

Pipestone, Minnesota  
January 6, 2025

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Pipestone City Council was duly held in-person and via Zoom in the Municipal Building at 6:30 p.m. on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025.

#### **SWEARING IN OF ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Assistant City Administrator and Clerk Stephanie LaBrune swore in newly elected Mayor, Dan Delaney, and Councilmembers Verdeen Colbeck and Danielle Thompson.

Mayor Dan Delaney then called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was declared. Members present: Dan Delaney, Danielle Thompson, Scott Swanson, Rodger Smidt, and Verdeen Colbeck. Absent: none. Others present: Glenn Nelson, Tammy Manderscheid, Library Director Jody Wacker, Liquor Store Manager Michael Wilson, Kyle Kuphal, Engineer Travis Winter, Cable Access Coordinator Steve Moffitt, City Attorney Jason Hill, Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk Stephanie LaBrune, and City Administrator Deb Nelson.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **ADJOURN 2024 COUNCIL**

Mayor Delaney adjourned the 2024 City Council Sine Die.

#### **CONVENE 2025 COUNCIL**

Mayor Delaney convened the 2025 Council.

#### **APPROVE AGENDA - ADDITIONS, CHANGE OR DELETIONS**

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Swanson, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda as presented.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Delaney stated the Consent Agenda contains the December 16, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, December 20, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes, and Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills. He then asked if there was any discussion regarding these items. No discussion was held.

Motion was made by Swanson, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve the Consent Agenda items which consisted of the December 16, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes, December 20, 2024, Special Meeting Minutes, and Payment of Claims-Listing of Bills in the amount of \$2,860,068.26 for warrants #073853 to #073993 to be issued in payment thereof.

#### **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

Mayor Delaney invited guest Glenn Nelson to the podium. Nelson stated that he is currently a resident of Sioux Falls, SD with property located at 111 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.W. in Pipestone. Nelson stated that he has visible concerns with how the water base charges are figured into the monthly water bills. He said as a small business he only used six units of water and now without any usage his minimum monthly bill is \$60 and said that it disturbs him. He said he feels that the base charge is a tax and started comparing Pipestone's rated to Sioux Falls rates with a comparison of 2 cents versus 17 cents. Nelson also stated that Sioux Falls has a vacation rate of \$9.44 per month when

he goes down south and would like to see Pipestone come up with different ways to charge people. Mayor Delaney thanked Nelson for expressing his concerns and said that the new rates will soon go into effect and told Nelson the he and the other seven people who were inadvertently billed a base rate in December would get that month refunded to them. He also explained to Nelson that there is added value in having water and sewer available property and also said the city has infrastructure to maintain and costs are needed to do so. Delaney said these are fixed costs that make up the base rates and explained that everyone needs to pay their fair share. Nelson stated that he did speak with City Administrator Nelson on the subject.

## **REPORTS**

Law Enforcement – None.

Liquor Store – Manager Michael Wilson presented his quarterly and annual report to the council that 2024 sales were down 1.72% from last year. Additionally, Wilson shared that the liquor store began selling THC and edible cannabinoid products at the beginning of 2025 and reported that there were approximate \$500 in sales within the first week of products being offered for sale.

Library - Director Jody Wacker reported on several programs that the library is offering this winter including a winter reading, teen café, plant sowing, and soup-er-bowl program to name a few. Colbeck then asked Wacker how one would get a library card. Wacker said there is no fee; only a photo id and current address is needed.

Building and Zoning – None.

Water/Wastewater – Written report provided.

Public Works – Written report provided.

Parks and Recreation – Written report provided.

## **LEGAL**

Ordinance 164, Fourth Series

Delaney stated Ordinance 164, Fourth Series was introduced at the last city council meeting and is now ready for council consideration to establish the city's fee schedule for 2025.

Motion made by Smidt and seconded by Colbeck to adopt Ordinance 164, Fourth Series: An Ordinance Establishing Fees, Charges, and Compensation as allowed by City Code. LaBrune then conducted a roll call vote. Ayes: Delaney, Smidt, Colbeck, Swanson, and Thompson; Nays: none. Motion approved 5-0.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Resolution 2024-62

Administrator Nelson stated that she was unable to receive the information that was requested by the council due to a scheduling conflict with the individual who would be updating the scope of work for the Carnegie Library project.

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to table Resolution 2024-62: A Resolution for Minnesota Historical Society Grant Funding Assistance for the Pipestone Carnegie Library Building project until the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting.

Conflict of Interest Policy

Delaney stated that the city's conflict of interest policy is included in the city council packets for council review. He said there were no changes made to the policy so the policy was included for information only.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Election of Acting Mayor**

Delaney said each year according to the city's Charter, the council is to elect an acting mayor at its first meeting of the year. LaBrune then handed out ballots to each of the council members and mayor and collected them. She then read the results stating that councilmember Swanson received two votes and councilmember Colbeck received three votes making Colbeck the acting mayor in the absence of Mayor Delaney for the year 2025.

