



**City of Moorhead
City Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2020 at 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, on March 23, 2020, at 5:30 PM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

1st Ward Council Member:	Shelly Dahlquist	Present - video
1st Ward Council Member:	Sara Watson Curry	Present - video
2nd Ward Council Member:	Shelly Carlson	Present - video
2nd Ward Council Member:	Heidi Durand	Present - video
Mayor:	Johnathan Judd	Present – in chambers
3rd Ward Council Member:	Deb White	Present - video
3rd Ward Council Member:	Larry Seljevold	Present - audio
4th Ward Council Member:	Chuck Hendrickson	Present - video
4th Ward Council Member:	Steve Lindaas	Present - video

Additional attendees:

Video: Chris Volkers, City Manager

Chambers: John Shockley, City Attorney - Dan Mahli, Assistant City Manager - Christina Rust, City Clerk - Chris Radi, IT Director

City Council Meeting

1. [Call to Order and Roll Call](#)
 2. [Pledge of Allegiance](#)
 3. [COVID-19 Update](#)
- A. [Adoption of Preamble, Purpose and Intent for Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-01](#) relating to Open Meeting and Public Meeting Alternatives
Motion to Adopt made by Chuck Hendrickson and seconded by Shelly Carlson

Minutes: John Shockley, City Attorney addressed the rules of conduct of public meetings necessary during this emergency that has been declared. Under the City Charter the City council can enact emergency ordinances.

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

- B. [First Reading and Enactment of Emergency Ordinance No. 2020-01](#) relating to Open Meeting and Public Meeting Alternatives
Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Sara Watson Curry

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

4. [Agenda Amendments](#)

5. [Consent Agenda](#)

Motion to Approve made by Heidi Durand and seconded by Steve Lindaas

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

6. [Approve Minutes](#)

A. [Meeting Minutes - March 9, 2020](#)

Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Shelly Carlson

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

B. [Special Council Meeting Minutes - March 19, 2020](#)

Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Chuck Hendrickson

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

7. [Citizens Addressing the Council \(Time Reserved: 15 Minutes\)](#)

8. *Mayor and Council Appointments

A. [*Resolution for Appointments to Boards and Committees](#)

Public Hearings (5:45 p.m.)

9. [Public Hearing for 12th Ave S Business Park Storm Water Improvements \(18-A5-01\)](#)

Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Deb White and seconded by Steve Lindaas.

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Minutes: Tom Trowbridge, Assistant City Engineer presented a new infrastructure project for a storm water pond in a recently developed area. The developer planned that nine of the lots would join together to complete the project with the other 6 handling their drainage privately. The final 2 lots would have a pond constructed and upon completion would turn it over to the city for construction. The pond has not been completed and the city is working with the developer to complete the pond, which is required by permit. The owners of the majority of the land submitted a petition to have the city finish the project and assess the cost to all of the properties. Due to a petition from less than 100% of properties a public hearing is being held. The city would be responsible for future maintenance.

Public Hearing notices were mailed on March 12, 2020 and the city has not received any follow-up comments.

Council member Durand inquired about the assessments to the area in the last nine years. Concern is regarding small businesses in the area with the current COVID-19 situation and that adding a large assessment at this time might not be the best

time. Tom Trowbridge explained that due to the MPC permit, they are required to have it completed either by the city or privately, and if not completed, they are subject to fines and the city could be responsible. The properties are and have been aware of this and have not had any issue with the project moving forward.

Council member Dahlquist inquired if we are able to hold off on the assessments. Bob Zimmerman, City Engineer, stated the Council can postpone the assessment if desired, however due to a bond being used for funding, postponing it will incur interest on the bond.

A resident, who owns a business, not in the assessment area, called into the public hearing and asked about the beneficiary of the proposed pond. Tom Trowbridge verified that a fully functional pond has not been completed and is a requirement through their MPCA general storm water permit.

Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Deb White and seconded by Chuck Hendrickson.

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

A. [Resolution to Order Improvements and Declare Intent to Assess](#)

B. [Resolution to Award Bid](#)

Motion to Approve A & B made by Sara Watson Curry and seconded by Steve Lindaas

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

10. [Public Hearing for 20th Ave S and 18th & 19th St S Street Improvements \(20-A2-05\)](#)

Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Larry Seljevold.

