

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 17, 2025
7:00 P.M., CITY HALL

Pursuant to due call and notice, the City Council of the City of Eagle Bend, MN met in regular session on Monday, March 17, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., in the City Hall. Mayor Scott Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Council Members present were Jaculyn Lorentz, James Kimball, and Jessica Olson; absent: none. Council Member Jason Nelson entered the meeting at 7:06 P.M. Also present were Clay Sandmeyer, Twila Pierce, Joleen Johnson, Debra Myers-Myrum, Nicholas Stoecker, Lori Johnson, and Andrea Voller.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Following a brief review and discussion, (Action 25-03-37) Council Member Olson moved to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2025 Regular City Council Meeting and March 05, 2025 Work Session Meeting as written, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

Bills submitted for approval were reviewed. Following a question and answer period, (Action 25-03-38) Council Member Lorentz moved to approve the bills for payment as presented, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

Joleen Johnson addressed the council regarding the water that comes into her garage every time it rains 1 ½ inches or more; this problem started ever since the city street was reconstructed by her place in 2018. Joleen gave a brief synopsis on how the curb was constructed in front of her place. The council at their September 20, 2021 meeting had approved to pay for one-half of the cost of \$2,800.00 to fix the problem; however, Joleen did not take this offer because she believes the city should pay for the total cost since she did not make this problem. Mrs. Johnson stated that she knew of no time frame for which the repairs needed to be done. Upon further review and discussion, the council decided to take a look at different alternatives for fixing this problem along with discussing this issue again with the City Engineer. No further action was taken at this time.

The council reviewed and discussed the request made by Derek Medved from Korner Stores, Inc. at the February 2025 city council meeting to purchase parcel #33-0034901 from the City of Eagle Bend. Korner Stores is proposing to renovate the Gas Station they recently purchased from Staples Bakery, located at 204 Highway 71 South which includes the construction of a diesel station on the open lot to the south of their gas station. The council informed Mr. Medved at the February meeting that they would discuss this issue at their work session on March 05, 2025, which they have done. Upon further review and discussion, (Action 25-03-39) Council Member Lorentz moved to sell parcel #33-0034901 to Korner Store in the amount of \$12,000.00 with a stipulation that they must construct a diesel station on this lot within one and one-half years or the lot is automatically reverted back to the city, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The city took the topic back up regarding the request made by Mark Lanoue from Long Prairie Sanitation (LPS) for a three year contract extension for the collection and disposal of refuse within the City of Eagle Bend. The current contract will expire on September 30, 2025. The council also discussed this issue at their work session on March 05, 2025. After a brief discussion, (Action 25-03-40) Council Member Lorentz moved to approve the LPS Refuse contract for another eight years with the city continuing to bill the residential residents for refuse, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The council was informed that the city did receive the Navigator grant from the League of MN Cities in the amount of \$5,000.00. This grant helps pay part of the cost of the grant writer fees to write the DNR grant for the splash pad; which is currently being applied for. After a brief discussion, (Action 25-03-41) Council Member Kimball presented Resolution #25-07-739 “A Resolution accepting Grant Navigator Funding” and

moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution: Nelson, Kimball, Lorentz, and Olson; against, none. Resolution #25-07-739 was duly adopted.

The council was presented with an invoice #308345166 in the amount of \$3,995.00 from Catalis Public Works & Citizen Engagement. This invoice was for the website management which runs from March 2025 to February 2026. The council wanted to know who has been updating the city web site since it appears like nothing new has been changed, added, or deleted during the past year. Council Member Olson stated that the city should wait to see if Catalis could give the city an extension of one more month before paying this invoice. Council Member Olson would like to give the city staff a chance to work on updating this web site with new information; otherwise, the cost is not worth it. The council was in agreement. Mayor Johnson instructed the City Administrator to contact Catalis Public Works to see if the city could work out an extension.

The Council was presented with invoice #0357489 from Bolton & Menk, Inc. in the amount of \$5,471.00 for professional services from January 18, 2025 through February 14, 2025 for the phase 5 Street & Utility Improvement Project. Following a brief review, (Action 25-03-42) Council Member Lorentz moved to pay invoice #0357489 as presented, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously.

