



**MINUTES
COHASSET CITY COUNCIL
305 NORTHWEST FIRST AVENUE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021
6:30 P.M. OPEN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
7:00 P.M. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

6:30 p.m. Open City Council Work Session to discuss contract for lobbyist services

Mayor Greg Hagy called the City Council work session to order at 6:30 p.m. with all members present. Discussion was held regarding the need for a lobbyist position. After reviewing the contract and a question/discussion session, it was agreed that lobbyist services will be used on a case by case basis and a yearly contract will be declined. The work session was adjourned.

7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Greg Hagy called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

The following statement was read by Finance Director Max Peters:

The City of Cohasset is pleased to announce plans to build a 25,000 square foot manufacturing facility in the Cohasset Business Park. The \$4-million facility will be funded by a \$3.38 million grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and \$847,000 from the City of Cohasset EDA.

Supporting and growing our manufacturing sector will help strengthen our entire regional economy, with thousands out of work and much uncertainty resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is essential that we continue investing in projects that will reshape the region's future. This project will provide much-needed space for expanding businesses.

The 25,000 square foot will be an attractive space for both businesses new to the area and existing businesses looking to expand. Commercial spaces will include high ceilings, loading dock access, high-speed internet, easy access to utilities, and proximity to the Cohasset and Grand Rapids business districts.

Continued investment in our economy and our community is the best way to drive prosperity, we're incredibly proud of the collaborative work we've done to move this project forward quickly.

Cohasset's path to recovery and resiliency must include diversification. Constructing the new manufacturing facility will create 92 multi-year jobs while contributing directly to employment recovery and economic diversification.

The City of Cohasset worked with many trusted partners to demonstrate the need for a new facility and secure funding from the EDA. This project would not be possible without IEDC, Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC), Area Partnership for Economic Expansion (APEX), and Minnesota Power. The City of Cohasset would also like to thank Senator Amy Klobuchar, Senator Tina Smith and Representative Pete Stauber for writing letters of support for this project.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Greg Hagy, Councilors Terry Bartz, Tim Carlson, Phillip Hermel, and Jason Tabaka

Absent: None

Non Officio Members: Finance Manager Max Peters, and Security Officer Dean Scherf,

3. Resident Input: None

4. Approve Agenda

Additions: Item 5)C Contribution to Western Mesaba Mine Planning Board

Deletions: None

A motion was made by Tabaka/Carlson to approve the agenda as amended. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.

5. Administration

A. Approve the 2021 Eide Bailly Contract in the Amount of \$26,950: *A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the Eide Bailly contract for 2021 in the amount of \$26,950.00. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

B. Acknowledge Patrick Doell's Resignation from the Cohasset Fire Department: *A motion was made by Tabaka/Carlson to acknowledge Patrick Doell's resignation from the Cohasset Fire Department. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

C. Approve Annual Contribution Amount of \$700 to Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board: *A motion was made by Tabaka/Carlson to approve the annual contribution amount to Western Mesabi Mine Planning in the amount of \$700. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

6. Miscellaneous Announcements, Reports and FYIs:

Tim Carlson reported that Portage Park ice rink has lost a lot of ice due to the warm temperatures.

All matters listed under consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

7. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve Claims in the Amount of \$319,372.40
- B. Approve the February 9, 2021 City Council Minutes

A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the consent agenda and claims in the amount of \$319,372.40. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Hagy adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by Deputy Clerk Karen Blair

Approved: 3/9/2021