

Wahpeton City Council

July 1, 2024

5:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Brett Lambrecht, Council Members Shannon Schillinger, David Woods II, Jason Goltz, Tiana Bohn, Kelly McNary, Renata Fobb, and Cory Unruh; **Absent:** Chad Perdue

Also Present: Finance Director Darcie Huwe, City Assistant City Attorney Will Budke, Public Works Director Dennis Miranowski, City Assessor Carla Broadland, Community Development Director Chris DeVries, Library Director Melissa Bakken, Police Chief Matthew Anderson, Deputy Police Chief Tim Appell, Finance Assistant Lynelle Amos, and Auditor's Assistant Cheryl O'Meara

CALL TO ORDER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order by Mayor Lambrecht. The pledge of allegiance was then recited.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/CITIZEN CONCERNS/ETC.

Organizational Meeting – Huwe explained the organization meeting is mandatory as established by the ND Century Code for the first official meeting in July.

Huwe provided an overview on the Election Canvassing Board stating the total number of ballots cast was 1,010. The winners of the four city races are consistent with the preliminary election results. The Canvassing Board has certified the results to the North Dakota Secretary of State. **Motion by Bohn, seconded by Schillinger, to approve Confirming the Official Election results from the Canvassing Board for the 2024 Primary Election. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Assistant City Attorney Budke issued the Oath of Office and swore in the newly re-elected City Council Members Jason Goltz (Ward 2), David Woods (Ward 4), Renata Fobb (At-Large), and Shannon Schillinger (At-Large). All positions are four-year terms expiring in 2028. Budke then explained the Wahpeton Home Rule Charter in reference to appointed officials.

Mayor Lambrecht called for nominations for President of the City Council. Bohn moved to nominate Goltz as Council President. After three requests for nominations, there was no further discussion. **Motion by Fobb, seconded by Unruh, to approve the nomination of Jason Goltz as City Council President. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Mayor Lambrecht called for nominations for Vice President of the City Council. McNary moved to nominate Bohn as Council Vice President. After three requests for nominations, there was no further discussion. **Motion by McNary, seconded by Fobb, to approve the nomination of Tiana Bohn as City Council Vice President. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Mayor Lambrecht made appointments to the City Council Committees as follows: Public Works Public Safety Committee: Kelly McNary, Chair; David Woods II, Vice Chair; Renata Fobb; and Chad Perdue. Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee: Tiana Bohn, Chair; Jason Goltz, Vice Chair; Cory Unruh; and Shannon Schillinger. **Motion by Goltz, seconded by Woods, to approve the appointments to the City Council Committees as presented. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Board & Commission Appointments – Lambrecht requested the Council confirm the following appointments to the various committees as follows: **Airport Authority:** Larry Merbach for term ending 2029; **Library Board:** Jeena Kompelien for terms ending 2027; **End of the Woods Task Force:** Brett Lambrecht for term ending 2026; Jason Goltz for term ending 2028; **Planning Commission:** Matt Dockter and Bryan Wolfram re-appointment pending; **Convention and Visitors Bureau:** Renelle Bertsch and Becky Lankow for terms ending 2028; **Zoning Board of Adjustment:** Wayne Steiner and Mike Turchin re-appointment pending, and Vacant position term ending 2026. **Motion by Fobb, seconded by Bohn, to approve confirming the appointments to the various committees as presented. Motion carried with all voting 'aye'.**

Oaths of Office – Wahpeton Police Dept. New Officers

Dean Christopherson and Austin Myogeto – Police Chief Anderson provided an introduction and administered Oath of Office to recently hired Wahpeton Police Officers Dean Christopherson and Austin Myogeto who were congratulated and welcomed by a round of applause.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS (presented by the Mayor) –

Approval of minutes of regular meeting held June 17, 2024

Games of Chance Licenses, Site Authorizations & Special Permits:

Wahpeton Senior Center – Bingo Permit

Other Games of Chance and or Special Permits:

Red River Sportsmen’s Club – Raffle Permit

Presentation/Approval of Reports

June 11th, 2024, Election Final Results

Mayor Lambrecht asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent agenda and there were none. **Motion by Goltz, seconded by Schillinger, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.**

REPORTS FROM CITY OFFICERS AND STAFF

FINANCE DIRECTOR

Huwe requested suspension of the rules to discuss an item not on the agenda. **Motion by Bohn, seconded by McNary, to approve suspension of the rules to discuss an item not on the agenda. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.** Huwe explained an application for a cabaret license was received for Econo Wine and Spirits after the agenda was prepared. Due to the short notice of the event this approval would need to be ratified to be effective as of June 27, 2024. **Motion by Bohn, seconded by Schillinger, to approve the application for a Cabaret License by Econo Wine and Spirits ratified to June 27, 2024. Motion carried with all voting ‘aye’.** (Woods exited the meeting and joined remotely)

Employee Retirement Plan Changes – refer to Finance Cmt. – Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

Alarm Systems Ordinance Review – Huwe requested this be referred to the Finance Committee. Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

2025 Preliminary Budget – refer to both committees – Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee, and also to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Reminder City Hall will be closed July 4th & 5th

ATTORNEY

Reminder of Public Hearing on Dilapidated Property for July 15, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. – Assistant City Attorney Budke gave a reminder of this public hearing noting the start time will be 5:45 p.m.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Community Development Report – BND Flex PACE Loan Request – Personality Properties –

DeVries requested this item be referred to the Finance Committee. Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee.