The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust (L.M.C.I.T.) submitted a quotation to the City for its property/casualty insurance in the amount of \$35,197.00. This premium reflects a decrease of \$1,637.00 over last year's premium. Upon reviewing the breakdown of the coverage and premiums, (Action 25-03-43) Council Member Kimball moved to accept the quote from the LMCIT of \$35,197.00 for property/casualty insurance as presented, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Motion adopted unanimously. This policy coverage is from March 12, 2025 to March 12, 2026.

The council was presented with invoice #1936 in the amount of \$7,100.18 from Berg Electric for work done on the new storage shed at 439 Clark Street West. After reviewing the invoice (Action 25-03-44) Council Member Nelson moved to pay invoice #1936 from Berg Electric as presented, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously.

The Council was informed that a donation was made to the City from Wykham Township in the amount of \$250.00 for general use. (Action 25-03-45) Council Member Lorentz presented Resolution #25-08-740 "A Resolution accepting a donation to the City" and moved for its adoption, seconded by Council Member Nelson. Put to a vote, the following members voted in favor of this resolution: Kimball, Olson, and Lorentz, and Nelson; against, none. Resolution #25-08-740 was duly adopted.

Liquor Store financial report for the month of February 2025 was presented by the City Administrator to the City Council which showed a net loss of \$1,739.16.

The Council was presented with a monthly report for February from the Todd County Sheriff's Office showing calls they handled during the month.

Lori Johnson, the lead bartender for the Eagle Bend Liquor store, informed the city council that the Eagle Bend Liquor Store could purchase a Laptop Computer from KeyStrok for \$995.00 including the POS software and a one day training session. KeyStroke is the POS system that the liquor store is currently using. Mrs. Johnson stated that it would make her job more efficient since she could use the computer to correspond with vendors, order product, along with many other uses. Following a discussion, (Action 25-03-46) Council Member Olson moved to purchase the Laptop Computer for \$995.00 as presented, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

Council Member Olson stated to the council that she believes the ceiling tiles and fans should be replaced in the Eagle Bend Liquor Store. The new tiles are estimated to cost around \$2,000.00. After talking with Lori Johnson about the tiles and fans, (Action 25-03-47) Council Member Kimball moved to purchase new tiles and fans for the liquor store as discussed, seconded by Council Member Lorentz. Motion adopted unanimously. The council stated that they would have the city maintenance department install the tile. Mrs. Johnson also informed the council that she will be doing some minor painting and other touch ups throughout the liquor store.

The City Council was informed that the committee composed of Jaculyn Lorentz, James Kimball, and Kevin Hess have completed the interviews for the City Administrator's position. Council Member Lorentz and Council Member Kimball gave an overview of all the interviews that were conducted by the committee. The committee brought Ashley Nordlund back for a second interview and she made a good impression on the committee due to her research she conducted about the job, how she answered the hard questions correctly, and she appears to be a driven person. Therefore, the committee's recommendation to the City Council was to hire Ashley Nordlund as the new City Administrator. The council proceeded to discuss what wage the city should offer Mrs. Nordlund along with the length of the probationary period. Following a very lengthy discussion, (Action 25-03-48) Council Member Lorentz moved to offer Mrs. Nordlund the City Administrator position at a starting wage of \$52,000.00 along with a one year probationary period, seconded by Council Member Kimball. Motion adopted unanimously.

The City Council read an e-mail from Maggie Wiederin from Minnesota Power indicating that they will get the information on the annual revenue numbers from all MN Power accounts in the city of Eagle Bend this week so the council can make a decision on the franchise fee. Maggie stated that she will make this a priority so they can get this franchise agreement wrapped up, especially since it has taken entirely too long to have this completed.

The council was presented with an e-mail from the City Attorney which was requesting Nyberg Surveying to provide a legal description for the land that the city is transferring over to Cory Berg. The City Attorney has received the description so they will begin to draw up papers for the city to transfer this land to Cory Berg.

The City Administrator informed the Council that the Todd County Assessor has scheduled Thursday April 10, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. for the Board of Equalization meeting for the City of Eagle Bend.

There being no further business to come before the City Council, (Action 25-03-49) Council Member Lorentz moved to adjourn at 8:27 p.m., seconded by Council Member Olson. Motion adopted unanimously.

Kevin Hess
City Administrator

Scott Johnson
Mayor