

**Canton City Council Public Hearing Minutes  
December 8, 2021**

The Canton City Council held a public hearing on a land use variance application on December 8, 2021, at the Canton Town Hall. Members present: Mayor Nick Prestby, Carl Ernst, Randy Gossman and Josh Nordsving; Cindy Shanks was absent. City staff present: Brock Bergey, Jim Davis and Barb Kerns. Visitors present: Jane Hall, Melissa Vander Plas and Kristy Ziegler.

Mayor Prestby called the public hearing to order at 6 p.m. He asked if there were any comments on the variance application from Dallas and Karlee Serfoss to building a 10 ft. x 20 ft. outbuilding at 405 North Main Street; the proposed project does not meet the 10 ft. property line setback requirement to the north. There were no public comments.

Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to adjourn at 6:03 p.m.; motion carried.

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**Canton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 8, 2021**

Mayor Prestby called the regular meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to approve the agenda; motion carried. Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to go into closed session to discuss legal strategy in court files 23-CR-19-671 and 23-CR-21-130 with Fillmore County Attorney Brett Corson; motion carried.

At 6:22 p.m. the meeting was reopened to the public. Mayor Prestby noted the closed session discussion included a videoconference call with Attorney Corson regarding the January 3, 2022 court appearance for former city clerk/treasurer Lolly Melander.

Motion by Ernst, second by Nordsving to approve the November minutes; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to approve the consent agenda (approval of monthly bills; approval of temporary closure of Veterans Drive for Canton Community Association's Santa Day on December 11, 2021; approval of on-sale liquor license application for Brenda Janvrin dba True Smoke BBQ & More or 2022); motion carried.

**Public comments:** None

**Clerk's report:** In his clerk report, Bergey noted there were 24 delinquent utility accounts, with one service disconnection occurring since the November meeting. 91 pet licenses and 21 UTV/golf cart permits have been issued to-date in 2021. Bergey noted while compiling information for the preliminary engineering report on the water and wastewater systems, it was discovered more than \$155 in late fee charges were associated with sewer plant electric bills in 2017 and 2018. Canton has been awarded an additional \$1,192 in ARPA funds for 2021 and 2022. These funds account for a portion of Minnesota's allocation of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were not requested by other municipalities. Canton's revised ARPA fund total is \$37,593.10 (\$18,796.55 in 2021 and \$18,796.55 in 2022). The town hall floor will be refinished the week of December 13. City hall will be closed on Christmas Eve.

**Public Works report:** Davis reviewed a letter from the Minnesota Department of Health regarding a recent water inspection; no issues were reported. The removal and spreading of sludge at the sewer plant has concluded and went well. The televising of the sewer mains continues, with work expected to be completed soon. Snow removal equipment is ready to be put to use for the season.

**Fire Department:** Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to accept the resignation of Chad Wangen from the fire department; motion carried.

Motion by Ernst, second by Nordsving to advertise for Wangen's replacement; motion carried.

**Police:** None

**Planning Commission:** Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to approve the land use variance application from Dallas and Karlee Serfoss; motion carried.

**Unfinished business:** Gossman reported the five replacement doors for the former bus shed have been constructed, thanks to the help of several community volunteers. A time to hang the doors will be determined.

Motion by Ernst, second by Gossman to approve Resolution 2021-14 certifying the final 2022 General Fund operating budget at \$275,915; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to approve Resolution 2021-15 to certify the final 2022 tax levy at \$164,568 (3.4% increase from 2021); motion carried.

Motion by Nordsving, second by Gossman to approve Resolution 2021-16 to certify the final 2022 Water Fund operating budget at \$68,241; motion carried.

Motion by Nordsving, second by Gossman to approve Resolution 2021-17 to certify the final 2022 Sewer Fund operating budget at \$98,661; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Ernst to approve Resolution 2021-18 to certify the final 2022 fire department operating budget at \$23,550; motion carried.

**New business:** Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to approve Ordinance 2021-03 establishing the 2022 fee schedule; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Ernst to publish a summary of Ordinance 2021-03 in the *Fillmore County Journal*; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to accept a \$6,700 proposal from David Drown Associates for an employee classification and compensation study; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to approve Resolution 2021-19 to authorize the disposal of tax-forfeited land: Parcel ID 09.0195.000 (Popplewell property/former school) through public sale; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Nordsving to approve Resolution 2021-20 to authorize the disposal of tax-forfeited land: Parcel ID 09.0172.000 (Scrabeck property) through public sale; motion carried.

Motion by Gossman, second by Ernst to approve Resolution 2021-21 to designate the City of Canton as a mail ballot precinct for the 2022 election season; motion carried.

Motion by Nordsving, second by Gossman to approve a request by Mayor Prestby to attend a League of Minnesota Cities elected leadership training (\$275 registration fee plus hotel) in the Twin Cities on February 4-5, 2022; motion carried.

Motion by Nordsving, second by Ernst to adjourn at 7:22 p.m.; motion carried.