



**MINUTES – Warren City Council**

**Regular Meeting**

**February 14, 2023**

*Call to Order*

A Meeting of the Warren City Council was held commencing at 7:00 P.M. with Mayor Travis Carl presiding. Council members present: David Weber, Jarod Peterson, Mark Wimpfheimer, Justin Buegler, Danny Omdahl. Absent: David Erickson. Also present: Shannon Mortenson, Brent McMillan, Jarda Solc, Nancy Mattson, Matt Linder, Jeremy Linnell, Scott Jorgenson, Ryan Houske, Jason Olson. Following Roll Call, the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was given.

3. **Approval of Agenda- Motion was made by Peterson, second by Omdahl to accept the agenda as presented. All in favor, Motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Minutes –Motion was made by Wimpfheimer, second by Omdahl to approve the minutes from the January 24 meeting. All in favor, Motion carried.**
5. **Engineer’s Report-** Jarda Solc did not have any updates.
6. **Operations Manager Report-**McMillan was given the floor. Since the snow removal events have been non-existent in January, staff have been removing trees, replacing water and gas meters and doing some work at the Fire Hall. McMillan has been reviewing grant opportunities.
7. **Clerk’s Report-** reviewed. Mortenson added she attended a Clerk’s meeting in Breckenridge that had helpful information for cooperative purchasing, thinking of the childcare facility. She also has had meetings that provided information at the Inflation Reduction Act for resident tax credits. She will be circling back with MPCA as they have programs they are administering.
8. **Treasurer’s Report**
  - a. **January General Ledger –** tabled.
  - b. **Pay Bills –Motion was made by Buegler, second by Peterson to pay the bills as presented with checks #47180-47233. All in favor, Motion carried.**
9. **Unfinished Business**
  - a.
10. **New Business**
  - a. **Fire Department Annual Report-**Fire Chief Jeremy Linnell was given the floor. A handout was distributed with the statistics. Currently there are 23 active members; they could use more members as the maximum amount is 30. There were 42 total calls in 2022. The refurbished truck has arrived in Fergus Falls. Equipment is being added. Ryan Houske wrote a grant application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). The Fireman’s Ball Fundraiser is the last Saturday in February. The shed east of the hall is in really bad shape. The fire hall itself is getting crowded. There is a need for a ladder truck as the only ones in the area are East Grand Forks and Hallock. A used ladder truck is from \$300,000-600,000. A new one is \$1.8 million. It was recommended to the department to organize an equipment

and building committee or Capital Purchases Committee and draft a 5-10 year plan. City is more than willing to attend those meetings to help formulate a successful plan. The pumper truck last payment is this year.

**b. 2023 Fire Contracts – Motion was made by Omdahl, second by Peterson to accept the contracts as presented. All in favor, Motion carried.**

**c. Airport Contract Addendum- Motion was made by Wimpfheimer, second by Omdahl to approve the addendum as presented. Peterson abstained due to a conflict. All in favor, Motion carried.**

**d. Resolution 2142023-01 Temp Financing Childcare -USDA funds projects when they are completed so the city will need to obtain construction financing to build the center. A public hearing will be held March 14 to issue tax-exempt bonds. The issuer will be MN Rural Water has they have an attractive interest rate and no penalties for early payoff. There was a question on if interest is accrued on cash drawn. Jason Murray will be present at the public hearing to address any questions. Motion was made by Peterson, second by Buegler to approve the resolution as presented. All in favor, Motion carried.**

**e. Overtime Report- Motion was made by Weber, second by Wimpfheimer to approve the report as presented. All in favor, Motion carried.**

**f. Ageing Report – reviewed.**

**g. Retainer City Attorney – Don Aandahl would like to enter into a retainer agreement and the city would pay the firm \$2000/month for retainage. The last five years of legal fees have totaled \$35,000. Questions from council were would all city funds (WEDA) be included, does the retainer carry over from year to year, why that much money now when a retainer has not been charged? Mortenson said she only was requested to put on the agenda for discussion. Council would like more details and have someone from the firm present at the next meeting. Discussion did take place on the charter language and how antiquated the original charter is. Tabled to next meeting.**

**h. LMCIT Waiver – Motion was made by Peterson, second by Wimpfheimer to not waive the statutory limit for liability in the city. All in favor, Motion carried.**

**11. Committee Meetings: None**

**12. Future Agenda Item(s)-**

**13. Adjournment –Motion was made by Carl, second by Weber to adjourn at 8:06 p.m. All in favor, Motion carried.**

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**Shannon Mortenson**  
City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

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**Travis Carl**  
Mayor