

Regular City Council Meeting
April 24, 2023
7:00 p.m.
City Hall

Members present were Thomas, Merritt, Mueller, Sorensen, and Helgeson.

Members absent were: none.

City staff and consultants in attendance were Jed Petersen, Elizabeth Jackson, Mark Rahrick, Rachel Heinrichs, Rick Hager and Mathias Heinrichs.

Others attending were Marie Sexton, Tim Amberg, Jenny Amberg, Val Mullenbach, John Anhorn, Jason Winter, Matthew Mullenbach, Dyann Reinhard, Brian Mechura, Lexi Mechura, and Kay Fate.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Concerns/Requests from the General Public/Organizations – Matthew Mullenbach read a prepared statement to Council addressing concerns and compliments regarding elected officials and the Medford Liquor Store.

Rachel Heinrichs read a prepared statement to Council addressing concerns and compliments regarding elected officials, the Medford Liquor store and City staff.

Jenny Amberg requested Council consider reimbursing the 2nd half of lifeguard certifications for the returning lifeguards that were paid half of their certification costs in 2022. Clerk Jackson will ask for Council approval later in the meeting.

Mayor Thomas addressed the statements made by Matthew Mullenbach and Rachel Heinrichs.

Agenda – motion by Mueller, seconded by Merritt to approve the agenda as presented. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Brian Mechura Insurance Claim – Brian Mechura presented pictures and 3 quotes obtained for repairs for the damage to his basement due to a water leak. Quotes will be turned into the City's insurance company and an adjuster will be sent to the Mechura residence.

Consent Agenda – agenda items are approved by one motion unless a Council member requests separate action.

Approval of the March 27, 2023 special and regular council meeting minutes, the March 30, 2023 special meeting minutes, and the April 12, 2023 special meeting minutes.

Approval of the March and April city and liquor store bills.

Approval of the March check register numbers E4712-E4736, 17018-17056, and 50798-50893.

Medford Fire Relief Association Temporary Liquor License Application Request.

Medford Municipal Liquor Store Temporary Liquor License Application Request.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Sorensen to approve the consent agenda as presented. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Planning & Zoning – did not meet.

EDA Board – Council member Mueller stated the EDA Board had approved a grant request from John Anhorn for Anhorn's Gas & Tire to have a garage door replaced.

Mueller stated the EDA Board is still interested in going forward with a digital sign.

Park/Pool Commissioner Report – Council member Sorensen stated the pool is fully staffed for the 2023 season. A flyer with all details regarding the Medford Pool will be sent out in May. Sorensen is working on obtaining quotes for pool updates.

Water/Wastewater Commissioner Report – Council member stated a VFD/pump needed to be repaired at the wastewater plant.

Liquor Store Commissioner Report – Council member Mueller stated the bean bag league would begin on May 9th and the Liquor Store would be having food trucks/vendors every week.

Streets Commissioner – Council member Helgeson stated street patches were currently being looked at.

Facilities Committee – Council member Helgeson stated the committee is looking at possible grants and different construction updates/ideas.

City Attorney –

Volunteers - Attorney Rahrack reviewed no one should ever feel obligated to volunteer time to the City of Medford.

Trespassing – Attorney Rahrack stated Liquor Store employees have the right to refuse service to any patron.

Council Procedures – Attorney Rahrack review the procedures document and noted the changes needed. The final document will be brought to Council at the May meeting for consideration.

City Engineer – none.

Fire Department – Chief Hager stated the newly hired firefighters had completed their final training. 8 of the new hires completed all training. Chief Hager thanked the families and the new fire fighters for the dedication and hard work.

Mayor – none.

City Administrator –

Public Works Update – Administrator Petersen presented a memo.

Juneteenth Holiday – Council consensus is to officially recognize Juneteenth as a paid holiday when the State of Minnesota formally recognizes the holiday.

Health Insurance/HSA Contributions - Administrator Petersen recommended Council increase the City's contribution to family health insurance from \$900 to \$1200 per month. Petersen also recommended Council increase the City's contribution to single employees' HSA from \$1000 to \$2000 and family employees from \$2000 to \$4000 for 2023. Motion by Helgeson, seconded by Merritt to approve Petersen's recommendations. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

City Clerk –

Financial Update – Clerk Jackson presented a memo.

Pool Employees – Clerk Jackson presented a memo recommending the hiring of the pool employees/wages as follow:

Pool Manager	Morgan Langeslag
Assistant Pool Manger	Tate Hermes
Returning Lifeguard/WSI	Clara Kniefel
Returning Lifeguard/WSI	Peyton Ristau
Returning Lifeguard/WSI	Grace Keller
Returning Lifeguard	Aiden Ahrens
Returning Lifeguard	Meghan Amberg
New Lifeguard	Jade Laue
New Lifeguard	Olivia Ward
New Lifeguard	Mason Degrood
New Lifeguard	Bennett Stinocher

2023 Pool Season Staff Wages:

Pool Manager \$17.50/hour
Assistant Pool Manager \$14.50/hour
WSI & Teach Lessons \$14.00/hour
Returning Lifeguard \$13.50/hour
New Lifeguard \$13.00/hour

Motion by Sorensen, seconded by Merritt to approve Jackson's recommendation for the 2023 pool season. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Mueller, seconded by Sorensen to pay the 2nd half of the cost of certification for returning lifeguards. All members voted aye for approval. Motion carried.

Regular City Council Meeting – May 22, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Minutes approved at _____ meeting.

Submitted by _____ City Clerk.

Signed by _____ Mayor.

