



**MINUTES  
COHASSET CITY COUNCIL  
305 NORTHWEST FIRST AVENUE  
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021  
7:00 P.M. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**7:00 p.m. City Council Meeting**

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Greg Hagy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** Mayor Greg Hagy, City Councilors Terry Bartz, Tim Carlson, Phil Hermel, and Jason Tabaka

**Absent:** None

**Non Officio Members:** Finance Manager Max Peters, Security Officer Dean Scherf, and Zoning Officer Greg Tuttle

**Others:** Fire Chief Davin Tinquist, Bob Mrowiec, and Terry Carpenter

3. **Resident Input: Bob Mrowiec, 27143 Loon Drive, Cohasset, MN** stated he has safety concerns regarding the bike trail and suggested some stop signs and trimmed vegetation for visibility for both cyclists and drivers. Mayor and Council were receptive and some safety improvements will be made. Discussion was also held regarding the Tioga Beach parking lot and liability for biking accidents.

Mrowiec also had concerns about some property located on Cedar Shores that had been cleared. Zoning Officer Greg Tuttle explained that property owners are able to clear land and there have been no zoning violations.

**Terry Carpenter, 36351 Columbus Avenue, Cohasset, MN** stated that the new Senior Center is a fabulous place and he and others have been thoroughly enjoying it. Carpenter thanked Mayor and Council for bringing the Senior Center to the City.

**4. Approve Agenda**

**Additions:** Item 5)J – Discussion of Speed Bumps on the River Road; and 5)K Zoning Training for the Planning Commission

**Deletions:** None

*A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka 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 Request to Hire Mitch Drobbs as Fire Fighter Trainee with Start Date of July 20, 2021:** Fire Chief Davin Tinquist requested Council approval to hire Mitch Drobbs as a fire fighter trainee with a start date of July 20, 2021. *A motion was made by Bartz/Carlson to hire Drobbs as a fire fighter as outlined above. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**B. Approve Request for Planning Commission to make Recommendation to City Council to Increase the Maximum Building Height in the Heavy Industrial (HI) Zone District from 60 feet to 75 feet (Zoning Ordinance Section 10.071):** Zoning Officer Greg Tuttle summarized the request for the Planning Commission review and increase height requirements. *A motion was made by Tabaka/Carlson to approve Tuttle's request as outlined above. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**C. Resolution 2021-24 to Accept Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Established under the American Rescue Plan Act:** *A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve Resolution 2021-24. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**D. Resolution 2021-25 Authorizing the City of Cohasset to Request Itasca County to Withhold from Sale and Approve the Purchase of Property:** *A motion was made by Hermel/Carlson to approve Resolution 2021-25 as outlined above. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.* It was noted that the property parcels are located in the downtown development area and the combined cost of all property is \$93,950.00.

**E. Approve Payment of 2021 Coalition of Utility Cities Dues in the Amount of \$19,479.00:** *A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the payment of \$19,479.00 as outlined above. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.* It was noted that this is a budgeted item.

**F. Approve Certificate of Support for USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Application for the City of Virginia, MN:** *A motion was made by Bartz/Hermel to adopt the letter of support for the City of Virginia, MN. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**G. Approve Real Property Declaration Waiver Request:** *A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the real property declaration waiver request. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**H. Approve Braun Intertec Authorization for Environmental Services (MN Power Utility Corridor – Huber Engineered Wood Site):** *A motion was made by Carlson/Bartz to approve the Braun Intertec Authorization for Environmental Services. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**I. Cohasset Lumber Mill Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Analysis:** *A motion was made by Bartz/Carlson to approve the Lumber Mill Tax Increment Financing Analysis. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.*

**J. Discussion on River Road Speed Bumps:** Councilor Terry Bartz has heard complaints from his neighbors on the River Road regarding heavy traffic and speeding. There have been some near misses for pedestrians; lots of children live in the area, as well as mothers walking with strollers, etc. Bartz did some research and discovered the City is not legally able to enhance the existing speed bumps. Therefore, Bartz suggested installation of a speed bump in front of his home to bridge the gaps between existing speed bumps. After further discussion, *a motion was made by Bartz/Carlson to install an additional speed bump at the location outlined above. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, and Hermel; Voting against: Tabaka; Absent: None. Motion carried.* It was noted that more speed bumps may be installed in the future depending on the effectiveness of the newly installed bump.

**K. Training for Planning Commission:** Zoning Officer Greg Tuttle stated that training for the Planning Commission is held annually, except for last year because of the pandemic. There are three new Planning Commission Members who would benefit and Tuttle requested Council approval scheduling a training at a cost of \$1750. *A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the training as outlined above at a cost of \$1750. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.* Tuttle stated that City Councilors are also welcome to attend the training and he will contact the training facilitator to set a date.

#### **6. Miscellaneous Announcements, Reports and FYIs:**

Mrowiec had more comments regarding a proposed walking trail.

Dean Scherf reported that Benson Bog Days was a well-attended event and there were no incidents. Also, Portage Park has been busy and a lot of the traffic on the River Road is due to visitors to Portage Park. Scherf recommended more signage on the River Road, including the digital speed sign.

Phil Hermel announced that the t-ball program concludes on Thursday. It was a successful season and Kessler did an outstanding job.

Resident Terry Carpenter stated he lives near the Benson Bog Days event and has no complaints regarding noise or traffic and it seemed to be a fun family event.

**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 \$111,488.62

B. Approve the June 22, 2021 City Council Minutes

C. Acknowledge Cemetery Deed for Robert and Toni Simonson

***A motion was made by Carlson/Tabaka to approve the consent agenda and claims in the amount of \$111,488.62. Voting in favor: Hagy, Bartz, Carlson, Hermel, & Tabaka; Voting against: None; Absent: None. Motion carried.***

Adjourn: Mayor Greg Hagy adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Submitted by Deputy Clerk Karen Blair

Approved: 7/27/2021