

April 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Dave Witucki. Council members present were Tiffany Sevcik, Tom Boeck, Gina Massop – KC Reuter joined the meeting at 7:25 PM. Also present were Don Wolters, Chris Kruse, Patty Smith, Tamara Dicks, Rob Grover, Brian Bollig and Shannon Sweeny

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Sevcik to approve the minutes from March 3, 2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills: A motion was made by Sevcik and 2nd by Massop to approve the bills.

City	Check 12056 – 12118 & EFT's 966E – 974E	\$86,631.09
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Smith had an additional bill of \$20,965.00 from City of Mapleton/1st Q police services. Motion carried unanimously.

Snowplowing Policy: The snowplowing policy needs to be updated; it was written in 2003. Kruse and Smith went through it and made changes. Clarification on start time – it was listed for 5 AM. Should now read, “Call out is variable depending on snowfall accumulation, it is advisable to plow as soon as possible with a starting time of 4 AM depending on snowstorm progression.” Smith will do the updates and have it ready for May meeting approval. Boeck asked about places to pile snow and public works said there are enough places to push the snow.

Reports: Reports were received from public works, fire department and police. PH sensor is on order with H2O. Sludge is waiting for test results before we can haul. Curtains at WWTP estimates may be higher if council want them to open the opposite way. Waiting for new bid on the up/down or down/up. Kruse also proposed that if curtains are better taken care of by power washing them in spring and fall, it could make them look nicer longer. Congratulations on Amboy, receiving 2nd place at MN Rural Water Conference with our water tasting entry. Flushing water mains will be April 14 – 18 and Street Sweeping on April 9. The quote for valve exerciser from DSG was \$2699.98. It is battery operated and would be used as least twice a year. If we had our own, we could use it whenever needed instead of when another city had time to borrow theirs. Boeck made a motion and 2nd by Massop to approve purchase of valve exerciser from DSG for \$2699.98. Motion carried unanimously.

Dollar General Tobacco License: A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Sevcik to approve the tobacco license for Dollar General. Motion carried unanimously.

Cannabis Ordinance: First look at ordinance; should be similar to cities of Lake Crystal, Good Thunder, and Mapleton. Smith will make the updates and post for a public hearing in May at next council meeting.

Bollig Engineering: Brian Bollig was at meeting instead of Kris Ambuehl, Kris will still be our point of contact. The preliminary report will be presented to council at the June meeting. Most of our system is lined for WWTP, so they need more time to prepare report. Bollig presented to council on South Street Extension. It will cost \$1,007,000.00; this would include a paved street, water, storm and sanitary. Task Order 3 was also presented for \$105,000.00 for Bollig Services of Preliminary Design, Final Design and Bidding. This task is included in the million-dollar costs of project. Shannon Sweeney with Public Finance Advisors gave information to council on ways to pay for the project. A TIF (tax increment finance) District could be established. It takes about 60 days to complete and needs to be done before any building permits are issued. A public hearing will be held; which will allow us to capture tax to the city for 9 years for \$33,148 per year. The costs to create a TIF District are \$6000, extra annual report with state to be filed by auditors. A tax abatement could be done also, the city would publish a notice, and council would pass it with a resolution. A tax abatement cost less to implement with less reporting. Tax abatement can be done for 20 years, for \$23,578 per year. Amboy could also do a combination of both TIF for 9 years and abatement for 11 years. The TIF or abatement would reduce the city's payment. The engineers plan would have an estimate for each area of project – street, water, sewer, storm to budget from each area. Rural Development would help with a loan for the remaining part of project and city does have money in reserves. Housing project could be done on the north side of the road, as Grover Trucking will be on south side of the road. The next steps would be for council to approve Task #3 and decide if they want to do TIF, Abatement or both. If both are done, you would have 2 public hearings on the same day. A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Boeck to approve Task Order 3 for Bollig Engineering for Infrastructure Improvements for W South Street for \$105,000.00. Motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Reuter to elect to have a TIF District established for 9 years and the Abatement for 11 years. Motion carried unanimously. Bollig will put a timeline together for this project.

Park Benches: Fire Dept Relief donated \$1000.00 last October for park benches. Council looked at assorted styles. A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Reuter to purchase two 8' blue benches City Series with anchors for \$618.85 each. Motion carried unanimously. Public works will place benches where they think is best.

Open Comment: Tim Penny's retirement will be held on April 17 in Owatonna. Kruse has estimates from Jellybean Mulch for \$14,880.00 and Safety First \$2332.55. The jellybean is not recycled tires and comes in colors and has 20-year warranty. Safety First is wood mulch that should be replaced every 2 years. Council would like to know what is covered under the warranty, they do like it, and it would be a good upgrade for our city park. A motion was made by Boeck and 2nd by Massop to approve purchase of Jellybean Mulch for city park.

Motion carried unanimously. Compost area will be rebuilt with cement blocks instead of wood, which will keep it from burning down. The cost will be approximately \$5000.00. Art Shuch had a running water softener that increased his water bill by over \$600.00. He requested a one-time forgiveness; council is okay with taking the average over past year and billing him \$154.00 instead of \$757.00 for water usage. Boeck asked about letters to residents on clean up days; Smith will be sending them out this week. Reuter asked about water, it seemed hard at his house, public works asked for a sample to analyze. Also asked about the trees being cut down on old school property – it is trimming of the pine trees, cutting down the dead tree and cleanup of volunteer trees. Sevcik requested city garage doors be repainted.

Miscellaneous: Mayor/Clerk is April 10 at Amboy at 6:30 PM, Open Book is April 21-25 at Mankato Government Center, Amboy city-wide garage sales will be May 9-10, City-wide cleanup is May 17, Don will be there to help load.

A motion was made by Massop and 2nd by Sevcik to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

David Witucki, Mayor

Council

ATTEST:

Patty Smith, Administrator, Clerk-Treasurer