

MINUTES of the CITY OF MILO COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, 100 MAIN ST, MILO, IOWA – TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2024

Milo City Council was called to order by Mayor Hall at 7:01 p.m. City Council answering the Clerk's roll call: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, and Griggs. Mason arrived at 7:06 p.m. Public in attendance were Allen Benesh and Lindzey Houston. Mayor Hall administered the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Wadle, second Kinser to approve the agenda with the addition of the RAGBRAI update and discussion of the Milo Farmer's Market. Ayes: Kinser, Rasmussen, Wadle, and Griggs. Nays: none. Absent: Mason. Motion approved.

Motion by Wadle, second by Kinser to approve the consent agenda to include all meeting minutes of May 28, 2024; and accounts payable from May 7 – June 3, 2024 in the amount of \$677,546.08. The April 2024 bank reconciliation report and the 2024 Warren County Sheriff's Report. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, and Griggs,. Nays: none. Absent: Mason. Motion approved. Mason arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Council reviewed all old business items resulting in the following information/actions: Motion by Wadle, second by Mason to approve wastewater project payment 13 to Blue Ribbon Builders for \$235,125.00. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Motion by Rasmussen, second by Wadle to approve wastewater project contract payment to Hall Engineering for \$10,510.00. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Then regarding the trail, Mayor and Council discussed the trail timeline and Doug Hembry, city maintenance, noted that the bulk of the construction and grading has been completed and the concrete will be poured soon. Then discussion centered around the naming of the trail. Mayor stated that Council was asked to present ideas and if it was something to put out to the citizens to bring ideas, narrow to a few news, and allow voting. Griggs noted that the "Milo Lion's - Community Pride Trail" had been tagged at a prior meeting. Mayor Hall suggested something that would flow better such as the Legacy Trail because that is one of the tenets for the Lion's Club and then have a story board at both trail heads that explains the history and all the participants involved in bringing the trail to completion. Rasmussen suggested voting for the trail name at the Milo 4th of July event. Discussion followed. Rasmussen asked what percentage of time/money from each group involved. Griggs offered that in the beginning the Lions were instrumental in pouring the north beginning section of the trail and Randy Uttley in particular donated a lot of time. Also noted was the City's grant writing and Local Option Sales Tax that was provided to the trail. Griggs noted that the Lion's national logo could be used with whichever name is chosen. Doug Hembry suggested the Lion's Vision Trail which would tie into the eyeglass charity that is supported by the club. Discussion followed with Council agreeing that it would lend to community ownership and involvement in the trail if the public were able to vote on the final name. The naming options chosen were Lion's Vision Trail, Lion's Pride Community Trail, Lion's Legacy Trail. Wadle said she would make boxes for the voting and Mason will be at the raffle booth for a couple of hours on July 4th. City Clerk will email Milo 4th of July Inc and ask if we can have the voting at the raffle table. Motion by Rasmussen and second by Mason to approve the following 3 trail name options for voting by the community during the Milo 4th of July Event: Lion's Pride Community Trail, Lion's Vision Trail, and Lion's Legacy Trail. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Ribbon cutting was tabled to a future meeting. Council noted that when the trail is complete, the city maintenance department will be responsible for mowing and weed eating along the trail and benches a minimum of twice monthly. Doug Hembry asked who would be responsible for maintenance of the benches that the Lion's Club placed along the trail, noting that several are rusting. Hembry also noted that several on Main Street are starting to show rust also. Mayor Hall asked who initiated the bench project. Discussion followed and it was noted that it was a trail fundraiser by the Lion's Club. Griggs will contact the Lion's Club regarding the rusted benches and future maintenance. Kinser reported on the possibility of the pickle ball court and noted that it would be

expensive to repair the former tennis courts and make them safe for pickle ball and it would be costly to tear out and replace. Council took no action.

Council departmental reports: Kinser-public safety: no report/questions. Wadle-streets: asked if council had looked at the Oak Street asphalt issue and also mentioned an asphalt issue on East Walnut Street and a pothole on 4th and Belmont. Rasmussen-utilities: no report/questions. Griggs-parks: no report/questions. Mason-general: no report/questions.

