



**City of Rice**  
205 Main St E – PO Box 179  
Rice, MN 56367  
**Rice City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 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.

1. Scheel made a motion to accept the agenda as presented for Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Fandel listed corrections to the minutes in the consent agenda and resolution #030424-06 to change \$2,300 to \$2,500. Scheel amended his motion, Keller amended her second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
2. Kampa made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
  - a. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for February 20th, 2024.
  - b. Approval of Planning Commission Meeting Minutes for February 26th, 2024.Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
3. **Citizen Participation:** None.
4. **BUSINESS**
  - a. Sarah Kellen – CARE – Presented information on what services they provide and statistics on how many Benton County residents are using them.
  - b. RESOLUTION #030424-06 a Resolution Establishing an Annual Pension Increase for the Rice Fire Relief Association. Scheel made a motion to approve Resolution #030424-06 a resolution Establishing an Annual Pension for the Rice Fire Relief Association. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - c. RESOLUTION #030424-07 a Resolution Approving 2024 Annual Appointments. Keller made a motion to approve Resolution #030424-07 a resolution Approving 2024 Annual Appointments. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - d. Prairie Farms 2024 Lease. Keller made a motion to approve Prairie Farm 2024 lease. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - e. Stantec – Railroad Crossing update. Grinstead updated information on the projects we are currently working on. Presented Task Order #24-02 Pedestrian Railroad Crossing at Main. Nodo made a motion to approve Task Order #24-02. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Nodo asked if there were any updates for the Fox Meadows trail, Grinstead stated that we received two bids for the tree grubbing. \$6,749.10 from Midwest Tree Experts MN, Inc and \$9,270.00 from Scott Lorenz Tree Service. Scheel made a motion to approve Midwest Tree Experts for the grubbing not to exceed \$7,000.00. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
5. **DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE/BOARD/CONTRACTED STAFF REPORTS/UPDATE**

Clerks Report – Elections tomorrow.

Public Works – Aztec swept the streets; 3 dump truck loads of rocks were removed. Wollak asked if the council would consider a raise for the compost works. Kampa made a motion to increase compost hour rate to \$16.00. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. April 10<sup>th</sup>, Wollak will have a knee replacement, he will be out for 2-3 months. He spoke to Adam, who covers the weekend when needed, and he will cover Wollak's weekends for that time. Wollak feels that we will need to look at getting



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part-time help. Wollak will check the Union contract to see what the stipulations are for bringing in part-time help.

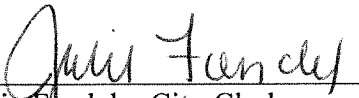
**6. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:**


- a. March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - Park Board Meeting 5 PM
- b. March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Railroad Project 1 PM
- c. March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- d. March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM
- e. April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 - City Council Meeting 6 PM

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

**8. Adjourn:** Kampa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Next City Council Meeting March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6 PM.

  
Julie Fandel – City Clerk

  
Brian Skroch, Mayor