

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the City Council for the City of St. Joseph met in regular session on Monday, March 07, 2022, at 6:00 PM in the St. Joseph Government Center.

Members Present: Mayor Rick Schultz, Councilmembers Kelly Beniek, Kevin Kluesner, Jon Hazen, Bob Loso

City Representatives Present: Administrator Therese Haffner, Finance Director Lori Bartlett, City Engineer Randy Sabart, Police Chief Dwight Pfannenstien, City Clerk Kayla Klein

Public Comments: None.

Approve Agenda: **Hazen motioned to approve the agenda; seconded by Schultz and passed unanimously.**

Consent Agenda: **Hazen made a motion to approve consent agenda items a. through f., item h. and item i.; seconded by Kluesner and passed unanimously.**

- a. Minutes – **Requested Action:** Approve the minutes of February 7, 2022, February 22, 2022.
- b. Bills Payable – **Requested Action:** Approve Check Numbers 058774-058808; Payroll EFT 112201-112206, Regular Pay Period 4.
- c. Off-Premise Gambling, St. Joseph Lions – **Requested Action:** Approve Resolution 2022-012 approving application to conduct off-site gambling for the St. Joseph Lions.
- d. Mortgage Satisfaction – **Requested Action:** Approve the Repayment Agreement Satisfaction for 220 Ash St E, St. Joseph, MN.
- e. 2022 Street Improvement Resolution – **Requested Action:** Approve Resolution 2022-013 Ordering Improvement for the 2022 Street Improvements.
- f. Payment Application #3, 2021 Street Improvements – **Requested Action:** Approve pay application #3 in the amount of \$733,244.77 to C&L Excavating, Inc. for the 2021 Street & Utility Improvement Project.
- g. ~~East Park Grant Resolution – **Requested Action:** Adopt Resolution 2022-014 approving application to MN DNR Outdoor Recreation Grant Program for East Park.~~
- h. Early Redemption of Outstanding Debt – **Requested Action:** Adopt Resolution 2022-015 calling for the redemption of the outstanding GO CIP Bonds, Series 2017A.
- i. Transfers – **Requested Action:** Approve the transfers as presented.

Hazen asked for clarification on the East Park Grant Resolution; specifically, how it impacts the budget.

Finance Director Lori Bartlett explained that a few years ago approximately \$300,000 was approved and set aside as a part of the East Park Project. At that time the estimate for phase one of the project was approximately \$600,000. The developer donated to the park dedication fund and contributed to some of the work outlined in phase one of the project; some funds are also left over from this donation. The intent is for the grant to cover phase one of the project. The original estimate for the total project was three million dollars.

There were some questions on how the funds for the other two phases of the project would be addressed. There are other options that can be discussed and acted upon by the Council.

**Hazen motioned to approve consent agenda item 4g; seconded by Kluesner. Motion passed unanimously.**

Technology Updates: Administrator Haffner explained that last November the Council discussed the City's uses for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. The Council directed staff to move forward with technology improvements for the St. Joseph Government Center and the main Public Works facility. In addition to adding video conferencing for St. Joseph Public Works; other technology upgrades have been identified for the St. Joseph Government Center. These upgrades will be added to the Multi-Purpose Room, Conference Room 2 and the City Council Chamber. Quotes were presented to the Council for each location. A quote for upgrades to the Fire Hall will be provided at a later date.

Council inquired as to how much in ARPA funding the City received and where those funds were being used. Finance Director Lori Bartlett shared what the Council had approved to date and other projects the Council has been interested in.

**Hazen moved to approve Touch Point Logic LLC quotes for updating technology as presented; seconded by Beniek and passed unanimously.**

Schultz suggested seeking a quote for technology improvements to the dais area for the Council and perhaps look at wireless routers for the southwest side of the Government Center. That quote could come to the Council at a later date, perhaps along with the future quote for the Fire Hall.

Engineer Reports: City Engineer Randy Sabart, updated the Council on the Minnesota Street Traffic Study. In June, the Council approved SEH to complete a traffic study to occur in the fall of 2021 when school was in session. The completed study was reviewed by the City Council at a work session in November. Council directed staff to meet with St. Joseph Catholic School for input.

Sabart, Haffner, and Police Chief Pfannenstien met with Principal Michaelson last month to present the completed traffic study and share recommendations. These recommendations are broken out into tiers that have higher costs associated as the tier gets higher.

Principal Michaelson suggested removal of parking spaces, along with consolidating the crossings on Minnesota Street as recommended in the traffic study. These are tier one recommendations.

The Council discussed distance of parking spaces from crosswalks, cost for other tiers and potential effectiveness of crossing guards.

Noise Ordinance & Special Events: Last year, staff received noise complaints, including from approved special events. Staff reached out to legal counsel on the ordinance and MN State requirements. All properties, including those zoned and/or used for commercial have to abide by the requirements within Minnesota Administrative Rules Chapter 7030, Noise Pollution Control.

Council discussed updating ordinance with stronger wording, changing the end time for events or perhaps including a decibel range. They discussed effectiveness and cost of a decibel meter and use of staff time. They asked Chief Pfannenstien for input. It was decided that a common-sense approach to noise offences be taken. Current ordinance allows police to act in that manner and no changes are necessary at this time.

City Picnic Tables – Outdoor Seating: Administrator Haffner reminded the Council that CARES funding received in the past was used to purchase picnic tables for business to put outside. The City has the picnic tables and is asking the Council for action.

Discussion included placement/spacing of tables as it relates to visual aesthetics and walkability. Comments were made about positive feedback received from businesses and residents when the picnic tables were first made available.

**Schultz made a motion for the City to furnish a picnic table to a local business if they request one; seconded by Kluesner.**

**Aye: Kluesner, Schultz, Beniek  
Nay: Hazen, Loso**

**Motion Carries: 3:2**

Committee Reports: Beniek shared that there have been some attendance issues with the Park Board and efforts are being made to improve it.

Mayor Reports: None

Adjourn: **Loso made a motion to adjourn at 6:50 PM; seconded by Hazen and passed unanimously.**



Kayla Klein  
City Clerk