Doug Hembry, Operations Director, Hembry said he will remove the buckled asphalt from Oak Street and fill it with rock as a temporary patch. Hembry noted that the property owner across the street should be responsible for the asphalt issue due to him parking a large trailer in the street forcing garbage trucks to drive on the edge of the roadway. Hembry noted that there is another area on Peanut Street that will result in the same problem. Council discussed ordinance changes and directed the clerk to contact the city attorney. Mayor Hall asked when the backfill for the north connecting sidewalk will be completed. Hembry said that he needs directions on where the water station will be located before he can proceed. Mayor Hall will go with Hembry to determine the location. Mayor Hall asked about the teeter-totter refurbishment and Hembry said that he was told it was a Milo Hometown Pride project. Mayor Hall said that they were going to partner with the Milo Lion's Club, but decided to ask the City to take care of the update. Heather Anderson will provide the supplies and information. Mayor Hall noted that there is a utility pole leaning on Spruce and 2nd Streets; she also asked about the overly bright light basketball court and Hembry noted that it is an LED light which adds to the brightness. Griggs asked about the tree down at 4th & Pine Streets that is hanging across overhead wires. Hembry said that he is aware and has notified Windstream. Griggs reported on RAGBRAI, stating that the pre-ride will be in Milo at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday at the bandstand. The Milo-Ritaville themed items will be there and a sample of food that will be served for the actual event. Mason asked about the route, Mayor Hall noted that they will come in on Belmont and south on 2nd Street to the bandstand. Benesh, public in attendance, asked where the porta-potties will be located, Griggs said they will be near the west end of Main Street. Discussion followed.

Council reviewed all new business items resulting in the following information/actions: motion by Kinser, second by Mason to approve the Eric Ohnemus Car Show street closing permit for July 7, 2024. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Then, motion by Griggs, second by Mason to approve Resolution 2024-10 street closings and Sheriff request for the Milo 4th of July Event. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Next, Mayor Hall administered the third reading of the listed ordinance. Then, motion by Wadle second, by Kinser to approve the third reading of Ordinance 2024-03 Milo Code Chapter 106 Collection of Solid Waste and direct the Clerk to publish the ordinance. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion approved. Next, motion by Mason, second by Griggs to approve the Wine Slushie alcohol permit for the Wine Down to Milo Event. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Then, motion by Rasmussen, second by Mason to approve abating the nuisance at 212 Pine Street, Milo, Iowa and directing city maintenance to proceed. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Then, motion by Wadle, second by Kinser to accept the donation from Rasmussen to update/replace the television/monitor in City Hall. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved. Mayor Hall then shared that the Milo Farmer's Market is offering food vendors to be part of their program. Discussion followed, with Mayor Hall stating that the blackout dates would be when the Milo Fire Department is having their Sunday ice cream and food truck fundraiser once a month. Council noted that if the Milo Farmer's Market is a non-profit they will be responsible for ensuring compliance; if they are a for-profit the food trucks will need to obtain a permit from the City of Milo. Council directed the Clerk to contact Milo Farmer's Market with the blackout dates.

Employee reviews began with Mayor Hall offering a closed session to Doug Hembry, which he declined. Mayor Hall stated that Hembry's strengths are his knowledge of the procedures, budget and operations. Doug is well versed in everything to do with the City and can answer all concerns easily. Mayor Hall said she appreciates Doug's efforts to research cost effective ways to complete projects and that Doug has a deep care for the community and use of tax payer monies. Wadle, Mason and Rasmussen appreciate Doug's ability to multi-task the many things that have to get done and many times when a concern is brought to Doug, he has already taken care of it. Kinser asked about a succession plan for when Doug retires. Mayor Hall said that a manual is in the works and Renee Hembry will help with compiling information. Mayor Hall said areas for improvement would be to bring progress reports for postponed projects so they do not slip off the radar; also completing the operations manual. Doug Hembry said more input from Council outside of the meeting nights would be appreciated. Hembry informed Council that the new wastewater operator certification will be Treatment Grade 2, which Hembry currently possesses. In the future, a replacement operator with those qualifications may be difficult to find. After discussion, motion by Rasmussen, second by Wadle to approve a 7% wage increase (\$2.32/hour) for Doug Hembry for FY2025. Ayes: Kinser, Wadle, Rasmussen, Griggs, and Mason. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Mayor Hall offered a closed session to Misti Kosman, which she declined. Mayor Hall stated that Misti is excellent in gathering information for council to make informed decisions. Misti searches out grant opportunities and writes and administers several grants; especially in the past several years with the wastewater facility project and the trail project. Mayor Hall said that Misti looks for areas that need improvement and reports to Council and Mayor with funding options and grants. Wadle said she is grateful for the work that Misti does especially with the budgeting and projecting of revenue for the city. Mason said that the public does not realize what the job entails and that Misti has to know many processes within city government. Griggs chimed in that she has a great attention to detail and is direct in her actions. Mayor Hall encouraged the Clerk to continue training. Clerk shared that the current sitting council has been great to work with and appreciates their guidance. Discussion turned to cybersecurity and the need to update the city hall computer systems. Mason said that it would be helpful to have a laptop when working from home researching grants, during budget season, and other tasks. Council asked that it be put on the next agenda. After discussion, motion by Rasmussen, second by Wadle to approve an 8% wage increase (\$2.06/hour) for Misti Kosman for FY2025.

There were no public comments. Mason asked about pole banners and if they had been ordered. Mayor Hall said the banners were on hold but will be ordered soon. Mayor Hall said the next council meeting will be July 1, 2024.

Motion by Kinser, second by Rasmussen to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Ayes: All present. Motion approved.

By Order of the Milo City Council