

**LAMBERTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES • CITY HALL
January 9, 2023 • 6:30 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPT AGENDA/CEREMONIAL DUTIES

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM January 9, 2023.
- Present: Mayor L. Sik, L Bittner, D. Knutson, D. Irlbeck
- Absent: T. Beermann
- Staff in Attendance: V. Halter, J. Thram
- Others in Attendance: Bruce Hanson
- A. Additions/Deletions to Agenda
 - RCA – Ambulance Contract with Wabasso
 - RCA – Police Chief
 - Carbon Capture Education Meeting Invite to Council Communications
 - Police Report added to packet.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to approve the agenda as amended.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes (can all be done in one motion)
 - 12-12-2022 – Regular City Council

Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Irlbeck/unanimous 4/0) to approve the minutes as listed.

3. GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. Hanson Communications – Bruce Hanson
 - Bruce Hanson was present to talk about Hanson Communications and their project to install fiber to the homes of Lamberton. They have applied for grants in the past and this year they were awarded funding to install fiber in the city of Lamberton. The plan is to install fiber drop to each home/business in Lamberton. This would be at no cost to the property owner. June is the intended start time. They have the materials needed to begin construction. Speeds of 1gig up and down will be offered. They will be tearing down all their overhead coax cable tv lines. They will be able to offer both internet and cable tv through the fiber drop installed. Estimated cost of the project is \$2.3 million with the state providing about \$1 million. Their system will be redundant with Nuvera and Arvig. Each property owner has the choice to have the fiber drop installed. Property owners can have the fiber drop installed even if the property owner does not intend to sign up for any services through Hanson. Depths of the drops is 18-24 inches. Main lines are 30-36 inches deep. There will not be an installation charge for services into the home. Basic service starts at \$49.95/month. When they are getting ready to start fiber drop installations, they will be coming door to door to get permission. Hanson is a family business with 70 years of experience.
- B. Petitions, Request, Communications
 - Citizen Complaints & Concerns
 - a. Barking Dog – complaint was given to the police when it was received.
 - Zoning Permits/Variance Requests - None
 - Request for Council Action
 - a. RCA – 2023 Official Meeting Dates
 - A schedule of meeting dates was given to council. EDA start times are 5:15 PM.***Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 4/0) to accept the meeting dates and times as amended.***
 - b. RCA – Mayor & Council Appointments
 - Bittner filled in the seats vacated by Senst. Discussion was held on Planning Commission. The EDA board will also serve as the Planning Commission as well. They will need to have separate meetings, agendas, and minutes. The Board of Adjustment was briefly discussed. More information is needed on that before the council will make a decision.***Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Irlbeck/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Mayor & Council Appointments as amended.***
 - c. RCA – Use of Polling Pads

- The City of Lambertton uses polling pads to conduct elections. The current polling pads need to be upgraded. Redwood County has agreed to pay for the upgrade, but it is up to each council/board to decide to use them or not.

Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Irlbeck/unanimous 4/0) to continue using the polling pads for elections.

- d. RCA – Personnel Policy Language Change for Insurance Opt Out
 - Language needs to be added to the Personnel Policy regarding the Insurance Opt Out offering. Halter made the suggested changes by attorney Novak.

Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Sik/unanimous 4/0) to add the Insurance Opt Out language to the personnel policy as given.

- e. RCA – Ambulance Contract with Wabasso
 - Contract between the Wabasso Ambulance service and the City of Lambertton to provide Ambulance coverage during the day when Lambertton is unable to cover.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Ambulance Service Agreement with Wabasso Ambulance Service.

- f. RCA – Police Chief
 - The candidate that was interviewed 1/6/2023, Joshua Walker responded to the questions the council had about his schedule. Halter put together what the cost will be for full and part-time options. Halter reached out to the Sheriff's office and asked about conducting a background check. Discussion held. Starting wage discussed.

Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to extend an offer to Joshua Walker for the part-time position starting at Grade 8 Step 3 of \$27.69/hour pending acceptable background check and psych evaluation.

4. PUBLIC MEETING - Regarding Annexation will be held at 7:00PM. Regular meeting will break for this.

A. Mayor Sik announced Public Meeting regarding the annexation of the two properties.

- Mayor Sik called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- Bruce Hanson of Fort Randal Communications was present.
- Brief discussion held. No questions from the public.
- Public Meeting Closed at 7:04 PM.

B. Department Reports

- Library – No report submitted/given.
- Ambulance Department - Report enclosed in board packet.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Ambulance report as given.

- Police Department – Written report handed out.

Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Police report.

- Maintenance Department

a. The speed of plowing in the alleys was discussed. They need to go fast to get throw the snow back – to try and keep the streets and alleys wide.

b. The new tractor under lease (\$1,500 for all 10 months) is working well. It has made jobs go faster and more efficiently.

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Maintenance report as given

- Administration/EDA Department - Report enclosed in board packet.

a. Halter received a call from Bollig regarding the lead water line information we will be collecting from people. Bollig wanted to know if the council would be willing to offer an incentive to return the survey/information. If we do not receive the information someone will have to go to each house and get the information. The more information collected the better. Because of all the Infrastructure money passed by the federal government, this data is being collected for possible funding to be able to replace the pipes needed. The council discussed and didn't feel an incentive is needed.

Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Administration/EDA report as given.

- Fire Department

- a. Tom Neperman updated the council on the AFG grant that is being applied for. The grant has 11 area fire/ambulance departments included to upgrade the radios. The grant is in the process of being written and submitted. The total grant is around \$900,000. Lambertton will be the fiscal host. Lambertton paid for the grant writing and each department will reimburse Lambertton.
- b. Neperman informed the board he is working on stepping down as chief but will stay on while finding his replacement and training. Understanding that his replacement will have to be interviewed by the council and hired through that process.

Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Fire report as given.

C. Ordinances and Resolutions (can all be done in one motion)

- 2023-01 – Resolution to Accept Grant Navigation Dollars from the LMC
- 2023-02 – Resolution Adopting Restrictive Covenants
- 2023-03 – Resolution Accepting Donations

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 4/0) to accept Resolution 2023-01, 2023-02, 2023-03 resolutions as presented.

D. Financial Report & Approval of Claims

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 4/0) to accept the Financial Report & Approval of Claims as given.

5. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

A. Information for Council

- The council was given the 2023 Employee Roster & Contact Information, the UCAP Summary.
- Council Member needed Wednesday, January 11th to have a brief discussion with the Auditors – Mayor Sik volunteered to come in.
- The group that want to educate reasons not to have the carbon capture pipeline have invited the council to attend the meeting they are having Monday, January 23rd at the legion.
- Bittner requested the council look at the sidewalk ordinances and enforcing getting them cleared for kids to walk on to get to school safely. Discussion was held.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. February 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 4/0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Valerie Halter
Clerk



Lydell Sik
Mayor