

Fertile City Council Minutes
Special Meeting
May 22, 2023

The Fertile City Council held a special meeting on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Present were: Mayor Daniel Wilkens and Council members Mary Kiefert, Amanda Bosman, Matthew Massmann, and Todd Wise. Also present was City Administrator Lisa Liden, Deputy City Administrator Stacy Erickson, and Jason Murray with David Drown and Associates. The purpose of the meeting was to approve the Community Center project financing by formal resolution and to formally accept the low bid for construction.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkens at 6:30 p.m. and began with those present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jason Murray introduced himself to Council since his first meeting for the Public Hearings was held remotely. He explained that he had worked with MN Rural Water under their Midi Loan Program and had also reached out for proposals from other lenders just to see what rates were offered. The local bank had submitted a proposal but the interest was just high enough that it increased the overall cost of the loan by over \$16,000. Based on that information he had determined that the MN Rural Water loan was more affordable.

Murray then reviewed the borrowing process to date and that the required Capital Improvement Plan and TEFRA hearings had been held over a month prior as is required by Statute. He then asked if there had been any petitions from citizens objecting to the borrowing and Administrator Liden replied that there had been no petitions or even negative comments on the project or the borrowing. Murray then briefly reviewed Resolution #5-1-23 the resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds. The bond would be issued in the amount of \$796,000 at an interest rate of 4.25% which resulted in an average annual payment of \$70,000 per year.

Mayor Wilkens asked if there were contingency funds built into the bond and Murray replied that the bids for construction usually include a contingency component. Administrator Liden asked Murray for clarification of the tax levy information on page eight of the resolution. Liden asked whether those amounts listed for each year need to be levied in addition to the regular levy. She explained that the City regularly budgeted for capital improvements for both buildings and machinery and that going forward for the next years, those budgeted funds would be for the payment on the bond. Murray explained that those amounts do not need to be levied directly as long as the bond payment is accounted for in the budget out of general funds.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Council member Kiefert to pass Resolution #5-1-23 A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance, Sale, and Delivery of \$796,000 General Obligation Capital Improvement Plan Note, Series 2023A. The motion was seconded by Council member Bosman and was carried.

The next item to address was the formal acceptance of the low bid submitted by Christianson for the Community Center Project. A motion was made by Council member Massmann to accept

the low bid with both alternates submitted by Christianson. The motion was seconded by Council member Wise and was carried.


The meeting was then closed per MN Statute 13D.05 Subd. 2(b) on a motion by Council member Bosman that was seconded by Council member Wise and was carried. Administrator Liden noted that the meeting would be recorded in accordance with that Statute.

After discussion of the concerns about Fair Meadow Nursing Home, the closed meeting was reopened on a motion by Council member Massmann that was seconded by Council member Bosman. The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Council member Bosman.



Daniel Wilkens, Mayor


Lisa J. Liden, City Administrator