

**CITY OF STARBUCK  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2024  
6:30 P.M.**

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**Mayor:** Gary Swenson  
**Councilors:** Steve Gorder  
Chris Taffe  
Mary Baukol  
Dane Christensen

**City Clerk/Treasurer:** Joan Kerkvliet  
**Police Chief:** Mitch Johnsrud

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**MINUTES – Approved 12/9/2024**

**I. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Meeting was called to order by Mayor Swenson At 6:32PM.
2. Roll Call - Swenson, Gorder, Taffe, Christensen, and Baukol Present. Absent - None.

**II. CONSENT AGENDA**

3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve Claims for Payment
5. Approve Minutes from previous meeting(s)
  - a) Council Meeting – October 15, 2024
  - b) Public Hearing – Vacation Dedicated ROW on Block 59 between 5<sup>th</sup> St. & Depot Ln. – Starbuck Locker.

**Motion by Gorder; second by Taffe** to approve the consent agenda as presented. **Motion carried (4-0).**

**III. ANYONE BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

6. Nick Koos – Widseth
  - a) Service Line Replacement project  
Mr. Koos told the council that letters had gone out to residents regarding the lead service line replacement project. There were 27 known lead/galvanized lines and 300 unknown lines. It is anticipated that lead and galvanized lines will be replaced and funded at 100%. What is to be done with unknown lines will be determined in the future. It is expected that this project will be done in 2026.
7. Brian Friedrichs – Little Fox American Legion-Long Prairie – Mr. Friedrichs
  - a) Request to Hold Meat Raffles at the Tavern  
Mr. Friedrichs cannot attend the November meeting and will be at the December Council meeting.

**IV. PERSONNEL REPORTS**

8. Mayor
  - a) Childcare Discussion Update  
Mayor Swenson went to the school board meeting on childcare. Lakes Area Enrichment

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Center is having financial difficulties and would like the school district to take over operation of the program. Mayor Swenson told the council that the school district may be asking for help from the county and cities in the future. It was discussed that a lack of daycare equals a decrease in school enrollment as well as a concern for families wanting to move to the area.

9. Police Department
  - a) Discuss New Contract for SRO Office  
The council will discuss this in a closed meeting.  
Chief Johnsrud asked the council for a MOU to his contract to be paid as an hourly police officer while he covers for Officer Wasiloski. MOU details were provided at the October council meeting. The AFSCME supervisory unit will also need to approve this request.  
**Motion by Gorder; second by Taffe** to approve Chief Johnsrud's request for an MOU as provided in his October request. **Motion Carried (4-0).**
  
10. Fire Department
  - a) Monthly Report
  - b) Approve Purchase of 20 New Motorola Radios
    - Dept of Public Safety & Emergency Management ARMER Grant - \$40,000 Awarded  
**Motion by Swenson; second by Gorder** to approve accept the \$40,000 ARMER grant award for 20 new Motorola Radios for a cost of \$43,719.00. **Motion Carried (5-0).**
  
11. Water/Sewer Department  
Randy Peterson, Water/Sewer Superintendent, told the council that the 24 new dock frames for 2025 had been completed by Lowry Manufacturing.
  
12. City Clerk/Treasurer
  - a) Grant of \$6,038.50 Received from Pope County for Treatment of Invasive Species in the Marina.  
Clerk/Treasurer Kerkvliet informed the council about the Pope County grant received for treatment of Starry Stonewort and Eurasian Milfoil in the marina. The city council thanked the county for their generous donation which was 80% of the total treatment cost.

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

13. Planning & Zoning
  - a) Request by Nadeau's to Annex Out of City Limits  
The council was told that Planning & Zoning had denied the request by the Nadeau's to annex their property out of the city limits. The Nadeau's had received a variance from the city at the March 11, 2024 meeting to install a single private well and septic system on parcel #27-0590-600. As they would have no city services, and a lower tax rate in the township, the Nadeau's requested to be annexed out of the city. The council noted that this is not consistent with the city's comprehensive plan.  
**Motion by Gorder; second by Baukol** to deny the Nadeau's request to annex out of the City of Starbuck. **Motion Carried (4-0).**
  
14. Airport Committee – Tom Beuckens

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- a) \_\_\_
15. Streets & Parks  
Kris Goracke gave a summary of a meeting held on Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber office to discuss residents' vision for the Starbuck City Park in the future. Nine people attended and there will be a follow-up meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9-10am. One suggestion was to decorate the city park for the 2024 holiday season.  
**Motion by Taffe; second by Christensen** to approve the committees request to decorate the city park on December 7<sup>th</sup>; **Motion carried (4-0)**.
16. Community Center

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

17. Approve Sending Non-Payment of Admin Citations for Blight/Fire Calls to Tax Rolls at 10% Interest.  
**Motion by Taffe; second by Baukol** to approve sending non-payment of admin citations for blight and non-payment of fire call billing to the tax rolls at 10% interest. **Motion Carried (4-0)**.
18. Approve Resolution No. 2024-28 – Accept Anonymous Donation Towards Starbuck Marina Lighthouse Fund.  
**Motion by Christensen; second by Baukol** to approve Resolution 2024-28 accepting an anonymous donation of \$2,000 towards the starbuck marina lighthouse fund. **Motion Carried (4-0)**.
19. Approve Resolution No. 2024-29 – Canvassing November 5, 2024 Election Results  
**Motion by Christensen; second by Taffe** to approve Resolution 2024-29 accepting results of the November 5, 2024 General Election for Mayor and two City Council members. **Motion Carried (4-0)**.
20. Discuss New Cannabis Ordinance.  
The city council will review the cannabis ordinance proposed by the Planning & Zoning committee and discuss it further in a special meeting to be held on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.
21. 2025 Preliminary Budget. Schedule Work Session to Discuss Further.  
The city council will review and discuss further in a special meeting to be held on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.
22. Approve Resolution No. 2024-30 – Accept Memorial Donation from the Meyer Family for the Starbuck Marina Lighthouse Fund in Memory of Bob Friesen.  
**Motion by Taffe; second by Baukol** to approve Resolution 2024-30 accepting a memorial donation for Bob Friesen in the amount of \$50 towards the starbuck marina lighthouse fund. **Motion Carried (4-0)**.
23. Approve Annual Interfund Transfer from Hobo Park for 2024.  
**Motion by Taffe; second by Christensen** to approve the annual interfund transfers from Hobo Park for 2024 in the amount of \$63,775. **Motioned Carried (4-0)**.

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The regular council meeting was closed at 7:14pm for council members to have a closed meeting to discuss the AFSCME union contract.

**VIII. CLOSED MEETING** – Closed meeting to discuss AFSCME Union Contract.

The regular council meeting was reopened at 7:32pm.

**Motion by Christensen; second by Taffe** to agree to the terms of the 2025 – 2027 AFSCME contract as presented; **Motion carried (4-0)**.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT** – Motion by Gorder to adjourn the meeting at 7:33pm. Motion carried (4-0).

Submitted by,  
*Joan Kerkvliet*  
City Clerk/Treasurer