



City of Rice
205 Main St E – PO Box 179
Rice, MN 56367
Rice City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday August 5th, 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. Keller made a motion to accept the agenda. Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
2. Keller made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
 - a. Approval City Council Meeting Minutes July 15th, 2024.
Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
3. **Citizen Participation:** None Mayor Skroch thanked the Fire Department, Police Department and the Public Works Department for the quick response and working together on Saturday night during the storm.
4. **BUSINESS**
 - a. Craft Show Large Gathering- Kampa made a motion to approve the Large Gathering Permit for September 7th and 8th, 2024 for the Craft Fair. Second by Scheel. Skroch asked Chief Hamann for clarification of his note on the permit. Chief Hamann stated that his only concern was with the roadwork on 4th Ave and the new business being built. There may not be any issues but wanted to bring it up in case. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - b. Rice Fire Department – Chief Janski presented information on a new tanker. He had brought the need for the truck to the council last year. He put together a committee and they researched different truck manufacturers. Midwest Fire can provide what we are looking for in a tanker truck and the price is in line with the others. This is a reasonable price in today's market. Sauk Rapids and Sartell Fire Departments have also used them. We also started to work with Sourcewell, they do all the comparing and saved us \$20,000 dollars. Scheel asked what the lead time was, Janski stated if we order now we are looking at August 1st, 2026. Kampa confirmed the location is in Luverne MN, for any issues, Janski said correct, Lieutenant Phenow added Freightliner in St Cloud will do warranty work as well. The price can change due to the lead time, some of the prices will be guaranteed and some can change. Scheel asked if we can sell #8, Janski yes and it should be in decent shape because we will have to keep repairing it until the new one comes. Scheel made a motion to purchase a new tanker truck for \$522,000. Second by Keller. Kampa thanked the Fire Department for putting in the work and forming a committed. Nodo stated that even though this is expensive, he is surprised it is not more. Skroch also thanked the department. Scheel amended his motion to include the price increase that may happen. Keller amended her second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. The council asked Chief Janski to keep them post on price changes.
 - c. Approval Payment Voucher No. 1 to Molitor's Excavating Inc. Nodo made a motion to approve the payment to Molitor's Excavating. Seconded by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
 - d. Stantec - Review projects they are working on, Railroad Crossing, did the council decide how to move forward? Yes at the work session prior to the meeting the council decided to move forward with the maze option, they will start the process. Fox Meadows Trail preconstruction meeting will be August 14th, 2024, the bidding for the new well site is ready and will be published this week, Walnut Ridge development first lift is done. Skroch added that we have three building permits.



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- e. RESOLUTION #080524-16 a Resolution Approving Plans and Specification and Ordering Advertising for bids Well No. Well No. 4 -Kampa made a motion to approve Resolution #080524-16 a Resolution Approving Plans and Specification and Ordering Advertising for bids Well No.4. Second by Scheel. Kampa stated that the date was incorrect for the bid opening. Kampa amended her motion to include a date change. Scheel amended his second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
- f. Task Order 24-06 Fox Meadows Trail – Kampa made a motion to accept Task Order 24-06 for the construction of the Fox Meadows trail. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

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

Clerks Report – Cannabis – Joint Power agreement- Kampa explained that from the meeting she attended the county is checking to see which locations want to manage this themselves or have the county. Discussion on pros and cons, Chief Hamann pointed out that if the city did it themselves they would have to do the “stings” also and we do not have the access to the resources that the county does. Consensus was that the city would have the county run this like they do our tobacco license. I have a quote for the back door on the city hall building. We have been having problems with its sealing and it does not make a connection for the card readers. Scheel made a motion to approve the quote not to exceed \$4400.00 for the new back door. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. We will again be receiving a credit of \$486.09 for the maintenance of our election equipment from Benton County. There was some confusion on the flooring bids, the bids were already except last year, but we could not move forward due to the furnace replacement cost. The quote was still the lowest, and we do not need two bids unless the project is over \$25,000. Scheel made a motion to accept the quote for Hennen’s Floor for the city hall. Second by Keller. Kampa asked if he was going to put a limit on the cost. Scheel amended his motion to include not to exceed \$25,000. Keller amended her second. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Public Works – I got a bid for patching of the road, \$6,500.00 for behind PM Services, 3rd St to north on 1st Ave SE. Scheel made a motion to approve the patching from 3rd St to north on 1st Ave SE for \$6,500. Second by Keller. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried. I also got a patch quote for \$2,250.00 for the alley north of the Post Office at intersection. Scheel made a motion to approve the patching for the alley north of the Post Office at the intersection for \$2,250.00. Second by Kampa. 5 ayes 0 nay, motion carried. The water does have a shut off to 4th Ave, however the hydrant does not drain down and will need to be replaced, it should just be the labor cost we have an extra hydrant. Silversmith is moving forward; they should be starting next week. I am retiring, my last day will be September 22nd, I will be on vacation from September 9th to the 20th, I already had it planned. I will help however I can with the transition. A brief discussion and meeting planned to figure out the next steps.

6. Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:

- a. August 6th, 2024 – Park Board Meeting 5 PM
- b. August 12th, 2024 – Work Session 5PM
- c. August 13th, 2024 – Primary Elections 7 AM – 8 PM
- d. August 19th, 2024 - Work Session 5 PM
- e. August 19th, 2024 - City Council Meeting 6 PM
- f. August 26th, 2024 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM
- g. September 2nd, 2024 – Office Closed Labor Day
- h. September 3rd, 2024 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- i. September 4th, 2024 – Park Board Meeting 5 PM
- j. September 16th, 2024 - City Council Meeting 6 PM



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k. September 30th, 2024 – Planning Committee Meeting 7 PM

7. **Approval of Bills/Electronic Transfers:** Keller made a motion to approve the Bills/Electronic Transfers as presented. Second by Scheel. Kampa asked about the Burski bill, Wollak stated the yes we buy diesel from them and pay for it twice a year. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
8. **Adjourn:** Kampa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 PM. Second by Scheel. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

Next City Council Meeting August 19th, 2024, 6 PM.


Julie Fandel – City Clerk


Brian Skroch, Mayor