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Minutes: Public comments were read by Tom Trowbridge, Assistant City Engineer. A citizen called in and asked about the age and condition on 19th street and when/if the street services are planned for repair. Tom Trowbridge verified that the road is more than 50 years old and the utilities would be older than the road. The sanitary sewer and pipe are currently in good condition.

Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Chuck Hendrickson and seconded by Sara Watson Curry.

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

A. [Resolution to Order Improvements and Declare Intent to Assess](#)

B. [Resolution to Award Bid](#)

Motion to Approve A & B made by Deb White and seconded by Steve Lindaas

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Police Department

11. [*Resolution to Authorize the Moorhead Police Department to Transfer Monies from State Drug Seizure Funds, Budget Adjustment #20-015, to Establish a "Tactical Guardian" Wellness Program for Police Department Staff.](#)

Moorhead Public Service

12. [*Resolution for Sale of General Obligation Water Revenue Bond, Series 2020A](#)

Public Works Department

13. [Forestry Program Update](#)

Minutes: Steve Moore, Public Works Director presented the mission of urban forestry is to effectively and efficiently maintain the public urban forest to sustain and preserve this valuable resource to benefit current and future generations. Currently, ash and elm make up 50% of our urban forest. Dutch Elm Disease continues to impact our urban forest and Emerald Ash Borer will severely impact our ash tree population over the next 10 years. Therefore, we will need to increase and diversify planting and increase the maintenance of our existing urban forest.

Disposal has also presented a challenge for the city. Currently there is discussion to possibly purchase a firebox S327 with a potential partnership with Clay County, each paying half of the estimated \$172,062 cost.

The Public Works department reported more than 50% of manpower is being spent on curbside pickup service. In an effort to reduce that, Public Works is seeking the support from the council to change curbside service to A&B week service to coordinate with the recycling service thus providing service every other week instead of weekly. Currently the Insights publication for residents is on hold until support is given. Council by consensus supports this option and the city will move forward with this change.

Administration

14. [2020 Legislative Update](#)

Minutes: Lisa Bode, Governmental Affairs Director, updated the council and public on the legislative session. As predicted, COVID-19 has disrupted the legislative session. Thank you to Lisa Bode for the dashboard and for the representation at the Capital.

15. [*Resolution to Approve Memorandum of Agreement with AFSCME, Council No. 65, Regarding Tuition Reimbursement](#)

Other

16. [Mayor and Council Reports](#)

Minutes: Council member Carlson reminded people that the library is closed, however they will not be charging late fees so please hold on to the books for now.

Council member Watson Curry attended a virtual meeting MetroCOG policy board, which has put a policy in place for employees to be working from home. Also a

reminder that Coffee with the Mayor and Ward 1 council members has been postponed. Be on the lookout for some new ways to connect.

Council member White thanked the city staff for going above and beyond in being available to the citizens.

Council member Lindaas echoed the appreciation to city staff for dealing with questions/concerns from the community.

Mayor - Gratitude and appreciation to the residents in coming together as a community and helping families and neighbors during this time. Ruby's Pantry food pick up in Moorhead city mall parking lot on March 24, 2020 from 5-7pm. There will be multi-jurisdiction updates taking place two times weekly. Keep an eye open for the dates and times of upcoming. There will be a live meeting regarding economic development March 26th at 2:00 pm to look at how FM area is supporting employers and employees.

17. [City Manager Reports - Updates](#)

Minutes: Chris Volkers, City Manager updated that the river levels by March 30th will be at approximately 22.5 ft. Please be aware of the crest, expected in early April, may be 32.5 ft.as currently predicted. The Flood Command team and applicable staff will be meeting every day to work on next steps moving forward.

18. Executive Session (If needed)

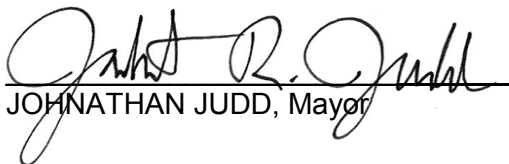
19. [New Business](#)

20. [Citizens Addressing the Council \(continued, if necessary\)](#)

Motion to Adjourn made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Deb White

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY:


JOHNATHAN JUDD, Mayor

ATTEST:


CHRISTINA RUST, City Clerk

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christina Rust, City Clerk