

MINUTES
February 12, 2024

The City Council of Badger met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. at Badger City Hall with Mayor Chris Wendell presiding. Council members present: Roger Curtis, Teresa Larson-White, Pam Smith, Jeff Brundige and Nathan Jones. Also present: Lori Gascho, Carol Hanson and Donna and Ralph Bryan. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Curtis, second by Larson-White, all ayes, motion carried. Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Smith, second by Brundige, all ayes, motion carried. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the January 8th regular meeting and January 29th special meeting, Clerk/Treasurer report for January, and bills in the amount of \$11,202.89. There was no unscheduled business. Under communications and reports, Library Director, Tammy Jones presented her written report on library activities and happenings. Next on the agenda was Public Works Department reports. Water/Wastewater Operator Craig Larson was absent but had presented his written report on amounts of water/sewage production/disposal for January and the conditions of the lagoons. Mark Wertz, Public Works, presented his written report to the Council which included numerous maintenance tasks, work with equipment, utility locates, etc. Glenda Rasmussen, City Clerk, presented her written report to Council. The Council and Mayor had nothing to report. Under regular agenda items, a motion to approve setting the date and time for a Public Hearing on the FY25 Tax Levy rate to be March 25th at 6:00 p.m. was introduced by Larson-White, second by Curtis, all ayes, motion carried. Lori Gascho then addressed council about placing a wooden statue at the Badger Fastway. Gascho has received a commitment from the owners of the convenience store, W & H Cooperative, to donate \$1,500 to the city to purchase a chain-saw carved statue of a badger and place it at the Fastway. The completion of the extension of the bike trail to Badger next summer prompted Gascho to contact W & H. Gascho stated it would provide for bikers to frequent the Fastway after reaching the trailhead a couple of blocks away for refreshments and photo ops and would serve as a sort of city mascot. She would like the city to use the donated funds to pay for the artist to produce the statue and also some signage/graphics next to the statue. She suggested that a naming contest for the "badger" could be held with a small prize for the winner to be paid for out of remaining funds. A motion to approve accepting the donation and expending the donated funds for that purpose was made by Larson-White, second by Smith, all ayes, motion carried. Next on the agenda, council discussed replacing the electronic tablets that the mayor and council use for meetings. The current ones are outdated and most no longer work. The purpose of the tablets is to cut down on paperwork that is being produced for council meetings, ease of use in having council packets in electronic form, and earlier access to the information by council. Jones said he would look into a donation of 6 tablets from Iowa Central Community College. Motion to approve either accepting donated tablets, or purchasing new tablets at an approximate cost of \$1,300 was made by Smith, second by Jones, all ayes, motion carried. The last item on the agenda was council, mayor, and staff continued discussion of FY25 budget items. Items discussed included street repairs, maintenance shed repairs and the overall budget for next fiscal year. Prior to closing the meeting, Donna Bryan thanked the council for the check for \$25.00 for the holiday lights contest, and Ralph Bryan asked why city-wide cleanup day is held right across the street from their house. The location is due to available space on city property and ease of use for all involved. There being no other business, motion to adjourn was made by Curtis, second by Brundige, all ayes, motion carried. Adjournment at 7:31 p.m.

Glenda R. Rasmussen
City Clerk