has been a priority. He also reported the screener for the ash at the tree dump site has not become available yet.

## **REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES & BOARDS**

**Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee Report (No meeting held December 27<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Westdale 3 Development Agreement Amendments**

**Tax Increment Financing Development Plan Amendment**

**Northside Industrial Park Inquiry**

**Lot Donation – 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North**

**Public Works & Public Safety Committee Report (No meeting held December 28<sup>th</sup>)**  
**Water Treatment Plant Emergency Operations Plan**

**Dakota Ave. Side Street Proj. ST20-255 Engineering Agreement (non-Federal Aid portions of project)**

**Water Transmission Line Proj. RFQ Advertisement for Preliminary Design Engineering Services**

**Alley Lighting – continued discussion**

**SRTS 11<sup>th</sup> St N. Proj. ST19-252 Change Order #1**

**Agreement with Richland County Water Resources District for SW Drain #2**

**Yard Junk/Clutter Updates**

**Building Official Updates**

**Referrals**

**SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The following Committee Meetings were then scheduled:

- a. Finance Committee January 10<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM
- b. Public Works Committee January 11<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

**Adjournment**

**Motion by McNary, seconded by Lambrecht, to adjourn at 5:46 p.m. Motion carried.**

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Council President Lane Wateland

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Lynelle Amos, Finance Assistant