

**CITY OF STARBUCK
CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2024
12:00 P.M. – STARBUCK COMMUNITY CENTER**

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

Clerk/Treasurer: Joan Kerkvliet
Police Chief: Mitch Johnsrud

MINUTES-
Approved 10/15/24

1. **Call the Meeting to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Mayor Swenson at 6:30pm
Please stand for the **Pledge of Allegiance**
 - Roll Call - Swenson, Taffe, Christensen, Gorder and Baukol present.

2. **Consent Agenda:**
 - a. Approve Agenda
Motion by Taffe; second by Christensen to approve the consent agenda as presented.
Motion carried (4-0).

3. **Old Business:**
 - a. Discuss West Central Initiative Request for Donation.
Motion by Taffe; second by Christensen to approve a donation of \$1,500 to West Central Initiative, to be paid in 2024, for their contributions to the city. **Motion carried (4-0).**

 - b. Discuss Request for City to Consider Vacating Dedicated ROW & Additional City Owned Land - 117 E 5th St.
 1. 10/15/24 Public Hearing Scheduled for a Proposed Street Vacation of Dedicated ROW on Block 59 – Between 117 E 5th St & E Depot Lane.
The council felt that the city should give the dedicated ROW behind the Starbuck Locker, PID 24-0362-600, to Mathias Briard for construction of his new locker plant. The old building was destroyed by fire on July 6, 2024. Briard had also requested that he be given, or purchase, an additional portion of the alley, PID 27-0685-000. The council was in favor of denying this request. A public hearing will be held on October 15th regarding vacating this dedicated ROW.

3. **New Business:**

- a. Review 2020 Road Project Assessment Deferral Applications
Motion by Christensen; second by Taffe to approve the assessment deferral requests from Larry Mozey, 303 S. Main St., for \$11,854 and Richard Brant, 500 E. 7th St. for \$5,563 assessed as part of the 2020 complete streets project. These residents qualified as a person 65 years of age or older. **Motion carried (4-0).**

- b. Discuss HRA Development Proposal.
The HRA would like to purchase property in Starbuck with the intent to have 17 tiny houses built at the site. They reminded the city of the overwhelming need for affordable housing in the county. The HRA alone could not afford the cost of the land along with all the infrastructure. They requested that the city contribute to the effort by agreeing to fund the water and sewer infrastructure for the project. Widseth provided a cost estimate of \$197,120 for the city watermain and \$183,072 for the sanitary sewer.
Motion by Gorder; second by Christensen to approve the city supply the watermain, at a cost estimate of \$197,120, and the sanitary sewer, at a cost estimate of \$183,072, to allow the HRA to move forward with their intent of developing 17 tiny house units. **Motion carried (4-0).**

Discuss AED Proposal for City Beach

Linda Hoffman has been working with the Minnewaska Lake Assoc. to obtain funding for an AED at the Starbuck Beach. More information will be available at October's council meeting.

- d. Discuss Tennis Court Renovation/Reconstruction.
The city is in the process of getting bids for the resurfacing of the old tennis court in the Starbuck city park. Councilmember Gorder stated it is important all bids are for the same size court.
Motion by Taffe; second by Gorder to table further discussion until all bids were submitted **Motion carried (4-0).**
- e. Discuss Hobo Park Campground Paving Project
Water/Sewer Superintendent Randy Peterson presented quotes from Joe Riley Construction and Paving for \$123,970 and Ferguson Asphalt Paving for \$154,87 to repave the roads in Hobo Park Campground.
Motion by Taffe; second by Christensen to approve the bid from Joe Riley Construction And Paving for \$123,970. **Motion carried (4-0).**

Mr. Peterson also informed the council that they are getting pricing on replacing the current payloader with a newer model. The hope is the current loader will still bring in a good trade value keeping the price low on a newer model. Final numbers should be available for the October council meeting. There is currently \$30,000/yr in the budget for payments.

- f. Discuss Preliminary 2025 General Fund Budget and Tax Levy.
Clerk/Treasurer Kerkvliet presented the 2025 preliminary budget to the council with a 3% levy increase figured in. Kerkvliet reminded the council that the levy amount could be decreased for the final levy, due in December, but not increased. It was discussed that there were still some unknown variables for 2025 such as insurance costs, union contracts, SRO reimbursements and utility costs. She also reminded the

council that there were healthy reserves in the general fund at this time. Police Chief Johnsrud requested an additional \$4,000 be added to SWAT for a new vest for Ryan Franks as he had been added to the SWAT team. Johnsrud also requested an additional \$5,000 for new firearms. After further discussions, and the option to lower the final levy, it was decided the preliminary levy would be 10 percent.

Motion by Gorder; second by Christensen to approve the city set the preliminary levy at 10%. **Motion carried (4-0).**

- g. Approve Resolution #2024-23 Adopting 2024 Preliminary Budget and Tax Levy Payable in 2025.

Motion by Gorder; second by Taffe to approve resolution 2024-23 adopting the 2024 preliminary budget and tax levy payable in 2025 at 10%. **Motion carried (4-0).**

- h. Approve Preliminary Levy Certification of Taxes Payable in 2025 for the County.

Motion by Christensen; second by Taffe to approve Preliminary Levy Certification to the county of taxes payable in 2025 at 10%. **Motion carried (4-0).**

4. **Closed Session:** None

5. **Adjourn:** Motion by Gorder to adjourn meeting at 1:16pm. **Motion carries (4-0)**

Submitted by,
Joan Kerkvliet
City Clerk/Treasurer