

APPROVED CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting of the City Council was held on Monday, August 5, 2024, at 5:00 PM, at City Hall. Mayor Thomas Erdmann presiding.

The following members of council and city departments were present: Doug Smith, Trygg Olson, Tyler Hoggarth, Troy Roundy, Neil Fandrich*, Jesse Nelson, Leo Ryan, Jason Wolsky, Christopher Bittmann, and Jennifer Gast.

*Arrived at approximately 5:10 pm.

Also Present: Kevin and Merdyna Guthmiller, Dillon Flemmer, and Whitney Carter.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Erdmann recapped the last budget meeting from last Thursday night that discussion on the wage scale was held and the work Tanya Wieler from Dakota Dynamics was contracted to do. Tanya and Auditor Gast were instructed to place employees on the wage scale. A memo from Tanya Wieler was reviewed. A fifteen step scale was proposed with 3% between each step for the first 10 years then 2% between each step years 11 through 15 along with an annual cost of living adjustment. The Mayor had a conversation with Tanya on the aggressiveness of that and talked about a 20 year step system.

Auditor Gast explained to Council that she worked with Tanya Wieler on proper placement of each employee on the proposed wage scale. Gast explained not only were years of service taken into consideration but also outside years of experience relevant to their position.

Auditor Gast then presented to Council a third preliminary 2025 Budget based upon the placement of employees upon the proposed wage scale including salary, FICA, and retirement calculations. The additional expenditures required for implementation for the general fund are \$23,056.97, library fund \$5.24, water fund \$5,609.43, and sewer fund \$11,765.86.

The Mayor suggested the wage scale be referred to Finance & Legal for further revision.

A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Roundy, to approve the preliminary 2025 budget based upon the tentative wage scale, an additional half mill for the library fund, transferring the Police Department to the ND PERS Public Safety Plan, and levying a total of 89 mills. The following voted in favor: Hoggarth, Olson, Smith, Roundy, Fandrich, and Nelson. Against: None. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Smith, to move the next regularly scheduled Committee and Council meetings from Monday, August 12, 2024 to Tuesday, August 13, 2024. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There being no further business on the special meeting agenda, a motion was made by Hoggarth, seconded by Smith, to adjourn. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 5:37 PM.

Jennifer Gast, City Auditor

Thomas Erdmann, Mayor