

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

January 9, 2024

The regular meeting of the Eitzen City Council was called to order at 6:05 pm. Council members present were Mayor Jeffrey Adamson, Doug Meyer, Emily Burrichter and Mitch Luttchens. Also in attendance; City Clerk Steve Schuldt, Darryl Meyer, City Maintenance, Rose Korabek with Caledonia Argus, Seth Kasten, Dave Bulman and Richie Meiners.

Seth Kasten came before the council to request a building permit for removal of his existing house at 524 Main Street East and replace with a 24' X 52' prefabricated house. Following discussion, Mitch Lange moved, seconded by Mitch Luttchens and the motion passed to approve the building permit.

Dave Bulman and Richie Meiners representing the Eitzen Lions Club presented council with a list of improvements made in the ballfield area of the Community Center grounds. Improvements made by and paid for by the Lions Club totaled \$14,135.92. The Lions Club is requesting a 50% (\$7,067.96) cost share for the improvements. Mayor Adamson requested additional time to research payments already made by the city. Bulman and Meiners informed council that additional improvements at the Community Center and grounds are planned. Mayor Adamson expressed his concern for improvements and repairs needed at the Community Center which may require grants and loan funding. At this time he is not comfortable with costly expansions or improvements. He would prefer to concentrate on needed maintenance to the Community Center to keep the building attractive and functional. No further action was taken.

Minutes of the December 14, 2023 council meeting were reviewed. Doug Meyer moved, second by Emily Burrichter and the motion passed to approve the minutes.

December financial statements were reviewed. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Doug Meyer and the motion passed to approve the financial statements.

Council addressed Hoskins Electric proposal for upgrades to two lift stations and at the well house. No action was taken.

Council was informed that pricing has not been received for new wheels on the sewer pivot system.

Council was informed that there has been no work started at the Habitat for Humanity house. Kahya Fox, Executive Director with Habitat for Humanity, informed Mayor Adamson that finding volunteers to work at the house has been a problem and is especially difficult in small communities. It is also believed that there isn't a family selected for purchase of the house at this time.

Council reviewed member appointments for 2024. Council agreed by consensus to make no changes to appointments which follows below:

Steve Schuldt: City Clerk.

Joan Breeser: City Treasurer.

Darryl Meyer: City Maintenance, Water & Sewer Operator.

Mitch Luttchens: Deputy Mayor, Buildings & Grounds.

Mitch Lange: Electric, Streets & Weed Inspector.

Doug Meyer: Water & Sewer back-up.

Emily Burrichter: Board of Health, Hazard Mitigation, Civil Defense.

Official Newspaper: Caledonia Argus.

Official Depository of Funds: ESB Banking

City of Eitzen Attorney: Mike Murphy. Murphy and Roverud, PLLP

Local Board of Appeal and Equalization: (Mitch Luttchens, Exp. 7/1/2026)

Council discussed Community Center rental pricing. Council agreed by consensus to make no changes to pricing.

Council was informed that Certificate of Deposit #17076 will mature January 11, 2024. Council agreed by consensus to renew \$150,000.00 and deposit the remaining into the checking account.

Council was presented with a quote of \$11,679.00 submitted by Utility Logic for an 8' trench shield to protect workers from cave-in's while working in an excavated trench. The city does not own one and must borrow as needed from wherever available. It was noted that a grant is being pursued for ½ the cost up to \$5,000.00. No other action was taken.

Council reviewed a quote submitted by Siebring Enterprise for \$1,508.00 to purchase two computers, including delivery, set-up, anti-virus and data transfer. They will be installed at the maintenance shop and city hall. Mitch Luttcens moved, seconded by Emily Burrichter and the motion passed to approve the purchase.

Council discussed the newly adopted Minnesota State flag. Mitch Luttcens moved to reject the new flag but withdrew his motion following further discussion. Council reviewed a resolution created by the Houston County Board of Commissioners. Emily Burrichter moved, seconded by Mitch Luttcens and the motion passed to approve a resolution that mimics the one adopted by the Houston County Board of Commissioners on January 9, 2024 which urges the legislative delegation and the Governor to retain the existing state seal and state flag as the official emblems for the State of Minnesota.

Council reviewed and discussed a proposed city resolution to declare the City of Eitzen a “Second Amendment Dedicated City”. Further stating the Eitzen City Council will oppose any infringement on the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms. Mitch Lange moved, seconded by Doug Meyer and the motion passed to adopt the resolution.

Council reviewed claims payable for the month of December. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Mitch Lange and the motion passed to approve all claims.

There being no further business, Doug Meyer moved, second by Mitch Luttcens and the motion passed to adjourn at 7:13 pm.

Steve Schuldt, City Clerk

Jeffrey P. Adamson, Mayor