

**STRATFORD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 13, 2023**

The Stratford City Council met for a budget work session on Monday, February 13, 2023, with Mayor Larry Runyan calling the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Council members answering roll call were: Catherine Bergman, Carol Bergman, Ht Buie, and Brian Ouverson. Also present was City Manager Kim Leeds.

Council and City Manager Leeds reviewed the general fund and Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. No action was taken at this session.

The Stratford City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 9, 2023, with Mayor Larry Runyan calling the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members answering roll call were: Catherine Bergman, Carol Bergman, Ht Buie, and Brian Ouverson. Council member Terry Bryan was absent. Also present was Jim Leiding of Bolton & Menk, Keith Halleland of YSS, Toni Larson, Dan Ostrem, and Kim Leeds.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to approve the tentative agenda. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve previous meeting minutes from January 9, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve the consent agenda as follows: Financial Report for January 2023, Current Claims since Previous Council Approval for \$26,862.61, and Delinquent Utility Account Report. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to open the public hearing for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Max Levy at 7:09 p.m. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

No written or oral comments were received.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Brian Ouverson to close the public hearing for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Max Levy at 7:11 p.m. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve Resolution 2023-12 – a resolution approving Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Max Levy. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Keith Halleland of YSS of Hamilton County was present to give city council an overall summary of what been happening at YSS.

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve donation request of \$620.00 from YSS of Hamilton County. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

City Manager Leeds and council held a short discussion on the west Tennyson Avenue watermain breaks. City Manager Leeds explain to the council that currently there is \$141,421.66 roughly left from the previous watermain project, borrowed at 2.95%. Jim Leiding, P.E., of Bolton & Menk, Inc was available to review the west Tennyson Avenue Water Main Improvements. The Engineer's Opinion of Probable Costs for the project is \$103,980.00. Leiding went over the construction plans with council. The project consists of replacement of four hundred -fifty linear feet of six-inch watermain, five service connections, one hydrant assembly, valves and abandonment of the existing watermain.

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve and authorize mayor to sign Professional Service Agreement for a not to exceed total of \$25,500 for the west Tennyson Avenue Watermain Improvements. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and set hearing date for next regular council meeting on March 13, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to approve Capital Improvement Plan and set hearing date for next regular council meeting on March 13, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Brian Ouverson, seconded by Ht Buie to approve contract between The Trash Man and the City and authorize the mayor to sign. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve Ziegler three-year Customer Support Agreements for generators for the water plant, the large lift station and the small lift Station. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve incumbent Mike Lansing for Iowa Rural Water Association Board of Director's Ballot for 2023/2024. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Ht Buie to approve Stratford Fire and Rescue application for membership for Meagan Johnson. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve City Manager advertising for and hiring 2023 pool staff. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve changing pool hours back to 8:00 p.m. closing at the manager discretion to try to accommodate those family that come to pool after

work. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Ht Buie, seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve of Pool Policy Manual for 2023 pool season. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

Moved by Catherine Bergman, seconded by Carol Bergman to approve budget amendment and set a public hearing date for fiscal year 2023 budget for next regular council meeting on March 13, 2023. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried

City Manager and council held a lengthy discussion about the property tax valuations that will affect the fiscal year 2024 budget. During the 2021 legislative session, the Iowa Department of Revenue proposed legislation to remove the multi-residential property tax assessment classification. The proposed legislation was passed, and signed into law by Governor Reynolds on March 8, 2021, and was to go into effect for property assessment beginning January 1, 2022. Iowa Senate has introduced Senate File 181 which corrects an unintended issue with 2021 Iowa Acts legislation. It reduces the residential rollback by 1.8% from 56.49% to 54.65% It would require the Department of Revenue to recalculate residential rollback for the assessment year 2022. Currently, this bill has passed the senate 49-0 with an amendment. The amendment moves the deadline for submission of the budget to April 30, 2023. This new deadline would apply to only fiscal year 2023-2024 budget submission and would apply to all local governments. It has not passed the house yet, but something to keep our eye on.

Moved by Catherine Bergman seconded by Brian Ouverson to approve third reading of Ordinance 2022-06 – an ordinance amending §99.07 by setting new rates. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Brian Ouverson seconded by Catherine Bergman to approve third reading of Ordinance 2022-07 – an ordinance §92.02; by setting new rates as established under 2012-08. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, , Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Carol Bergman, seconded by Brian Ouverson to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Roll call vote: Catherine Bergman – aye, Carol Bergman – aye, Ht Buie – aye, Brian Ouverson – aye. Motion carried.

Larry Runyan, Mayor

Attest:

Kim Leeds, City Manager/ Clerk