

**SAUK CENTRE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Sauk Centre City Council met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. due notice being given thereof. Present were Mayor Warren Stone, Council Members Diane Kelly, Joe Fuechtmann and Heidi Leach. Also present were Engineer Chuck Boser, Public Works Supervisor Ben Clink, Police Sergeant Joe Jensen, City Administrator Vicki Willer and City Planner Sarah Morton. Mayor Stone presided thereat. Council Member Shalon Wilber was absent.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Council Member Fuechtmann and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to approve the agenda as presented. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Fuechtmann, Kelly, Leach and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Council Member Leach and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to approve the November 16, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Leach, Kelly, Fuechtmann and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

4. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM (Comments Limited to 3 Minutes)

Barb Nathe – New Munich, MN. Ms. Nathe stated that she received a letter in the mail that states her Lease for Sinclair Lewis Campground will not be renewed for 2023. She asked that the Council reconsider this. See 9b.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS – TRUTH IN TAXATION – 2023 BUDGET

a. Mayor Stone opened the Public Hearing and read the Public Hearing Procedure.

The budget presented at the meeting represented changes to the adopted Preliminary which has been updated. This resulted in a change in the General Fund leaving a revenue vs. expenditure shortfall of \$34,531.96. This is a change from the initial proposed shortfall at the Preliminary budget workshop.

The City Council asked that a levy increase to cover increased costs of 6% for Bond 2022A and 3% to cover increased costs be certified as the Preliminary Levy. It was estimated that this levy would not create an increase in the tax rate due to new development and property value changes.

This resulted in a decrease in the City tax rate from 48.846% to 46.373% or a decrease of just under 2.5%.

This new rate was applied to property values and sent to property owners in the last few weeks. The overall tax rate did increase due to levies of the other taxing authorities.

Mayor Stone called three times for persons to speak in favor or opposition. None spoke. Mayor Stone closed the Public Hearing. See 7a and 7b.

6. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

None.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. See 5a.

The Council was presented with Resolution No. 2022-92, Resolution Adopting 2023 Expense and Revenue Budgets for the City of Sauk Centre. This Resolution proposes to Adopt budgets in Final form.

A motion was made by Council Member Kelly and was seconded by Council Member Fuechtmann to approve Resolution No. 2022-92, Resolution Adopting 2023 Expense and Revenue Budgets for the City of Sauk Centre. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Kelly, Fuechtmann, Leach and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

b. See 5a.

The City Council previously received and adopted the proposed 2023 Proposed Budget for all Funds

General Fund:	\$1,570,571.00
Special Revenue Fund:	\$115,000.00
Debt Service Fund:	\$595,000.00
Total:	\$2,280,571.00

A motion was made by Council Member Fuechtmann and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to approve Resolution No. 2023-93, Resolution Adopting Property Tax Levy, Collectible in 2023. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Fuechtmann, Kelly, Leach and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

c. Each year, the City Council approves various transfers between funds. These transfers are:

Transfer Fire Dept. share of City Hall Bond Pmt. To Bond Fund -	\$58,378
Transfer Stormwater Fees to Bond Fund	\$114,000
Transfer Future Equipment Purchase Funds to Sinking Fund	\$215,000
Transfer Current Year Purchase from Sinking Fund to General Fund	\$165,000
Transfer from Parks/Campground to Arena for Ice Resurfacer	\$55,000
Transfer Apt. Complex Abatement to EDA Fund	\$20,944
Transfer TIF Admin Funds to EDA for TIF Administration	\$2,500
Transfers Funds from Hospital Fund to Ind. Park Project Fund	\$200,000
Transfer TIF Funds to Ind Park Project Fund	<u>\$750,000</u>
	<u>\$1,580,822</u>

The date of the transfers will occur on November 30, 2022.

A motion was made by Council Member Kelly and was seconded by Council Member Leach to approve Resolution No. 2022-94, Resolution Authorizing Year End Interfund Transfers. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Kelly, Leach, Fuechtmann and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

- d. Minnesota Statutes 204B, Subd. 1 requires that a City Council, by Ordinance or Resolution, must designate polling places for the upcoming year. This prevents changes to polling places less than 90 days prior to an election, unless it becomes unavailable or due to an emergency.