River Pointe Acres – DeVries provided an update saying with the recent sales the lots in River Pointe Acres are now $\frac{3}{4}$ sold. There are about 6 lots remaining. Anyone interested in the available lots to build a storage facility should contact him in the Community Development Office.

This issue of the Win Column featured spreading the good news about Wahpeton where each day next week a segment about Wahpeton events and attractions will be featured on the ND Today show leading up to Chalkfest.

DeVries then encouraged everyone to get out and enjoy the activities planned for the 4th of July in Wahpeton.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR

Library Report – Library Director Bakken reported there was a great attendance for the recent “Mixed Nuts” performance at the library. She thanked the Friends of the Library for sponsoring the comedy duo. The scheduled activities the next two weeks include story time, family movies, book discussion, Kercher’s 2nd session of “Arm chair travels”, music exploration, a teen meeting and visit to the Red Door Art Gallery, and a craft project. Patrons continue to sign up for the Summer Reading Program. In June 67 new patrons signed up for library cards. The library will be closed July 4th and 5th in observance of the holiday and no lunches will be served.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

Police Dept. Report – Police Chief Anderson reported the Police Department is now fully staffed and thanked City officials for their support in those endeavors. He also reported last August officers saved a citizen’s life utilizing an AED which was received through the ND Health and Human Services along with ND Law Enforcement AED Program. With the save, thanks to Officers Doboyou, Draovitch and Detective Huard they are being awarded one AED to place in the community. Since Officer Doboyou is the one who administered it he will be allowed to choose with which organization he would like it to be located.

Police Dept. Q2 Report – Police Chief Anderson provided an update on activity at the Police Department for the second quarter of the year. They have had 3,349 calls for service, which is about a 5% decrease. They have seen about a 50% increase in overdoses with all able to be saved. Mental health calls for service has increased. They have implemented Avel eCare which has been successful when utilized by officers. Assaults and domestics of all types are down. Shoplifting and thefts are up. The biggest increase continues to be in frauds & scams. Classes are being conducted to inform citizens on how to protect themselves from scams. There were 19 DUI’s. Regarding investigations they have had a total of 38 cases forwarded to the detective for follow-up, with 13 currently open. They have had 12 use of force incidents this year with all handled with appropriate levels of force.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

Public Works Report – Referrals to PW Cmt.:

Red River Valley Water Supply Project – refer to both committees – Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee, and also to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

2024 Concrete Repairs Quotes – Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Forestry Ordinance Review – Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Miranowski requested referral to Public Works Committee **of Consideration of the Waste Water Facility Plan**. Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Miranowski requested referral to Public Works Committee **of the Water Facility Plan**. Mayor Lambrecht will refer this item to the Public Works & Public Safety Committee.

Miranowski reported on the Public Works/Street Department tasks/activities in the past few weeks that have been completed or that are being worked on.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR & COUNCIL

Council member Schillinger congratulated Mayor Lambrecht on his retirement from the Wahpeton Volunteer Fire Department. He thanked him for his 30 years of dedication and service and appreciation was shown through a round of applause.

McNary commended Josh Meyer and those who work with Vector Control for all of their efforts in spraying for mosquitoes.

REPORTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Public Works & Public Safety Committee Report

McNary said the Public Works & Public Safety Committee met on June 24 at 4:00 p.m.

Sellin Brothers Inc. Contract Change Order No. 6 8th Ave. N. Reconstruction Proj. ST19-248 – motion to approve \$6,580 – Motion by McNary, second by Fobb, to approve Change Order #6 for the 8th Avenue North Reconstruction Project ST19-248 in the amount of \$6,580 with Sellin Brothers Inc. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Disposition of PD 2012 Chevrolet Impala – motion to proceed with disposition to Mid State Auto Auction – Motion by McNary, seconded by Goltz, to approve the disposition request and move forward with the sale of the Chevrolet Impala P-12 through Mid States Auto Auction. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 7-0.

Building Official Updates – discussion

Yard Junk & Clutter

Referrals (see PW Director Report)

Finance, Personnel & Economic Development Committee Report (no meeting held)

SCHEDULING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The following Committee Meetings were then scheduled:

- a. Public Works Committee July 8th, 2024 4:00 p.m. (A joint meeting of both committees will be
- b. Finance Committee July 8th, 2024 5:00 p.m. held from 4-6pm)

Motion by Unruh, seconded by Goltz, to adjourn at 5:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Mayor Brett Lambrecht

Lynelle Amos, Finance Assistant