

**BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2023**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Woletz led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, October 2, 2023 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Woletz called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Cary Coop, James, Evans, Ryan Ladd and Patricia Krings present.

Also present were City Administrator Meyer, Police Chief Stier, Public Works Superintendent Otto, City Engineer Duncan, Finance Director Jirik, Community Development Director Smith Strack, Fire Chief Otto and City Attorney Vose. Wanda Savage served as the video recording operator.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop second by Councilmember Evans, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. PUBLIC FORUM. None.

**Anyone wishing to address the Council must submit in writing the subject and intent of request by 3:00 PM on the Tuesday prior to the scheduled Council meeting. Maximum of three (3) minutes per speaker. No official action will be taken.*

5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

- 5.1. Regular Session Minutes of September 18, 2023.
- 5.2. Work Session Minutes of September 18, 2023.
- 5.3. Resolution 23-128 Accepting a Donation of 100 Pumpkins from Minnesota's Largest Candy Store for Community Activities.
- 5.4. Resolution 23-130 Appointing Tyler Morlock as Full-Time Public Works Certified Mechanic.
- 5.5. Resolution 23-134 Accepting Donation of \$108,827.00 from Belle Plaine Festival and Events for Union Square Park.
- 5.6. Resolution 23-135 Authorize Purchase and Installation of Park Shelter from Midwest Playscapes for Union Square Park.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Evans, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: 5.1. Regular Session Minutes of September 18, 2023; 5.2. Work Session Minutes of September 18, 2023; 5.3. Resolution 23-128 Accepting a Donation of 100 Pumpkins from Minnesota's Largest Candy Store for Community Activities; 5.4. Resolution 23-130 Appointing Tyler Morlock as Full-Time Public Works Certified Mechanic; 5.5. Resolution 23-134 Accepting Donation of \$108,827.00 from Belle Plaine Festival and Events for Union Square Park and 5.6. Resolution 23-135 Authorize Purchase and Installation of Park Shelter from Midwest Playscapes for Union Square Park. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmembers Coop, Evans, Krings and Woletz VOTED AYE. Councilmember Ladd VOTED NAY. MOTION CARRIED 4-1.

Councilmember Ladd requested the record reflect he approves of Consent Agenda items 5.3.-5.6..

PROCLAMATION

Domestic Violence Month

Mayor Woletz read the Domestic Violence Proclamation and declared October Domestic Violence Month.

6. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

6.1. Public Works Department.

Public Works Superintendent Otto was present. Otto highlighted the Public Works Report and noted ongoing events including Community Puzzle and Cards and Conversations hosted at Hickory Park Warming House. Otto explained the bike tour of Belle Plaine was well attended and thanked Councilmember Coop for being the tour guide.

Councilmember Ladd inquired if the blacktopping was on par with previous years. Public Works Superintendent Otto explained this year is worse than previous years and noted the excessive and repeating potholes. Ladd inquired on the inspection at the compost site. Otto explained the waste facility has an annual inspection and noted the report will be brought forward to a future Council meeting.

6.2. City Engineer Department.

City Engineer Duncan was present. Duncan highlighted the City Engineer report and noted the MSA State Aid has been determined and is a slight decrease of 1%.

Councilmember Ladd noted the Downtown Project seems to be at a halt the last couple of weeks and inquired when Chestnut Street and the 100 Block of East Main will be paved. City Engineer Duncan explained the underground work is complete and noted the pavement is sequenced by the contractor. Duncan explained Chestnut will be paved at the same time as the 100 block of East Main.

6.3. Administration Department.

City Administrator Meyer was present. Meyer highlighted the Administration report and noted the City accepted the donation from Belle Plaine Festival and Events and will place an order for the shelter at Union Square Park. Meyer explained additional donations will come in for the project. Meyer highlighted the Octoberfest Event

Mayor Woletz requested additional information on the Octoberfest Event. City Administrator Meyer explained the 100 blocks of North Meridian and West Main Street will be closed off, a band has been booked from 6:00-10:00 PM and local businesses will have specials, kid friendly activities. Meyer noted the celebration is to bring people back to Downtown.

Councilmember Ladd inquired if the sidewalk would be done as part of the Union Square Shelter Project. City Administrator Meyer confirmed the sidewalk will be looked at as part of the project and noted there will be a donation for the cement pad.

Mayor Woletz inquired if the project will be done for Bar-B-Q Days. City Administrator Meyer explained that is the goal.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS. None.

8. BUSINESS.

8.1. Presentation of Claims.

8.1.1. Pay Request No. 7, Ryan Contracting Co. for the 2023 Improvement Project.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Krings, to approve the reviewed Claims as presented in the amount of \$1,660,990.59. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmembers Coop, Krings, Evans and Woletz VOTED AYE. Councilmember Ladd VOTED NAY. MOTION CARRIED 4-1.

8.2. Resolution 23-129 Providing for the Sale of \$3,265,000.00 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023A, to Finance the Construction of the 2023 Improvement Project in the City of Belle Plaine.

Finance Director Jirik explained each year with the street project the City bonds to finance the construction. Jirik explained the City waits until the end of the project to only borrow what is actually needed. Jirik explained the report from Ehlers was included in the packet for review.

Mayor Woletz requested a review of the bonding. Finance Director Jirik explained Ehlers puts together the numbers which is submitted to companies, a rating call and then the report is presented on the bid and bond sale. Jirik explained the City usually gets 7 bids due to the City's high credit rating and results in a lower interest rate. Woletz noted the sale will occur in November. Jirik confirmed and noted Ehlers will be present at the Council meeting.

Councilmember Evans stated he had two building owners reach out to him and Thanks for the 70-80% decrease in assessment.

