

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Council members present: Sander, Leach, Schneider, Prokosch

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander.

A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to approve payment of the claims and the minutes from the last regular meeting. Passed unanimously. A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Schneider to approve a land use permit for Larry Gunderson (fence). Passed unanimously. A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Leach to approve a land use permit for Connor McNamara (fence). Passed unanimously. A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Schneider to approve a land use permit for Splash Island Adventure Park (splash pad). Passed unanimously.

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| Law Enforcement | Deputy Ben Demlow was present to introduce Renville County's newest Deputy, Mike Wagner. The second quarter report was reviewed by the Council. A second round of blight nuisances are being surveyed. An update on 1060 Hwy. Avenue revealed the deadline to recoup his possessions has passed. The owner is in the process of serving his jail sentence over a limited period of time. A building inspection of the house is being coordinated. |
| Portable Storage/
Shipping Container | The Council reviewed the proposed Portable Storage/Shipping Container ordinance. Questions were raised about the time limit restrictions. A recommendation to change the compliance deadline to one year following adoption will be made. The proposed ordinance will be sent to the City Attorney for review. |
| Public Works Report | The Council reviewed the Public Works/Maintenance Report submitted by Woelfel. Hydrant repair has started. Contacts have been made to assist in treatment of phosphorus, at least one more discharge will be necessary and yearly limit is very close. Water tower will be cleaned on August 23 rd . Residents on Sunrise Ave. are asking to have a snow fence installed this year on the north side of town. Woelfel will approach the farmer about leaving some rows of corn to act as a natural snow fence. |
| Temporary Street
Closure | The Learning Funhouse is planning an Open House/Family Appreciation Event on Wednesday, August 23 rd and would like to close Ash Avenue from Main Street to 6th Street between 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to approve the temporary closure. Passed unanimously. Woelfel will coordinate barricades for the closure with the Funhouse. |
| LMC Recognition | Representative Dean Urdahl was recognized for his efforts this past legislative session as a League of MN Cities 2023 Legislature of Distinction. |
| 2024 Preliminary
Budget | The Council discussed a preliminary 2024 Budget and Levy that involves a 6.39% levy increase. This includes an increase on water tower maintenance, full-time employee cost of living increase due to inflation, and fire department truck repairs and equipment. This increase does not include the City's commitment to Island Living as that exact amount and timing is still uncertain. |
| Baseball Park
Complex | The BOLD Baseball Association will look into redesigning their plans for a shelter to be built at the complex that will not require a structural engineer. |

At this time the meeting was closed to discuss the pending appointment of a new council member to replace Councilman Engelmann.

The meeting was reopened at 8:43 PM.

A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to appoint Deb Lingl to the vacant council member seat at which time that seat will be on the ballot at the November 2024 election for a two-year term to complete the remaining years of that seat. Passed unanimously. The Council thanked Engelmann for his many years of dedicated service to the community.

Meeting adjourned.
Tracey Ahl, City Administrator

Minutes of the Special Email Votes

- Renville County Fair Thursday July 13, an email vote was sent out to the Council to approve the Renville County Agricultural Society's Temporary 1-4 Day On Sale Liquor License to be able to sell alcohol during the fair, August 9, 10 & 11. Passed unanimously
- Thursday August 3, an email vote was sent out to the Council to approve the Renville County Fair Board's request to close Elm Ave between 4th street and 6th Street and 6th Street between Elm Ave and Dogwood Ave on Wednesday, August 9th from 3:00 pm – 8:30 PM for the FFA car show during the fair. Motion passed.
- Alcohol License Tuesday August 15th, a special email vote was sent out to the Council to approve the American Legion Post #186 a One-Day On Sale Beer License for the Pheasants Forever Banquet being held on August 17, 2023 at the Renville County Fairgrounds. Passed unanimously

Tracey Ahl, City Administrator