

**City of Elmore Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
May 8th, 2023, 6:30 pm  
Council Chambers**

Mayor Clara Vereide called the regular meeting of the Elmore City Council to order at 6:30 pm. Council present was Lorman Jahnke, Jennifer Williams, Sue Dickson and Elton Rhoda. Also present was Vicki Boeckman, Sharon Rhoda, Linda Weringa, Lavonne Thompson, Marlys Jagerson, Roger Holland, Arlys Holland, Traci Hanson, Rhea Hecker, Keven Sullivan, Jim Hecker, Kandy Blondin, Mike Shutta, Ricky Garvick Jr, Norm Kolve and David Ehrich.

MINUTES

Agenda with addition 112 North Henry Street property clarification approval moved by Jahnke, seconded by Dickson. All members voted aye, motion carried. April 10, 2023 and April 20, 2023 minutes approval moved by Williams, seconded by Dickson. All members voted aye, motion carried.

DEPARTMENTS

LIBRARY: Librarian Amy Garvick submitted the library monthly report and was read by Vereide.

PUBLIC WORKS: Discussion to contract Keven Sullivan for certified water and wastewater work. Gregory and Ricky are not certified. Ricky will be sent in the fall to work on getting certified until Greg has enough service time to do so. It was moved by Jahnke to agree to the contracts presented by Sullivan, seconded by Dickson. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Street work plan presented by Ricky to do Infrared Hot Patch Repairs was moved to approve by Dickson, seconded by Williams. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Ferguson Waterworks provided information on an upgraded water meter system. The new equipment, once purchased will save money. The current software will be obsolete after 2024. It was moved to add it to next year's budget by Williams, seconded by Dickson. All members voted aye, motion carried.

**POLICE DEPT:**

Veriede read the police call report submitted by the Faribault County Sheriff's Office. Discussion with the public was conducted about hiring a new police chief. It was moved by Jahnke, seconded by Dickson, all aye, to set a special meeting May 18, 2023, 6:30 pm, to perform interviews for the chief position.

**MUNICIPAL LIQUOR STORE:** Update on the current liquor store operations, upcoming Mother's Day Tasting Event, May 10, 2023 and May YTD Profit/Loss report.

**CLAIMS APPROVED:**

<b>MAY 2023 CLAIMS</b>	
Adahl Trucking - Hauled Crushed Rock	\$ 840.00
B & B Sanitation & Recycling - Trash/Recycle	\$ 6,021.00
Bevcomm - Phones/Internet/Alarms	\$ 671.10
Blue Earth Light & Water - Parts- Retainer Glands	\$ 195.64
Burkhardt & Burkhardt - Accounting Services	\$ 550.00
Cintas - Library Mats, PW uniforms, WTP Mats	\$ 329.18
Faribaul Co Register - Advertisements	\$ 90.00
Fruendt- Lundquist - Legal Services	\$ 201.00
G&S Drainage- Fix 2 water leaks - Sand/backhoe	\$ 4,492.50
Gopher State One Call	\$ 25.65
Hawkins, Inc. - WTP Chemicals	\$ 229.95
Jerry's Tire - Oil & Sealant Repair	\$ 101.57
Jetter Clean - Clogged, 225 ft on S. Thorne St	\$ 612.00
KBEW - MLS News Sponsor	\$ 44.00
KBEW - Sponsor- Severe Weath & Abuse Aware	\$ 204.00
Lampert Lumber - Keys Made - Museum, etc	\$ 15.12
MN Paving & Materials- Crushed Rock to Sell	\$ 1,432.56
NAPA Auto Parts - Supplies	\$ 616.05
NuWay-K & H Cooperative - Fuel/Heat	\$ 1,726.52
Share Corp- Traffic Paint & Weed Control	\$ 2,785.48
Tvedten Electric - Library Smoke Alarms	\$ 235.25
Yeager - Belts, blades, Filters	\$ 149.23
Utility Consultants - Supplies/Chemicals	\$ 541.90
Verizon Wireless - Phones & Library Hotspots	\$ 348.74
	<b>\$ 22,458.44</b>

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT:** Demolition invoice provided by Erosion Control Plus after following through with the contracted demo of two houses. The total charge was \$21,750.00, with the extra charge to properly remove fuel tanks not known about prior to the project. It was

moved to approve the invoice payment by Dickson, seconded by Jahnke. All members voted aye, motion carried.

Taxation questions and concerns from many community members were discussed in depth. Why tax rate is higher than surrounding towns. It was brought to attention by Vereide that the tax rate goes by the total value of the property, divided by our levy amount, multiplied by market value. 2022 tax rate was 4.79% but will go down to 4.46% in 2023. It was also brought to attention that the council meeting is being held in the Library rather than the council chambers after the decision to save over \$100,000 by foregoing the ADA compliance project in the municipal building. It was also suggested that the public join the special meeting June 28, 2023, audit presentation by our city auditors to see the current financial state of the city. All present were also provided with the past four years of budget sheets.

Concerns about how 112 North Henry Street is being used by Assisted Living for short-term nurse stays. Wondering if this should be considered a hotel and in violation of any residential regulations. Further investigation is needed.

As there was no further business, Mayor Vereide adjourned the meeting.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK