City of Van Meter, Iowa

City Council Minutes – 11-28-2022

1. The Van Meter City Council met for a special meeting on Monday, November 28th, 2022, at the Veterans Reception Center, 910 Main Street. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. The following council members were present upon roll call: Joel Akers, Travis Brott, Blake Grolmus, Joe Herman, and Lyn Lyon.

Staff present: City Engineer Bob Veenstra, City Administrator Liz Faust, Deputy City Clerk Grace Grob, Police Chief Mike Brown, Fire Chief Mark Schmitt, and Library Director Nancy Studebaker.

1. Grolmus moved, supported by Lyon to approve the agenda. All were in favor.
2. Brott moved, supported by Grolmus to approve the consent agenda that contained 2022 TIF Certification for FY 2024. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Herman – YES; Lyon – YES.
3. Mayor Adams led discussion regarding safety concerns at the intersection at F90 and R16. Police Chief Brown reported multiple accidents in the past two years. City Engineer Veenstra described various methods used to regulate traffic. Grolmus motioned to lower the speed by ordinance to 45 in the city limits portion of F90; install warning signage of intersection ahead, cross traffic does not stop, and flashing light for stop sign; direct Police Chief Brown to prepare educational material for young student drivers. Brott seconded the motion. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Herman – YES; Lyon – YES.
4. Mayor Adams reviewed proposed changes to the personnel manual. Library Director Studebaker voiced concerns about certain sections. Specific concentration was on PTO. After lengthy discussion, no action was taken. Mayor Adams will continue to revise the section on PTO with consideration given to input provided in the meeting.
5. Police Chief Brown presented an update on the School Resource Officer 28E. After meeting with school administration, a modified agreement was approved by the Van Meter Community School District. A motion to approve the agreement and to hire an SRO was made by Brott, supported by Grolmus. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Herman – YES; Lyon – YES.
6. Fire Chief Schmitt gave an update on the fire department fleet. Chief Schmitt is requesting approval and funding from the council to replace the pumper truck due to its age and repair needs. He proposed that we purchase a used pumper truck if it is still available. A motion made by Lyon to purchase the truck for no more than $215,000 was supported by Grolmus. On roll call the votes were as follows: Akers – YES; Brott – YES; Grolmus – YES; Herman – YES; Lyon – YES.
7. Grolmus motioned to adjourn the meeting, supported by Herman. The motion carried and the meeting ended at 9:06PM.

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