

**CITY OF WESTWOOD
Council Meeting Minutes**

**The regularly scheduled meeting of the Westwood City Council was held on Monday,
December 18, 2023, at the home of Mayor Brant Knudsen**

Mayor Brant Knudsen called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Roll Call Elijah Gnann (absent), Monte Knudsen (present), Gary Lane (present), Eric Peterson (present), Darrel Rogers (present)

Welcome

Agenda Approval A motion was made by Councilman Rogers and seconded by Councilman Peterson to approve the agenda. The agenda was approved.

Minutes of Previous Council Meeting The minutes of November 20, 2023, were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Knudsen and was seconded by Councilman Peterson. The minutes were approved.

Authorization of Claims and Financial Report

A motion to authorize the claims and accept the financial report was made by Councilman Lane and seconded by Councilman Rogers. The motion passed.

Swearing in of New Council Members LuAnn Johnson and Darrel Rogers were sworn in as Council members with a term beginning January 1, 2024

Unfinished Business

- a. **FY24 Budget Planning** The City Clerk circulated a worksheet for Council members to review before the January meeting. This includes information on the budgets for the last several years with space for re-estimating the budget for FY24 and creating the budget for FY25. Because of new regulations by the state, the budgeting process will not be completed until April 30, 2024. The Clerk also noted that, through the webinars offered by the League of Cities, she learned that residential areas are exempt from sales tax on sewers and other waste management. This will allow for more revenue to accumulate in the utilities fund.
- b. **Oak Lane Mailbox Repair** The mailbox stand on Oak Lane has been repaired.

New Business

- a. **Westwood Old Playground** The City has purchased new playground equipment to replace what is currently there. After much discussion it was decided that there will be a silent auction to allow the public the opportunity to purchase the old equipment. The Mayor will be sending out a notice in January regarding this matter.
Councilman Peterson has been investigating the requirements for ADA compliance for the playground. The terrain makes it difficult for anyone who is disabled to reach the playground. It is not certain what is required for this area and Councilman Peterson will consult with the City Attorney regarding this matter.
- b. **Holiday Trash Collection** Trash will be collected on Saturday, December 23, and Saturday, December 30, instead of on Tuesday following the holidays.

Mayor / Council Member Comments

City Utilities Comments The summary was reviewed.

Adjournment A motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Peterson and was seconded by Councilman Knudsen. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Mayor Brant Knudsen at 3005 Hickory Lane.

Respectfully submitted,

Brant Knudsen, Mayor

Nancy Erickson, Clerk