



City of Rice
205 Main St E – PO Box 179
Rice, MN 56367
Rice City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday January 8th, 2024, 6:00 PM



Mayor Skroch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present: Brian Skroch, Chris Scheel, Michelle Keller, Paula Kampa, Ken Nodo, Tim Grinstead, City Engineer, Steve Wollak, Public Works, and Julie Fandel, City Clerk.

Skroch introduced the new city engineer, Tim Grinstead.

1. Scheel made a motion to accept the agenda as presented for Monday January 8th, 2024. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
2. 2024 Mayor Address – Skroch addressed the group and reminded them to be courtesy and come to the meeting with an open mind. Treat everyone with respect and remember we are here for the residents that elected us.
3. Keller made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
 - a. Approval of Park Board Meeting Minutes August 28th, 2023.
 - b. Approval of Work Session Meeting Minutes December 4th, 2023.
 - c. Approval City Council Meeting Minutes December 4th, 2023.
 - d. Approval Special Meeting December 11th, 2023.Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
4. **Citizen Participation:** None.
5. **BUSINESS**
 - a. Amanda Othoudt – Update on the BEP and presented the MCPP program.
 - b. 2024 Annual Fee Schedule/Appointments/Salary Schedule - Reviewed all the fees, appointments, and salaries. Kampa made a motion to approve the 2024 Annual Fee Schedule/Appointments/Salary Schedule with changes. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - c. Contracted Staff – Fandel stated that this is just for the council's information no motion needed.
 - d. RESOLUTION #010824-01 a Resolution Committing and Transferring Funds. Scheel made a motion to approve Resolution #010824-01 a Resolution Committing and Transferring Funds. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - e. RESOLUTION #010824-02 a Resolution Committing funds from the Rice Firefighters Association to the Rice Fire Department. Kampa made a motion to approve Resolution #010824-02 a Resolution Committing funds from the Rice Firefighters Association to the Rice Fire Department in the amount of \$168.86. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - f. RESOLUTION #010824-03 a Resolution of Lawful Gambling for the Knights of Columbus. Nodo made a motion to approve Resolution #010824-03 a Resolution of Lawful Gambling for the Knights of Columbus. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - g. RESOLUTION #010824-04 Adopting water and sewer rate monthly increases. Scheel made a motion to approve Resolution #010824-04 Adopting water and sewer rate monthly increases. Second by Kampa. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - h. Tri-County Humane Society Contract Kampa made a motion to approve the Tri-County Humane Society Contract. Second by Keller. Wollak asked for clarification on who can approve animals taking to the humane society. Only the people listed as authorized can approve. 5ays 0 nays, motion carried.
 - i. Bid for Publishing Local Government Legal Items 2024 Kampa made a motion to accept Star Publications, Sauk Rapids Herold as the official paper of the City of Rice. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.



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



6. DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE/BOARD/CONTRACTED STAFF REPORTS/UPDATE

Clerks Report – We have talked about the two projects that we have with Moore Engineering; we need to decide if we want them to finish the projects or transfer them to Stantec. Scheel made a motion to move the Railroad and Fox Meadows Trail to Stantec for completion. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. I attended a Benton County Commissioners meeting; the discussion was how to spend the rest of their ARPA funds. Each of the cities in Benton County presented for what they would like to use the funds. The commissioners will decide soon and let us know. The funds will be spent on infrastructure projects, they would like the projects to generate taxes. Benton County will be having another joint meeting with the cities and townships. The meeting will be held at the Watab Town Hall on January 23rd, 2024, at 6:30. Nodo stated that he would like to attend. Fandel will RSVP for him and let him know if any other information comes in.

Public Works – Wollak would like to make sure that if anyone sees Sara Midas to thank her, she contacted Steve to say that the red lights were on at the lift station, saving us from flooding into the house. Wollak would like to hook the lift stations into the Sakta so that he would get notification on his phone. Consent of the council was he should check into that as soon as possible.

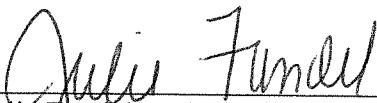
7. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:


- a. January 15th, 2024 – Office Closed
- b. January 22nd, 2024 – Work Session 5 PM
- c. January 22nd, 2024 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- d. January 29th, 2024 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM
- e. February 5th, 2024 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- f. February 6th, 2024 - Park Board Meeting 5 PM

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

9. Adjourn: Kampa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Next City Council Meeting January 22nd, 2024, 6 PM.


Julie Fandel – City Clerk


Brian Skroch, Mayor