

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WARROAD CITY COUNCIL**

February 22, 2021

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Bob Marvin called the Regular Meeting of the Warroad City Council to order at 4:30pm on February 22, 2021.

Those Present: Mayor Marvin; Councilors Kevin Thompson, Michele Vandal, Doug Thomasson and Tom Goldsmith.

Absent: None

Also Present: City Administrator Kathy Lovelace, City Staff – Amy Friesner, Wade Steinbring – WPD, Dan Trosen – Warroad Utilities, John Horner – Roseau County, resident – Kevin Bruce, and by video conference: Nate Dalager, Todd Miller – Safe Harbor and Steve Emery – Widseth Smith Nolting

APPROVE AGENDA:

Councilor Vandal moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomasson and carried unanimously.

FISCAL/ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES:

Approval of February 8, 2021 Council Minutes

Motion made by Councilor Vandal to approve the February 8, 2021 regular Council Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Councilor Goldsmith and carried unanimously.

Approval of Checks/NMPA Payment

Motion made by Councilor Goldsmith to approve the February 2021 checks totaling \$318,580.71 (E2605-2611 = \$27,066.25, AP #48916-48960 = \$249,050.06, PR #8549-8555 = \$6,658.28, and PR E-#511012 = \$35,806.12). Motion seconded by Councilor Thompson and carried unanimously.

PROJECT UPDATES

Safe Harbor Project Update – Nate Dalager, HDR Engineering

Nate Dalager with HDR Engineering gave council an update on the Safe Harbor project. The Regional Park Designation application, which will open the door for more funding opportunities, has been given a thumbs up to proceed to the next step. The Environmental Assessment Worksheet is under review until March 11, 2021. Permitting will be on-going throughout. He recommended that the committee meet to start discussion on a master plan for the park which will be part of the regional park designation.

No action Taken

Quiet Zone Update – Steve Emery, Widseth

Steve Emery of Widseth Smith Nolting updated the council on the Quiet Zone process. This would stop the train whistle from the casino crossing to the Springsteel crossing if approved. The city, county and Lake township are working together on this project. A notice of intent was filed on January 25, 2021 with various agencies for a 60-day comment period. An estimate of cost for each crossing was presented and the council was asked for authorization to proceed with plans and specs for the project understanding that the city would only be responsible for the cost of the crossings in the city limits.

Motion made by Councilor Goldsmith to authorize to proceed with the plans and specs for the Quiet Zone project contingent upon Roseau county and Lake township participation. Motion seconded by Councilor Thomasson and carried unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY**PD – Purchase Request using reserve funds**

Police chief Wade Steinbring asked council for authorization to use reserve funds to purchase ammo for training for next year knowing that it may take quite a while to receive due to an ammunition shortage.

Motion made by Councilor Thomasson to authorize the purchase of 2022 training ammunition with reserve funds. Motion seconded by Councilor Thompson and carried unanimously.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**Recommendation to Vacate a Portion of a Public ROW**

The planning commission is recommending the vacation of the public right-of-way of Park Ave NW between Spruce St NW and Lake St NW. This would allow the owner of the corner property to have more room to deal with setback requirements.

Motion made by Councilor Vandal to adopt Resolution 2021-01 – to set a public hearing on the proposed vacation of a portion of Park Ave NW. Motion seconded by Councilor Thomasson and carried unanimously.

Recommendation for Liquor Store Project Architect

After presentations from two architectural firms, the planning commission is recommending the hiring of Widseth Smith Nolting as the architect for the liquor store project.

Motion made by Councilor Vandal to enter into a signed agreement with Widseth Smith Nolting for engineering services related to the design process of the liquor store. Motion seconded by Councilor Goldsmith and carried unanimously.

UTILITY DEPARTMENT

None at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS**Community Center Project**

City Administrator Kathy Lovelace stated that the community center is in need of a renovation/update. Funds for the project have been donated. The cost estimate to remodel the main area and the bathrooms will be \$120,000. Council was asked to authorize the use of the donated funds for this project.

Motion made by Councilor Vandal to authorize the use of donated funds to remodel the main area and bathrooms of the community center. Motion seconded by Councilor Thompson and carried unanimously.

Update and WCD Request

Warroad Community Development asked council for a letter of support for a grant application to improve the rail bed between Roseau and Warroad for a multi-use trail. The first grant funding was denied, and they have since found another possible funding source.

Warroad Community Development is also asking for the same financial backing that was offered with the first application. They are asking for \$10,000 to \$20,000.

Motion made by Councilor Thompson to write a letter of support for a grant applied for by the WCD to improve the rail bed between Roseau and Warroad and to offer the WCD up to \$20,000 for the specific project with the understanding that there will be less available for future projects. Motion seconded by Councilor Thomasson and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There, being no further business, ***Councilor Vandal moved to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Warroad City Council of February 22, 2021.*** The motion was seconded by Councilor Goldsmith and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Mayor Bob Marvin

Kathy A. Lovelace, City Administrator

Minutes prepared by Amy Friesner, city staff.