

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARKERS PRAIRIE CITY COUNCIL

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 – 7:00 pm

Note: Due to legislative action making June 19th a state holiday, this special meeting was called to take the place of the regular City Council meeting that had originally been scheduled for Monday, June 19th.

City Council Members in Attendance: Mayor Kevin Birkholz, Council Members Linda Martinson Bates, Glenn Cornish, and Tony Woodworth (via interactive technology – attending as a non-voting member for this meeting). Council Member Cody Mathues was absent.

City Staff and Other Representatives in Attendance: City Administrator Beth Wussow, Chief of Police Joey Rud, and Parkers Prairie Independent Editor Jen Marquardt.

7:00 pm Pledge of Allegiance and Call to Order.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to approve of the City Council meeting minutes from May 15, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to approve the City Council meeting minutes from May 23, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

City Council/Fire Chief Pay for January through June 2023:

- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to approve the City Council and Fire Chief pay for the first half of 2023, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Temporary “Fall Festival” Liquor Permit Requests:

- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to approve the liquor permit for Legion Post #219, with the Dog House Bar & Grill, to sell beer in the City Park August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to approve the liquor permit for Parkers Last Stop to sell beer and mixed alcoholic beverages at the Ring of Fire Bull Riding Event August 4, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to approve the liquor permit for Parkers Last Stop to sell alcoholic slushies, bloody marys, wine, and mixed alcoholic beverages in the City Park August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to approve the liquor permit for Parkers Last Stop to sell beer and mixed alcoholic beverages at the Truck & Tractor Pull Event August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to approve the liquor permit for the Dog House Bar & Grill to sell mixed alcoholic beverages and seltzers in the City Park August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Cornish** to approve the liquor permit for the Dog House Bar & Grill to sell mixed alcoholic beverages and seltzers at the Truck & Tractor Pull Event August 5-6, 2023. The motion failed for lack of a second.
- **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to approve the liquor permit for Thousand Lakes Brewing Company to sell beer at the City Park August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Charitable Gambling/Bingo/Raffle Permit Requests:

- **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to permit Esther Lutheran Church to conduct bingo in the City Park August 5-6, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to permit the Ringnecks Forevermore raffle, with the drawing to take place January 27, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion was made by Bates**, and seconded by Cornish, to permit the Esther Lutheran Church raffle (for the Schlosser benefit), with the drawing to take place September 23, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Police Department. Chief Rud reported that he had received a lot of positive feedback from the public on the new squad truck. The unmarked squad car had sold at auction for \$6,200. The revenue, minus the auction fees, would be used toward outfitting the new truck with mud flaps, running boards, and tonneau cover. Rud stated he had received several complaints recently about golf carts on public roads: particularly about children driving golf carts. The law required golf cart drivers to have a valid driver’s license and to obey all traffic laws. Additionally, golf carts were not permitted on the bike path or on City sidewalks.

(Police Department, Continued) Council briefly discussed initiating a yearly "golf cart registration," at which time drivers could be provided with information on the state laws and the City's ordinances regarding golf cart use.

Fire Department. Fire Chief Woodworth stated the Department had received several applications for new firefighters. The Department was still searching for a used tanker to replace the oldest of the department's trucks.

Parkers Prairie Veteran's Memorial Park. Woodworth reported that the Committee was waiting for an updated bid for retaining wall block. The timeline would make it difficult for the project to be completed prior to the Fall Festival weekend.

Aquatic Center. Wussow stated that Aquatic Center operations were going well, and the recent hot weather had contributed to the 2023 season's first 250+ guest-count day on Monday, June 19th. The pool had opened for the season on June 5th, and by June 12th the pool had sold 33 family season passes and 9 single season passes.

Prairie Event Center. Wussow read an update submitted by Toni Reed (Parkers Last Stop) regarding bookings for 2024 and 2025. The Reeds were planning a small-scale wedding expo on June 15th, and a larger wedding expo in 2024. The Reeds were planning to have the Pride of Lions group start up regular meetings again in August, but the group had not yet paid the yearly rental fee for 2022. The Council recommended sending another invoice to the Pride of Lions treasurer for payment.

Ordinance Violations and Administrative Citations. Wussow reported she had received more violation complaints from the public so far in 2023 than she had in any previous year. The majority of complaints were about un-mowed grass, weeds, shrubs, trees, junk, untidy yards, and barking dogs. Wussow stated she had sent letters to 15 separate residences since the end of April regarding various ordinance violations. Chief Rud informed the Council that, while following procedures of the Administrative Citation Ordinance, he had issued six citations to property owners for non-compliance. Wussow questioned Attorney Jacobson on whether the City could step in and initiate clean-up of these properties, or had to wait out the citation process. Jacobson stated that, since the City had provided a compliance deadline that had not been met by the property owner, the City could proceed with measures to address the violation(s).

Addition of Juneteenth (June 19th) Holiday to City's Personnel Policy. Wussow recommended that June 19th be added to the list of paid holidays for full-time City employees, allowing the employees to choose twelve (12) out of the thirteen (13) paid holidays listed in the Personnel Policy. Local 70 Union would need to address the addition of the holiday in the separate Collective Bargaining Agreement or a Memo of Understanding. **Motion was made by Bates** to approve the suggested modifications to the Personnel Policy. The motion was seconded by Cornish and carried unanimously.

Disbursements. The following disbursements were presented for Council consideration:

Payments in May 2023

- ACH Payments # 2936e through # 2942e (General Checking Account)
- Written Checks # 36991 through # 37046 (General Checking Account)
- Voided Check # 37021 (due to duplicate payment)
- Voided Checks # 37042, # 37043, # 37047, # 37048 (due to printing error)
- Transfer of funds from FD Equip. Savings Acct. to Gen. Checking Acct. in the amount of \$501.27 to cover payment for equipment out of Gen. Checking Acct. (\$500 donated funds from LREC)

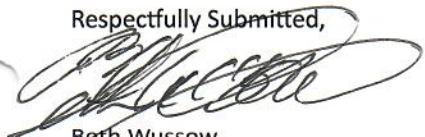
Payments in June 2023

- Written Checks # 37049 through # 37088 (General Checking Account)

Motion was made by Cornish, and seconded by Bates, to approve the disbursements. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn. **Motion was made by Cornish**, and seconded by Bates, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with unanimous consent. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Beth Wussow
City Administrator

Attest:


Kevin Birkholz
Mayor