Resolution No. 2022-95 designates Sauk Centre City Hall as the official polling place for any Special or Regular Elections in 2023.

A motion was made by Council Member Fuechtmann and was seconded by Council Member Leach to approve Resolution No. 2022-95, Resolution Designating Polling Places. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Fuechtmann, Leach, Kelly and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

- e. Currently all City employees contribute to a Health Care Savings Plan. The funds are available for the employee's use for medical expenses post-employment.

The non-union group has four tiers with varying percentages of contribution. Resolution No. 2022-96 collapses all tiers into one so all non-union will contribute 2% of his or her wages and 100% of his or her payout of sick leave and/or vacation when he or she leaves employment.

The City does not contribute to the Plan. All contributions are from payroll deductions from employees.

The Union groups are not proposed to change at this time. They are set by the Labor Agreement currently in effect.

A motion was made by Council Member Kelly and was seconded by Council Member Fuechtmann to approve Resolution No. 2022-96, Resolution Amending Personnel Policy by Amending the Employees' Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) Contributions. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Kelly, Fuechtmann, Leach and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

- f. The City has received an application for Seasonal Employment at the Civic Arena from Clint Althaus. After interview by Ben Clink, it was recommended that Althaus be appointed as a Seasonal Employee effective immediately.

A motion was made by Council Member Leach and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to approve appointment of Clint Althaus as a seasonal employee at the Civic Arena, effective immediately. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Leach,

Kelly, Fuechtmann and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

Wages will be according to the adopted pay scale, which would be \$15.00/hour.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. City Hall front steps development plan is ongoing. Staff has been notified by residents that they will pay for the cost of relocating the flagpole.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Notice has been sent to The Historic Broken Bar Stool (formerly Corner Bar) that due to expiration of insurance the City Council will consider revocation of the liquor license.

This will be considered at the December 21, 2022 Council meeting.

- b. At a prior meeting, the Park Board discussed the Seasonal Camper Agreement for the 2023 season. Part of the discussion included the decision to not extend invitations to two seasonal campers to camp for the 2023 season due to controversies that have arisen. This goes back many years according to the past three campground managers.

Unfortunately, the campers generally want the City to settle issues that arise amongst themselves and not confront each other personally which then involves the City and its Staff. In addition, adherence to the rules and terms of the Seasonal Camper Agreement also come into play. The Seasonal Camper Agreement was presented to the Council for their review.

Letters were sent to the Campers notifying them of the decision not to offer them a contract for 2023. Both Campers have appealed the decision of the Board. Their appeal letters were submitted to the Council.

A motion was made by Council Member Leach and was seconded by Council Member Fuechtmann to uphold the Park Board's decision in not extending the Lease to prior seasonal campers, Michels and Nathe. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Leach, Fuechtmann, Kelly and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered the following Consent Agenda Items:

- a. Resolution No. 2022-97 Resolution Accepting Contributions.

Men's Card Playing Group	\$122.75	Senior Center
Walmart (Shop with a Cop)	\$3,000.00	Police Dept.
Jeanette & Vern Pfeifer	\$100.00	Police Dept.
Harvest Outreach, Inc.	\$1,000.00	Fire Dept.
Great River Federal Credit Union	2 blankets	Amb. Dept.

- b. Gambling Application for Exempt Permit request from Sauk Centre Lions Club. for a raffle on February 22, 2023 at the Sauk Centre American Legion.

A motion was made by Council Member Leach and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Leach, Kelly, Fuechtmann and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

11. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Spectrum Lineup Changes.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Council Member Leach and was seconded by Council Member Kelly to adjourn the meeting. A vote being recorded as follows: For: Council Members Leach, Kelly, Fuechtmann and Mayor Stone. Against: None. Absent: Council Member Wilber. The motion passed.

With no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Mayor Warren Stone

City Administrator Vicki Willer