Councilmember Ladd inquired what the initial and what the remaining assessment costs are. City Administrator Meyer explained the City does not have the final estimated costs, and noted the initial assessment was on the projected bid and assessment policy. Meyer noted due to outside funding the assessments have been reduced. Meyer explained the Council will receive the final assessment numbers at the public hearing.

Councilmember Coop inquired on the sources and uses page and asked if that is the total cost of the project. Finance Director Jirik explained that is not the total cost of the project as the watermain was not included and was an additional cost and paid for out of the water fund as well as Chestnut Street was an addition and will be paid for out of road maintenance fund. Coop noted City funds calculate to about 29% of the cost and inquired where the remaining 70% of funds came from. Jirik explained portion of the funds came from MSA funds, Scott County, State Bonding and the American Recovery Act Funds. Coop noted staff did a wonderful job on the reduction of the assessments from the Street Project.

Councilmember Krings thanked staff for their work on reducing the tax impact.

MOTION by Councilmember Krings, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve Resolution 23-129 Providing for the Sale of \$3,265,000.00 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023A, to Finance the Construction of the 2023 Improvement Project in the City of Belle Plaine. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmembers Krings, Coop, Ladd, Woletz and Evans VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

8.3. Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition Developers Agreement and Final Plat.

Community Development Director Smith Strack reviewed the final plat for Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition. Smith Strack explained Council approved the preliminary plat on May 15 of this year. Smith Strack noted the reviewed resolution 23-133 is included with your packet with the addition on condition number seven.

Mayor Woletz read condition number seven aloud.

8.3.1. Resolution 23-132, Resolution Approving a Developers Agreement for Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition and Authorizing and Directing Execution Thereof.

MOTION by Councilmember Krings, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve Resolution 23-132, Resolution Approving a Developers Agreement for Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition and Authorizing and Directing Execution Thereof. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmembers Krings, Coop, Ladd, Woletz and Evans VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

8.3.2. Resolution 23-133, Resolution Conditionally Approving a Final Plat for Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve Resolution 23-133, Resolution Conditionally Approving a Final Plat for Buesgens Commercial Center 2nd Addition. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmember Evans, Coop, Krings, Ladd and Woletz VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

8.4. Resolution 23-131 Authorize the Purchase of a Bobcat (Toolcat) for Public Works Use.

Public Works Superintendent Otto reviewed the proposed Bobcat for public works use. Otto explained the bobcat is a versatile tool with added attachments to be used not only in the winter months but also in the summer months.

Mayor Woletz inquired if the bid is a State Bid. Public Works Superintendent Otto confirmed.

Councilmember Ladd inquired how this would better protect the infrastructure verses a bobcat or a snow blower and inquired if Public Works has a brush. Public Works Superintendent Otto explained the skid loader is a tired machine which will not tear up and explained he has another brush for another skid loader which will be used in conjunction with this one. Ladd inquired if it was possible to back drag the bump outs with a plow. Otto explained he believes it is highly unlikely due to the elevation and noted the goal to reduce damage by hard services. Ladd inquired if staff could modify the current equipment instead, how many snow blowers are in the fleet and what attachments specifically will be used for the bump outs. Otto explained he did not believe modifications to current equipment would be efficient, currently a 60" snow blower and a skid loader with a snow blower are in the fleet. Otto explained the broom and blower will be used for the Downtown. Ladd inquired if the request is a replacement item or an additional item. Otto explained it is an additional item.

Police Chief Stier explained in Work Session discussion on the weight of a loader or the bobcat could cause damage and noted the requested item is significantly lighter. Public Works Superintendent Otto noted the requested equipment doesn't allow for downward pressure.

Councilmember Ladd inquired if this equipment was put in the budget when the previous council approved the street project. Public Work Superintendent Otto explained the previous council discussed what would be needed for maintenance and staff did the research.

Councilmember Krings inquired what a boom float is and if staff expect to trailer this equipment. Public Works Superintendent Otto explained the boom float is a floating mechanism to not allow down pressure and noted this bobcat operates like UTV and will not need to be trailered.

Councilmember Ladd inquired if this equipment will be used mainly for Downtown. Public Works Superintendent Otto explained Council will see this equipment for parks and trails as an all seasons vehicle.

Councilmember Evans inquired when was this item put into the capital improvements budget and why the current UTV's won't work. Public Works Superintendent Otto explained he is unsure when the equipment was put into the plan and explained the current UTV's are a different type of equipment. Evans inquired why our other equipment wouldn't be able to clear the snow from the Downtown. Otto explained currently for the trails the City uses an pickup with plow and a smaller tractor and noted they would not maneuver the same for clearing. Otto noted the requested equipment has all rubber or hardened plastic instead of metal.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Krings, to approve Resolution 23-131 Authorize the Purchase of a Bobcat (Toolcat) for Public Works Use. ROLL CALL VOTE. Councilmembers

Coop, Krings and Woletz VOTED AYE. Councilmembers Ladd and Evans VOTED NAY. MOTION CARRIED 3-2.

9. ADMINISTRATION.

9.1. Upcoming Tentative Meetings.

1. Budget Work Session, Wednesday, October 4, 3:00 PM.
2. EDA Committee, Monday, October 9, 5:00 PM.
3. Planning Committee, Monday, October 9, 6:30 PM.
4. Public Safety, Tuesday, October 10, 8:30 AM.
5. Public Works Committee, Wednesday, October 11, 3:00 PM.
6. City Council, Monday, October 16, 6:00 PM.
7. Closed Personnel, Monday, October 16, 6:15 PM.

Mayor Woletz reviewed the upcoming tentative meetings as listed.

10. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Evans, second by Councilmember Krings, to adjourn the regular session at 6:41 PM. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee Eyrich
Recording Secretary