

Canton City Council Regular Meeting Minutes November 8, 2023

Members present: Josh Nordsving, Jason Magnuson, Kristy Ziegler, Jen Dowling, Randy Gossman

City staff present: Anne Koliha, Barb Kerns, Jim Davis

City staff absent: Jon Nordsving

Visitor(s) present: Melissa Vanderplas (FC Journal), Carl Ernst

Mayor Nordsving called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Magnuson to approve the agenda, motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Dowling to approve the consent agenda:

- a) Approval of October 11, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b) Approval of November Disbursement
- c) Approval of ZZ Tap liquor license application
- d) Approval of waiver of Town Hall fee for Canton Legion for November 11 Veterans dinner

Public comments: none

Reports:

Mayor Nordsving: Mayor Nordsving brought up to the council about abandoning/vacationing grass alleys and portions of streets, need to check with MiEnergy regarding access to electric lines/boxes; also brought up about miscellaneous lots owned by City what to do with them

Deputy Clerk: Kerns noted with colder weather approaching anyone with vulnerable water meters should prepare and care for them as costs of meters continues to go up

Clerk: Koliha reported on continued work on budgets, processing of ordinance updates, working with PW Nordsving on grant application for replacement fluoridation equipment for water system

Public Works: Davis reported on them trimming up trees before winter, wastewater sludge has been hauled for the year. Koliha reported on behalf of Nordsving about councils wishes on how to handle hazardous trees our town that are on peoples property but close to the roads, explained how City of Mabel handles with a letter stating that the City will be hiring a tree service to remove these trees and costs passed on to the landowners with option to pay or put on property taxes – council thought good idea to do and advised Koliha to go ahead and send out letters as needed.

Fire Department: Davis reported on the Fire Department request to increase their PERA benefit level to \$900 with the Fire Relief Association making a larger donation of \$3000 to cover this increase

Police: none

Planning Commission: none

Old Business

- a) Consider approval of Resolution 2023-11 Sewer Rate increase for 2024
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Dowling to approve Resolution 2023-11 Sewer Rate increase for 2024; motion carried.
- b) Consider approval of Resolution 2023-12 Garbage & Recycling Rate increase for 2024
Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Ziegler to approve Resolution 2023-12 Garbage & Recycling Rate increase for 2024; motion carried.
- c) Discussion on 2024 Preliminary Budgets
Clerk Koliha reported updates to budgets, have been able to drop the tax levy to 8% for the general fund.

New Business

- a) Consider approval of Resolution 2023-13 Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges
Motion by Ziegler, seconded by Gossman to approve Resolution 2023-13 Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges; motion carried.
- b) Consider prize money for Holiday adopt-a-planter contest
Council agreed to provide 'Canton' Dollars for prizes same as last year
- c) Consider approval to increase PERA benefit level for Fire Department to \$900
Motion by Gossman, seconded by Dowling to approve the increase to PERA benefit level for Fire Department to \$900; motion carried with Magnuson abstaining.
- d) Consider approval of \$3,000 donation from Canton Fire Relief Association
Motion by Gossman, seconded by Ziegler to accept the \$3,000 donation from Canton Fire Relief Association; motion carried with Magnuson abstaining.
- e) Consider approval of \$3,000 contribution to PERA on behalf of Canton Fire Department
Motion by Gossman, seconded by Ziegler to approve the \$3,000 contribution to PERA on behalf of Canton Fire Department; motion carried with Magnuson abstaining.

Motion by Magnuson, seconded by Ziegler to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m.; motion carried.