



**City of Rice**  
205 Main St E – PO Box 179  
Rice, MN 56367  
**Rice City Council**



**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 6:00 PM**

Regular meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Present: Brian Skroch, Chris Scheel, Emily Walters, Paula Kampa, Michelle Keller, and Julie Fandel, City Clerk.

1. Kampa made a motion to accept the agenda as presented for Monday February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
2. Scheel made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
  - a. Approval of Planning Commission Minutes November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021
  - b. Approval of Park Board Meeting Minutes January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
  - c. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022.Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
3. **Citizen Participation:** Ken Nodo asked about the placement of a stop sign on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave and 4<sup>th</sup> St. He does not think that it will help the situation. Fandel stated that she and Chief Hamann discussed putting up caution children signs instead of the stop sign.
4. **BUSINESS**
  - a. Approve Staff Contracts- Retro date correction. Kampa made a motion to approve staff contracts with the revised retro date of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, instead of January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - b. Worker's Compensation. Kampa had questions of the rates and how they compared to the MN pool of rates. She would also like to check state codes to make sure we are coded correctly. Consensus of the council is that Kampa should work with Fandel to do some comparing.
  - c. RESOLUTION #020722-07 American Rescue Plan Act in March 2021. Scheel made a motion to approve Resolution #020722-07 the American Rescue Plan Act in March of 2021. Second by Kampa. Kampa asked what this resolution will do, Fandel stated that it allows us to move the Cares Funds into the general fund. But we will still code it separately so that it is easy to track.
  - d. Approving 2022 Annual Fee Schedule. Kampa made a motion to approve the 2022 Annual Fee Schedule with the added line for Large Gathering Permit. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

**5. DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE/BOARD/CONTRACTED STAFF  
REPORTS/UPDATE**

Clerks Report – Copier contract- Fandel explained that the copier contract is up. Bobbi Caster and I compared 2 quotes and the Coordinated Business bid was the lowest. Kampa made a motion to keep the Coordinated Business copier and replace the Police copier on the same contract. Second by Scheel. Kampa asked if there was a buy out on the current copier, Fandel will check. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Fandel made the council aware that there is a MN Power contract for the newest lift station. We must reach a certain revenue or pay the difference. It is a five-year contract and was signed in June of 2020. Fandel would like to send Bobbi Caster to the MCFO training conference March 22<sup>nd</sup> to March 25<sup>th</sup>. The cost of training is budgeted and she would not put in any additional time. Fandel would also like to take an online class, which is in her budget and would be done during



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regular hours. Scheel made a motion for both Fandel and Caster to attend the noted trainings. Second by Kampa. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Fandel is working with Chief Janski on the fire truck repairs and will update council as updates are available. We are a distribution location for the Benton County Mask Distribution. I will be out part of Wednesday, the safety meeting on Wednesday will be postponed. Planning Commission members update, when the planning commission met last week, they voted to the following terms, Voigt/New Member through December 31st, 2022, Peters/O'Brien through December 31st, 2023, Thene/Brixius through December 31st, 2024. Thene Chairperson, O'Brien Vice Chair. Police building update, gas was hooked up today and the garage doors were installed last Thursday. We can start working on the inside now that we have heat.

Mayor Skroch spoke about the training that he attended this past weekend; he had a compliment about how well Officer Traut represented the City of Rice. He also thanked Natasha Barber from the Sauk Rapids Herald on what a great job she does relaying the city information in the paper.

Public Works Supervisor Wollak informed the council that he is getting quotes for the furnace in the Old Village Hall, he will let the council know when he receives them. Skroch also informed the council that Amanda Othoudt from BEP will be looking at the Old Village Hall to see if there are any historical funds available. Keller asked if O'Brien's would be allowed to paint the wall in the hall green, Skroch informed her that that had been done years back.

### 6. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:

- a. February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Safety Meeting 12 PM
- b. February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – Office Closed President Day
- c. February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- d. February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM
- e. March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 - Park Board Meeting 6 PM
- f. March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- g. March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Work Session with School Board
- h. March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- i. March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM

7. **Approval of Bills/Electronic Transfers:** Walters made a motion to approve the Bills/Electronic Transfers as presented. Second by Keller. 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

8. **Adjourn:** Kampa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 PM. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Next City Council Meeting February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, 6 PM.

  
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Julie Fandel – City Clerk

  
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Brian Skroch, Mayor