



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



Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday February 3rd, 2025

Mayor Skroch called the meeting to order. Present: Brian Skroch, Chris Scheel, Jacki Janski, Paula Kampa, Ken Nodo, Tim Grinstead, City Engineer, Bobby Vaillancourt, Public Works and Julie Fandel, City Clerk.

1. Mayor Skroch opened the Public Hearing at 6:00 pm, would anyone present like to address the council, no one. Skroch asked if there was any written information received, Fandel no. Skroch stated we would leave the public hearing open.
2. Scheel made a motion to accept the agenda. Second by Kampa. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
3. Kampa made a motion to approve Consent Agenda as presented to include:
 - a. Approve Work Session Meeting Minutes January 21st, 2025.
 - b. Approve City Council Meeting Minutes January 21st, 2025.
 - c. Approve Planning Commission Meeting Minutes January 27th, 2025.Second by Nodo. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: None

5. BUSINESS

- a. Advantage 1 Insurance Review - Anne Pressnall – Review of insurance, suggested adding the Fox Meadows Trail open area. Kampa asked if that was mandatory, Pressnall no but recommended. Kampa asked if she had been through the buildings, Pressnell, yes those are all updated. Nodo asked what the cost for adding Fox Meadows Trail, Pressnell thought a couple hundred. No more questions.
- b. Ball Field Lease – Pressnell also represented the Ball Club for the ball field lease. They will hire a local youth to do some of the ball field work, Kampa asks to make sure they add that youth to the insurance. Fandel will send the lease out and they can make sure the club agrees.
- c. Farmland Lease – Scheel made a motion to accept the Prairie Farm Lease for the 2025 grow year. Second by Janski. Scheel asked to update the one date. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
- d. Large Gathering Permit – Car Show - Nodo made a motion to approve the large gathering permit. Second by Kampa. Fandel reviewed the information added by the city staff, Chief Hamann asked to be contacted about a month in advance to check on any updates. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.
- e. Amanda Othoudt - Benton Economic Partnership – Presentation and review of 2024. Kampa stated she was sad that we did not know they were helping BT Diesel in town, Scheel agreed. Othoudt stated that many times the business owner does not want the public to know until they are open. Popp added that the owner wants to make sure that the wrong impression is not given like they can afford it when really it is to have more available funds starting out. Kampa and Scheel agreed.
- f. Stantec. Grinstead stated that Jeremy had contacted the railroad for an update on Wednesday but had not received anything yet. We need the plan by the end of this month to stay on track. The screen for the well design has been submitted and we are still hoping for 300 gallons per minute. They should start the 1st or 2nd week of March.
- g. Close Public Hearing - Scheel made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:45 pm. Second by Janski. Skroch asked Marc Kelash if he wanted to address the audience. Kelash update them on the information. Skroch asked if anyone had any further questions, residents asked if the trees would stay and Kelash said yes. Skroch stated the planning commission concern was with spot zoning but



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across the street is business as well. Kampa said that the old school really does need to be cleaned up. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

- h. Kampa made a motion to move forward with the rezoning. Second by Janski. 5 ayes 0 nays, motion carried.

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

Clerks Report – Audit started today and will run all week with the auditors in house on Wednesday. I also have judge training for the school referendum election.

Public Works – Friday the computer in the water treatment plant went out. Scott Janski was able to install a new one and saved a ton of time but pulling the board to re add Scada. Total Control Spent the day doing the update. Traut Wells installed the new trees and handles to the lift.


Announcements/Upcoming Meetings:


- a. February 6th, 2025 - Park Board Meeting 5 PM - Cancelled
- b. February 17th, 2025 – Office Closed
- c. February 18th, 2025 – City Council Meeting 6 PM
- d. February 24th, 2025 – Planning Commission Meeting 7 PM
- e. March 3rd, 2025 – Work Session 5:30 PM
- f. March 3rd, 2025 - City Council Meeting 6 PM
- g. March 4th, 2025 – Park Board Meeting 5 PM
- h. March 17th, 2025 - City Council Meeting 6 PM

7. **Approval of Bills/Electronic Transfers:** Kampa made a motion to approve the Bills/Electronic Transfers as presented. Second by Nodo. 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 February 18th, 2025, 6 PM.


Julie Fandel – City Clerk


Brian Skroch, Mayor