



MINUTES

COHASSET CITY COUNCIL

305 NW FIRST AVENUE, COHASSET, MN 55721

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.

6:30 PM Work Session

Zoning Officer, Tony Valtinson, presented a public hearing date to amend the sign ordinance. The City's current ordinance doesn't allow for signs over 96 square feet, per page 17 Item 3 of sign ordinance 10.103. Dondelinger has wall signs that equal a total of 235.79 square feet. Tony Valtinson proposed that the amendment include all of Highway 2 corridor and the Industrial Park, and recommended taking the wall signage item out completely from the ordinance. It was recommended removing Item C2b, monument signs, and considering monument signs as the same as a regular sign. There was universal agreeance among the council with removing the wall signage item from the ordinance.

7:00 PM City Council Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Andy MacDonell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Andy MacDonell, Councilors Kevin Tinquist, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Ott

Absent with Notice: None

Non-Officio Members: City Administrator; Max Peters, Zoning Officer, Tony Valtinson, Security Officer, Dean Scherf

Other: None

3. **Resident Input:** None

4. Council Info / Liaison Reports:

Terry Bartz attended the CPUB meeting on May 6, 2024. There was discussion regarding Tioga lighting and an update from Ramona Sjostrand on the Grand Rapids Area Cable Commission.

Kevin Ott attended the Planning Commission meeting on May 6, 2024. There was discussion regarding ordinances that will need to be added and/or adjusted.

5. Approve Agenda

Additions: Item A- goMARTI Presentation

Deletions: None

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Ott to approve the agenda with the addition of the goMARTI Presentation. Councilor Andy Haarklau seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

6. Administration

A. goMARTI Presentation

Tammy Meehan Russell, Project Manager and Trisha Peterson, Community Catalyst, presented a goMARTI 2.0 expansion project. goMARTI stands for, Minnesota's Accessible Rural Transit Innovations. The 24 month pilot program started in 2022, with half of the funding coming from MNDOT and the other half from local partners as well as some federal funding coming soon. There are five self-driving shuttles that operate in the 16.5 square mile service area and rides are offered for free. Rides are requested via an app or call center and are available within 7 to 11 minutes at 75 virtual pickup/drop-off locations. In October 2022, there were 350 riders, 60 of which were in wheelchairs, and 71% repeat riders. In May 2024, goMARTI will hit 10,000 riders, 8-10% are wheelchair accessible rides, and 91% repeat riders. goMARTI was awarded federal funding in the amount of \$9.3 million. The expansion will bring goMARTI down Highway 2 into the City of Cohasset. The next step of the process will include the transition to a 36 month pilot program, three years of operations with this funding including fully electric shuttles. There will be up to five community listening sessions planned for June.

B. 2024 Electric Generation Transition Aid Update – City Administrator, Max Peters

City Administrator, Max Peters, shared that the Minnesota Department of Revenue has approved The Energy Transition Aid in 2024. For year one, this aid will award the City of Cohasset \$452,664.00, Itasca County \$1,119,280.00, and ISD #318 \$418,392.00. Every year moving forward it will decrease by 5.0% until it is depleted. There are no restrictions on how the money is used.

C. Industrial Park Grubbing Change Order

Cohasset City Council approved Industrial Park Grubbing by Casper Construction Inc. in the amount of \$204,100.00 on April 23, 2024. Requesting approval of a change order in the amount of \$210,100.00 with an additional \$6,000.00 for silt fence.

A motion was made by Councilor Andy Haarklau to approve Industrial Park Grubbing by Casper Construction in the amount of \$210,000.00. Councilor Kevin Tinquist seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

D. Approve Purchase of Parcel No. 05-515-0130

Requesting approval to purchase Parcel Number 05-515-0130 in the amount of \$55,000.00. The City of Cohasset owns the four adjacent lots to the south of this property. This property would allow more opportunities for potential housing.

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Tinquist to approve the purchase of parcel number 05-515-0130 in the amount of \$55,000.00 with the plan to provide additional housing for the City of Cohasset. Councilor Terry Bartz seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

E. Blackwater Banks Boat Launch Bid

The City received one qualified bid for the Blackwater Banks boat landing. Nordic Underwater Services of Superior, Wisconsin for \$926,500.00, this bid is \$187,500.00 above AMI's estimate of \$739,000.00. There is no time constraints based on the five year permitting. The Council formally declines the bid by Nordic Underwater Services in the amount of \$926,500.00.

A motion was made by Councilor Andy Haarklau to formally decline the bid from Nordic Underwater Services in the amount of \$926,000.00 and table this item until additional bids are received. Councilor Andy Haarklau seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None. Motion carried.

F. ICS Professional Service Fee

Requesting approval for the following ICS professional service fee invoices: February 29, 2024 invoice in the amount of \$251,035.20, March 31, 2024 invoice in the amount of \$156,882.80, and April 30, 2024 invoice in the amount of \$103,828.00 for a total payment of \$511,746.00. Max Peters included that the contracts have already been approved, and this is just a request for the payments. The May 14, 2024 claims has this payment included.

A motion was made by Councilor Terry Bartz to approve the payment of ICS professional service fee in the amount of \$511,746.00. Councilor Kevin Ott seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

G. Public Hearing Date – Sign Ordinance

Requesting to set Public Hearing date to amend Zoning Ordinance 10.103 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS – SIGNS in regards to Cohasset Industrial Park/Highway 2 Corridor. Tony Valtinson suggested a Public Hearing date on June 11, 2024 at 7:05 PM. There was discussion in the Council work session regarding amendments to the sign ordinance within business areas to make it more business friendly regarding signage restrictions.

A motion was made by Councilor Andy Haarklau to approve the Public Hearing date on June 11, 2024 at 7:05 PM regarding Zoning Ordinance 10.103 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS - SIGNS. Councilor Kevin Tinquist seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

H. Clean-Up Days Garbage Bid

Tony Valtinson is requesting confirmation of Clean-Up Days dates, June 9, 2024 from 10 AM – 8 PM, June 10, 2024 from 8 AM – 8 PM, and June 11, 2024 from 8 M – 8 PM. Tony Valtinson is requesting approval of a bid from either American Disposal in the amount of \$4,675.00 or Waste Management in the amount of \$4,980.74. This has been budgeted and bids are based off of amounts from last year’s clean-up days. Tony Valtinson recommends American Disposal as the City currently uses American Disposal for regular garbage pickup.

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Tinquist to approve bid from American Disposal for 2024 Clean-Up Days in the amount of \$4,675.00. Councilor Andy Haarklau seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

7. Miscellaneous Announcements, Reports, and FYI’S:

The City Office and Shop will be closed Monday May 27, 2024 in honor of Memorial Day.

There will be a Memorial Day Social at the Cohasset Community Center for area veterans and their spouses on Monday May 27, 2024 from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

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.

8. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve Claims in the Amount of \$921,802,18
- B. Acknowledge the Cemetery Deed for Timothy and Jolynn Felosi
- C. Acknowledge April 1, 2024 CPUB Minutes
- D. Acknowledge April 1, 2024 Planning Commission Minutes

- E. Acknowledge April 2, 2024 EDA Minutes
- F. Approve April 23, 2024 City Council Minutes
- G. Approve April 24, 2024 Board of Appeals and Equalization Minutes

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Tinquist to approve the consent agenda as written. Councilor Terry Bartz seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Mayor Andy MacDonell and Councilors Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz, Andy Haarklau, and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: None; Motion carried.

Adjourn: Mayor Andy MacDonell adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.

Submitted by: Deputy Clerk, Emma Petermeier
Approved: 5/28/2024