

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor John Althoff and Council Members Bill Duncan, Steve Gesme, Matt Montgomery, Laura Kronenberger, Derek Lundell, and Mary Jill Bringgold (left early). Also present were Neil Jensen, City Administrator; Dan Howard, Public Works Director; Joe Berg, Police Lieutenant; Laura Qualey, Community & Economic Business Specialist; Dianne Howard, Zoning Administrator; Tim Malchow, EMS Chief, and Nicole Miller, Library Director (remotely).

Call to Order	Mayor Althoff called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Roll Call	Roll call was conducted. All members were in attendance.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Althoff led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
Approval of Agenda	Mayor Althoff requested an addition to the agenda relating to a presentation by Goodhue County Commissioner Brad Anderson. A motion was made by Council Member Bringgold, seconded by Council Member Gesme and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as amended.
Public Input	There were no public comments regarding items not listed on the Agenda.
Public Hearings: Resolution 2614, Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges to be Collected with Taxes	<p>City Administrator Jensen provided background information. He stated that the Public Hearing provides an opportunity for residents with delinquent utility bills to speak to the Council, prior to these charges being certified to be collected with property taxes.</p> <p>Mayor Althoff opened the Public Hearing for this item at 6:32 p.m. No one spoke during the Public Hearing. Mayor Althoff closed the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m. A motion was made by Council Member Lundell, seconded by Council Member Montgomery and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2614, certifying unpaid utility charges to be collected with taxes.</p>
Resolution 2619, Approve Sponsoring the Small Cities Development Program Final Application	<p>Karen DuCharme from SEMMCHRA referenced past Council discussion of the application process, provided an update, and reviewed the next steps in terms of finalizing the full application. She commented that there has already been a lot of interest expressed in this program by homeowners. She discussed the administrative process and timeline.</p> <p>Ms. DuCharme indicated that owner-occupied single family homeowners would be eligible to apply for program funding toward rehabilitation projects. She reviewed the documents that would require approval by the City Council.</p>

Mayor Althoff opened the Public Hearing for this item at 6:39 p.m. No one spoke during the Public Hearing. Mayor Althoff closed the Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m. A motion was made by Council Member Bringgold, seconded by Council Member Lundell and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2619, approving the Small Cities Development Program final application.

Presentations:  
Goodhue County  
Updates

Goodhue County Commissioner Brad Anderson discussed the redistricting process, noting that Goodhue County has been moved from U.S. Congressional District 2 to Congressional District 1. He also reviewed changes to Minnesota House and Senate legislative districts that impact Goodhue County townships. He discussed options for changes to County Commissioner districts, noting that a Public Hearing will be scheduled for further discussion prior to a final decision being made by the County Board.

Commissioner Anderson also highlighted several road projects that were included in a five-year plan recently adopted by the Goodhue County Board. He discussed project funding sources, including a local sales tax. He also discussed electronic public notices and the process of selecting election judges.

EDA Annual Report

Community and Economic Business Specialist Qualey reviewed the EDA Annual Report. She discussed funding grants that were awarded during 2021 or are pending in 2022. She also detailed recent projects, promotions, and activities. She discussed social media and website communication and community television programming via YouTube. She reviewed 2021 accomplishments and 2022 goals and initiatives.

Zoning Administrator Howard discussed Planning Commission activities and reviewed information relating to variances, conditional use permits, administrative subdivisions, a planned unit development, an annexation, and a preliminary plat and rezoning request along with permits and licenses that were approved during 2021.

Zoning Administrator Howard also reviewed three Zoning Ordinance amendments that were approved in 2021. She also discussed 2021 building permits and provided comparison information from prior years.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending December 31, 2021
- B. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending February 10, 2022
- C. Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022, Special City Council Meeting
- D. Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2022, City Council Meeting
- E. Approve Bluff Drive and River Road Engineering Contracts
- F. Resolution 2615, Accepting a Donation from Invenergy Cannon Falls, LLC for \$1,500 to the Ambulance Department
- G. Resolution 2616, Accepting a Donation from Invenergy Cannon Falls, LLC for \$1,500 to the Police Department
- H. Resolution 2617, Accepting a Donation from Invenergy Cannon Falls, LLC for \$1,500 to the Fire Department
- I. Approve Zoning Administrator
- J. Resolution 2618, Terminating the Development Agreement with George on the Rocks, LLC and Decertifying Tax Increment Financing District No. 2-7
- K. Approve Unscheduled Part-Time Employees Policy
- L. Approve Hiring of Full-Time Paramedic
- ~~M. Approve Wastewater Treatment Plant Raw Wastewater Pit Pump~~  
*This item was pulled by Council Member Gesme*
- N. Approve Sewer Main Line Televising

It was clarified that decertification of the TIF District would not impact the Magnolia Animal Hospital. A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Bringgold and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Item M.

Council Business:

Solid Waste Contract  
– Schedule Work  
Session

City Administrator Jensen provided background information, noting that the current recycling contract will expire at the end of 2022. He suggested scheduling a work session to discuss a potential single hauler solid waste and recycling contract. The benefits of a single hauler for residential solid waste and recycling pick-up were noted. A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Montgomery and unanimously carried, to schedule a work session on March 1, 2022, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Approve Wastewater  
Treatment Plant Raw  
Wastewater Pit Pump

Council Member Gesme inquired regarding the cost of this pump. Public Works Director Howard provided additional information in this regard.

A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the raw wastewater pit pump purchase.

Reports:  
Council Committees /  
Commissions /  
Nonprofit  
Organizations

Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce President Kyle Paulson reviewed the tentative 2022 community calendar of events. She discussed the recent Chamber Breakfast. She revealed the 2022 Discover Guide cover photo.

Mayor Althoff commented regarding a recent Joint Powers Trail Board meeting.

Council Member Montgomery summarized a recent Park Board meeting, during which a proposed electronic pay station at the trail head and park signs were discussed.

Council Member Gesme summarized a recent Cable Commission meeting, during which staffing was discussed.

Staff

Library Director Miller discussed upcoming programs and activities at the Cannon Falls Library. She also reported that the new fireplace has been completed, with funding toward this project provided by the Robert Molenaar family. She stated that masks are available at the Library.

Public Works Director Howard discussed Public Works activities and stated that the ice rinks are still in good shape.

EMS Chief Malchow discussed equipment purchases and EMS Regulatory Board activities. He discussed staffing and expressed appreciation to Ambulance Service members.

Police Lieutenant Berg expressed appreciation to Invenergy for the donations to the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Ambulance Service.

City Administrator Jensen discussed energy cost savings resulting from the City's solar garden subscriptions.

Mayor and Council

Council Member Gesme discussed new plug-ins at the Park and Ride lot.

Council Member Montgomery expressed appreciation to the public for participating in the recent school referendum vote.

Council Member Duncan discussed the need to cancel the February 1, 2022, City Council meeting because of the caucuses and cited a State statute in this regard. He referenced a Letter to the Editor that was published in the *Cannon Falls Beacon* criticizing City Administrator Jensen for making this decision and suggested better fact-checking by newspaper staff.

Mayor Althoff further discussed the Small Cities Development Program. He also reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Montgomery and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2022.

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John O. Althoff, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Neil L. Jensen, City Administrator