### **2025 Mayoral Appointments**

Delaney presented his list of board and commission appointments for 2025. Additionally, Delaney shared that there are some vacancies on the city charter commission and said that those positions are to be appointed by the judge. He said with Judge Vajgrt retiring those positions would remain vacant until a new judge takes office.

Motion by Smidt, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to accept the mayor's list of board and commission appointments for the year 2025.

### **Resolution 2025-1**

Delaney said this resolution is adopted annually and determines the rules of order and procedure for the City Council.

Motion was made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-1: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE FOR THE CITY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY CODE CHAPTER 2, SECTION 2.03.

### **Resolution 2025-2**

Delaney said this resolution is adopted annually and designates the Pipestone County Star as the official newspaper for the city.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Swanson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-2: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE PIPESTONE COUNTY STAR AS THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER FOR THE CITY OF PIPESTONE.

### **Resolution 2025-3**

This resolution is adopted annually and designates First Farmers and Merchants National Bank as an official depository of City funds.

Motion was made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-3: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FIRST FARMERS AND MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK AS AN OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY OF CITY FUNDS.

### **Resolution 2025-4**

Delaney said this resolution is adopted annually and designates First Bank and Trust as an official depository of City funds.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Swanson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-4: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FIRST BANK & TRUST AS AN OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY OF CITY FUNDS.

#### Resolution 2025-5

Delaney said this resolution is adopted annually and designates First State Bank Southwest as an official depository of City funds.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Smidt and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-5: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE FIRST STATE BANK SOUTHWEST AS AN OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY OF CITY FUNDS.

#### Resolution 2025-6

Delaney shared resolution 2025-6 stating that the resolution if approved would approve the mayor and councilmembers of the city to be covered by Minnesota worker's compensation law. He continued by saying that this resolution has been approved in the past.

Motion was made by Thompson, seconded by Colbeck and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-6: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF PIPESTONE BE COVERED BY THE MINNESOTA WORKER'S COMPENSATION LAW.

#### Resolution 2025-7

Delaney said with the approval of ordinance 164, fourth series, amending the city's fee schedule, the council is allowed to publish a summary of the ordinance in the paper versus the full version to save on cost due to the length of the ordinance. He then called for a motion.

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson to approve Resolution 2025-7: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF A SUMMARY FOR ORDINANCE 164, FOURTH SERIES: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING FEES, CHARGES, AND COMPENSATION AS ALLOWED BY CITY CODE.

#### Resolution 2025-8

Mayor Delaney stated that the following donations have been received and this resolution accepts the donations:

This resolution accepts the following donations:

- Steven & Peg Lange      \$100.00 – to assist with the Lights and the Lodge.
- Sioux Valley Energy      \$1,200.00 – to assist with the Lights and the Lodge.
- Gorters Clay & Dairy      \$250.00 – to assist with the Lights and the Lodge.

Motion was made by Smidt, seconded by Swanson and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 2025-8: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS.

#### TIF District 13 Reimbursement Request

Nelson shared with the council the background on TIF District 13 that was created in 2017 to address blight in the downtown area. She stated blighted properties were identified and the owners

within the district have paid into the district to address those blighted issued. Nelson went onto say that there has been a request by Ed Scholten to be reimbursed for roof repair expenses from building repairs that were performed on his building within the district. Nelson stated that the total expenses of the project were \$28,801.79 and Ehler's, the city's financial advisors are suggesting that the city reimburse Scholten's for 50% of the improvement costs. Nelson also added that Ehler's is recommending that the city create an interfund loan in February to be able to continue assisting others with these types of expenses.

Motion made by Colbeck, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve the request to reimburse Ed Scholten \$14,400.90 for costs incurred to repair his building within TIF District 13.

#### Family Dollar 3.2 Off Sale Liquor License

Delaney said staff is recommending approval of the Family Dollar store's 3.2 off sale liquor license for 2025.

Motion made by Thompson and seconded by Swanson, and unanimously carried to approve the 2025 3.2 Off Sale Liquor License for Family Dollar Store #33355.

#### Approve New Resident Manager

Mayor Delaney shared that staff is recommending the approval of a new resident manager for the Family Dollar store with respects to their liquor license. He said with staffing changes, the store would like to designate Penny Scribner as the new resident manager.

Motion by Smidt, seconded by Thompson, and unanimously carried to approve Penny Scribner as the new resident manager for the Family Dollar Store #33355 with respects to their liquor license.

#### **CLOSING COMMENTS**

Mayor Delaney – Announced that Kwik Trip will be having a grand opening on January 16<sup>th</sup> and invited the community to attend.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Smidt, seconded by Colbeck, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 7:28p.m.

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Dan Delaney  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Stephanie LaBrune  
Assistant City Administrator / City Clerk