

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Matt Montgomery and Council Members Laura Kronenberger, Derek Lundell, Steve Gesme, Lisa Groth, Ryan Jeppesen, and Diane Johnson; Council Member Ryan Jeppesen was absent. Also present were Neil Jensen, City Administrator; Sara Peer, City Clerk; Jed Petersen, Public Works Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

- Call to Order Mayor Montgomery called the City Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call Roll call was conducted. Mayor Montgomery and Council Members Gesme, Groth, Johnson, Kronenberger, and Lundell were in attendance.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Montgomery led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Groth, seconded by Council Member Johnson and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as presented.
- Public Input Mayor Montgomery reviewed the public input procedure.
- Babe O’Gorman, Cannon Falls, commented that the Police Commission no longer allows public input during its meetings. He discussed a speed sign that was donated to the City of Cannon Falls by Goodhue County and asked why the speed sign is not in use.
- Proclamation and Recognition Awards A. Proclamation for National Police Week 2024.
Mayor Montgomery read a proclamation honoring the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers during National Police Week and declaring May 10-16, 2024, as Police Week in Cannon Falls.
- A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Gesme and unanimously carried, to adopt the proclamation.
- B. Recognition Awards.
Police Chief McCormick recognized the service of Officer Michael Truax, Officer Nathaniel Fox, and Officer Tyler Johnson to the community and described their life-saving actions during recent incidents.

Public Hearing:
Resolution 2751,
Certifying Unpaid
Utility Charges to be
Collected with Taxes

Mayor Montgomery opened the public hearing at 6:40 p.m. No one spoke during the Public Hearing. Mayor Montgomery closed the Public Hearing at 6:41 p.m.

A motion was made by Council Member Lundell, seconded by Council Member Johnson and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2751.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending April 30, 2024
- B. Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2024, City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Hiring of 2024 Pool Employees
- D. Resolution 2752, Authorizing Creation and Use of the Extreme Risk Protection Order Fund
- E. Resolution 2753, Authorizing Acceptance of a Monetary Donation of \$8,344 by the Henkel Foundation
- F. Approve Spelling Change and Replacement of Park Sign for Minneiska Park
- ~~G. Approve Crack Sealing Quote~~
This item was pulled by Council Member Johnson
- ~~H. Resolution 2754, Acceptance of a \$50,000 Grant from the Minnesota DNR for the 2023-2027 Shade Tree Bonding Grant Program~~
This item was pulled by Council Member Johnson.

A motion was made by Council Member Gesme, seconded by Council Member Groth and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Items G and H.

Council Business:
Crack Sealing Quote

Council Member Johnson stated that she had no concerns about the project or the quote. She suggested being proactive about repairing streets and provided examples. A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Lundell and unanimously carried, to approve the crack sealing quote.

Resolution 2754,
Acceptance of a
\$50,000 Grant from
the Minnesota DNR
for the 2023-2027
Shade Tree Bonding
Grant Program

Council Member Johnson asked how the locations of the trees are selected and whether residents can apply to receive a tree. Public Works Director Petersen discussed the grant program and stated that the funds would be used to support City's tree replacement program, noting that this pertains to the replacement of trees on City property that are removed.

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Groth and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2754, accepting a \$50,000 grant from the Minnesota DNR.

Reports:
Council Committees /
Commissions /
Nonprofit
Organizations

Cannon Falls Area Chamber of Commerce Director Maggie Wilson discussed the upcoming walk and bike to school event on May 8. She stated that the City of Cannon Falls was awarded an Active Transportation grant earlier this year. She stated that community members will be participating in the walk and talking with kids, parents, teachers, and community members about safety concerns and suggestions. She stated that an Active Transportation Summit will be held in Cannon Falls June 25-26, during which walking and biking concerns and needs will be further discussed. She referenced fliers and an interactive map tool that will be posted on the Chamber website.

Director Wilson discussed the annual Chamber breakfast on May 8. She noted that Attorney Cole Langsdorf from Langsdorf Law will be speaking on the topic of business law.

Director Wilson discussed upcoming city-wide garage sales, business promotions, and community events and referenced the community calendar. She discussed the upcoming Fun Fest on June 13 and the Chamber golf tournament and fundraiser on June 24.

Mayor Montgomery summarized topics of discussion during a recent EDA meeting, including a lot purchase proposal. It was noted that this agreement will be placed on the agenda of an upcoming Council meeting for review and action.

Council Member Kronenberger summarized topics of discussion during a recent Public Works and Park Board, including requests by local tree services relating to brush dumping. She stated that ongoing discussions will be conducted. Park signage was discussed.

Staff

Public Works Director Petersen provided a construction project update.

Police Chief McCormick discussed the State's speed enforcement campaign as part of TZD (Toward Zero Deaths) efforts. He stated that the goal of this program is to try to reduce the number of traffic

deaths due to speed, impaired driving, and distracted driving. He issued a reminder to obey speed limits.

City Administrator Jensen discussed the 2025 budget planning process and budget goals. He commented regarding the challenges of capital budget planning and increasing equipment costs. He referenced long-term planning activities and discussed street repairs. He stated that a budget work session will be scheduled in the near future.

Mayor and Council

Council Member Johnson congratulated graduating students and reported that more than \$85,000 in scholarships was awarded. She expressed appreciation to local donors and teachers.

Council Member Gesme expressed appreciation for the work of the Cannon Falls Police Department.

Mayor Montgomery described the recent National Day of Prayer event and discussed upcoming events and the Cannon Falls Bears schedule.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Council Member Kronenberger, seconded by Council Member Johnson and unanimously carried, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 21st day of May, 2024.

ATTEST:

Matt Montgomery, Mayor

Neil L. Jensen, City Administrator