



**City of Rice**  
205 Main St E – PO Box 179  
Rice, MN 56367  
**Rice City Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday March 18<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, Jeremy Mathiasen, City Engineer, Steve Wollak, Public Works, and Julie Fandel, City Clerk.

1. Keller made a motion to accept the agenda as presented for Monday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
2. Kampa made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
  - a. Approve Park Board Meeting Minutes January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - b. Approval Work Session Minute March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
  - c. Approval City Council Meeting Minutes March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024.Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
3. **Citizen Participation:** None.
4. **BUSINESS**
  - a. Rice Elementary PTA- Planning the grade graduation with a parade to the ballfield. Asking for Police escort and checking if they need a permit for the park. No permit will be needed and Chief Hamann is happy to help. May want to check with Benton County since it is a county road to the ballfield. Kampa made a motion to approve the parade and ball field use for 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Second by Keller. Kampa asked if the school insurance would cover the event. They will check with the principal. Kampa amended her motion to include getting insurance and checking with Chris Byrd at the county. Keller amended her second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - b. Farmers Market Large Gathering Permit 2024- Nodo made a motion to approve the Large Gathering permit for the Farms Market. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - c. Benton County Agreement -Scheel made a motion to approve the Benton County American Rescue Plan and State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Grant Agreement. Second by Nodo. Kampa asked on page 13 #4 for the insurance and bonding she could not find the statute noted. Fandel will check into that. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
  - d. Stantec – See memo, Railroad meeting went well, useful information. Fox Meadows Trail – still waiting on a few items from Moore, tree grubbing so start Wednesday, Stantec talked to all the people or left them a letter. New Well Improvements – Would like to do one more test on the second test well, Nodo stated that there is no three-phase power by that location, Mathiasen will address that. Can Wollak have someone pull samples? Mathiasen said he could they need to run them for 3-4 hours and then pull them. Scheel made a motion to get a local person to pull the well samples. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Walnut Ridge – Task order 24-03 is to start collaborating with the developer. They are starting to move and clear; utilities should start in a few weeks. Kampa made a motion to approve Task Order 24-3 for \$97,000. Second by Scheel. Scheel stated that it should be for the estimated at \$97,000. Kampa amended her motion to estimate \$97,000. Scheel amended his second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, they looked at it again last Thursday and will have an estimate put together and to Wollak soon.
5. **DEPARTMENT/COMMITTEE/BOARD/CONTRACTED STAFF REPORTS/UPDATE**



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Clerks Report – iPad information \$435 per, \$40 for programs and the cases, Janski would order them and set them up. Scheel made a motion to move forward with eight iPads. Second by Kamap. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. Day of prayer is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024, more to follow. Ballfield and land lease agreements have both been signed. Helping Hands are discontinuing cribbage on Wednesdays. I will be on vacation on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Tiffany will be here. The gentleman from 4<sup>th</sup> Ave asked about making payment to the city for his water sewer installation charge, he would also like to finance the second lot too. Skroch stated that since the information for this had only come in today, we should schedule a meeting for next week. The council agreed and a meeting was set for Monday March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Public Works – We had issues with lift #2, a seal went out and we are running on a rented pump, it will be replaced for about \$3800, lift #1 needed to be rewired not sure on the cost yet, Wollak doesn't think that we need to do street sweeping at this time, Scheel and Skroch agreed, we can look at it later and have you thought about part-time help. Wollak brought in Silversmith Data for a presentation. This is software created for cities, by cities to easily to monitor hydrants, vehicles, equipment's, water mains and much more. Scheel asked to cost, \$3,00 to start, \$1436 per year after that. The GPS handheld would run \$2750, we would need that to mark curb stops. Skroch asked what the average time is if we decided to add the program, about two weeks.

**6. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:**

- a. March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Safety Meeting 12:00 PM
- b. March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Work Session 5:00 PM
- c. March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Special Meeting 5:30 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
- f. April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 – Park Board Meeting 5 PM
- g. April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – Local Board of Review 6 PM
- h. April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – City Council Meeting 6 PM

**7. Approval of Bills/Electronic Transfers:** Nodo 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 7:00 PM. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Next City Council Meeting April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, 6 PM.

  
Julie Fandel – City Clerk

  
Brian Skroch, Mayor