

**LAMBERTON CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES • CITY HALL**  
**March 11, 2024 • 6:30 P.M.**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPT AGENDA/CEREMONIAL DUTIES**

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM March 11, 2024.
- Present: Mayor L. Sik, D. Knutson, L. Pfarr, L. Bittner, D. Irlbeck
- Staff in Attendance: V. Halter, J. Thram, A. Vogel
- Others in Attendance: Jadell Morales, Ricky Busch

A. Additions/Deletions to Agenda

1. Add RCA Lambertton Meats Building

***Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to approve the agenda as amended.***

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of Minutes (can all be done in one motion)

1. 1-31-24 EDA Meeting
2. 2-12-24 Regular CC Meeting

***Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve the minutes as listed.***

**3. GENERAL BUSINESS**

A. Petitions, Request, Communications

1. Citizen Complaints & Concerns –

- a. Letter from Kathy Foss regarding Co2 Pipeline/City Well.
- b. Jadell Morales was present. Morales asked for clarification from Council member Bittner on what she meant at the 2-12-24 council meeting and her emphasis on the word Deputy. Mayor Sik asked who Morales has spoke with. Morales asked Halter about her statement of Morales taking things out of context. Halter responded. Discussion held. Morales then questioned when and how new forms show up on the web site. Discussion was held. Morales asked the council if they were under the impression she spoke to a Deputy or the Sheriff. Mayor Sik asked which it was. Morales responded that she stands by her statement. Mayor Sik stated he did not understand that if the Sheriff has questions, why he is not contacting the council directly. Morales then questions Halter if she did anything about B. Keairnes not getting a building permit for the deck he installed last year. Thram stated because it was replacing an existing structure a permit was not needed. Morales questioned the need for a permit to replace an existing fence. Discussion was held.
- c. Ricky Busch was present to ask for help in getting the high school drivers to slow down. Mayor Sik said we can ask the police to patrol. Busch also complained about the cars that are sitting on the road and on neighbor's lawn. Busch asked for the council's help by his house. Busch went on to state if the council were to go up and down the alleys they would see all the cars, trailers and junk that is out there. Busch again asked for the council's help for those who care about their properties. Mayor Sik reminded that the City holds an annual spring clean up.

2. Building/Zoning Permit Requests –

- a. 2024-01 – Randy & Kathy Tordsen – 607 First Ave W – Building Construction

***Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Irlbeck/unanimous 5/0) to approve building permit 2024-01 – Randy & Kathy Tordsen – 607 First Ave W for a Building Construction.***

3. Notice of Truth in Taxation Hearing in Redwood Falls

- a. Official Notice – Mayor Sik explained that this is where you go if you do not believe the valuation of your property is correct. The Truth and Taxation meeting in Redwood Falls on April 19, 2024 at 10:30AM in the Meeting Room of the Government Center in Redwood Falls.

4. 2023 Audit Presentation from ABDO

- a. ABDO sent a recorded presentation going over the draft 2023 Audit – the presentation was played for the council. ABDO is recommending an increase to the Capital Asset Threshold from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Account balances were reviewed. The Sanitary Sewer Fund balance is lower than the targeted balance. The audit cannot be adopted until after the audit is finalized. ABDO is waiting on information that is needed from GASB68 for pensions before they can finalize the budget.

5. Request for Council Action

- a. RCA - Current Building Site – The report from ISG came in regarding what it would cost to make the two stand alone buildings at the current school site. Keeping the “elementary” one-story and the Gym/Shop South area will cost approximately \$16million dollars. This would not include remodeling the insides as needed. Council member Pfarr would like to be a part of the ISG meeting.
- b. RCA – EDA Works Session with School Board – Halter explained that now that we have this information the EDA needs to start meeting with the school board and discussing what is going to happen to the current school site once the district moves into the new

building. The City Council will be invited to attend those meetings as well so they have knowledge of the discussions. Halter has a meeting set up with the school board for Monday, March 18, 2024 at 5PM at the school board room.

**Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to approve the EDA meeting with the RRC School Board 3-18-24 at 5PM.**

- c. RCA - Council Work Session – Halter would like to do a work session with the council. Dates were presented. Work Session will look at ordinances, ordinance enforcement, police and development changes.

**Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Knutson/unanimous 5/0) to approve a City Council Work Session on April 1, 2024 at 5PM.**

- d. RCA – Lamberton Meats Building – Halter received an email from the current owners stating they would like to give the building back to the city. Halter asked for direction. Mayor Sik suggested the EDA make a recommendation to the council.

B. Department Reports

1. Library – A report was submitted to the council. A. Vogel was present. Council Bittner and Mayor Sik commented on the success of Taylor Swift event. Also complimented Vogel on having movies on planned early out days at the school. Vogel would like to get circulation numbers up.

**Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to accept the Library report as given.**

2. Ambulance Department – No report submitted, but Halter stated they are changing the billing company and we would be having a Medicare site visit with the ambulance.
3. Fire Department – No report submitted.
4. Police Department - No report submitted.
5. Maintenance Department – J. Thram was present and reported that they had a breakdown with the plow truck and they have repaired it. They have built the Christmas Decorations for the light poles and are working on the lights and garland. They have begun leveling dirt in Kuhar Park. They will start working on sweeping the streets if the weather stays good. Council member Pfarr asked about getting the dock put in at Kuhar. Thram explained that since they put the ripples in there is no water by the landing. Thram explained the back of Kuhar Park is closed off because it is wet and there is no open season for fishing right now.

**Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to accept the Maintenance report as given.**

6. Administration/EDA Department – A report was submitted to the council. Halter has been working on Presidential Primary, ambulance billing change, brownfields webinar for possible school demo help, childcare options, and attended the Day on the Hill put on by the League of MN Cities. While at the Day on the Hill Halter met with Representative Torkelson and thanked him for his support in introducing a bill on Lamberton’s behalf for infrastructure improvements and highlighted EMS and property tax concerns. The bill for infrastructure improvements has also been introduced on the Senate level as well by Senator Dahms. Halter is also working to have things ready for when the congressional window opens to ask for funding.

**Motion/Second/Pass (Knutson/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to accept the Administration/EDA report as given.**

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

1. 2024-04 – Resolution Accepting Donations

D. Financial Report & Approval of Claims

1. February 2023 Financial Report
2. Approval of Claims

**Motion/Second/Pass (Bittner/Pfarr/unanimous 5/0) to accept resolution 2024-04, the February 2024 Financial Report and the February 2024 Claims.**

4. MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS

A. Information for Council

Halter included the Street Aid for 2024. The City will receive approximately \$3,200. Lamberton has not received road funds in the past because of the population. This is a new program by the State giving funding to smaller cities.

5. NEXT MEETING DATES

- A. March 18, 2024 – EDA/Council Work Session with the school district.
- B. April 1, 2024 – Work Session
- C. April 8, 2024 - Regular Council Meeting

6. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:37 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Valerie Halter  
Clerk

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Lydell Sik  
Mayor