

CITY OF WESTWOOD

Council Meeting Minutes

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Westwood City Council was held on Monday,
September 19, 2022, at the home of Mayor Brant Knudsen

Mayor Brant Knudsen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Welcome The Mayor welcomed residents Betty Lowe, Mary Ann Waljasper, Glenda Campbell, Haven Noble, and

DNR

representative Lisa Lauck.

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

Minutes for the Council Meeting held August 15, 2022 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Councilman Gnann and was seconded by Councilman Lane. 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 Gnann. The motion was approved.

Report of Standing Committees

- **Budget & Finance** No meeting was held.
- **Grounds & Roads** No meeting was held.
- **Building & Ordinance** No meeting was held.

Unfinished Business

- Westwood Picnic** The date for the picnic has been confirmed as September 25. Meet at 5:30 p.m. at the cabin at Saunders Park. Food and table service will be provided.
- Water Leak on Sycamore Drive Review** The one water leak by Martin's was on their property so the city has no involvement there. There is another leak at the end of Sycamore Drive and the Mayor said he hopes that the leak is in the grass so they don't have to tear up the road. Kinney is aware of this.
- Honey Suckle Grant Project** Lisa Lauck from DNR was present to discuss the grant proposal to USDA, NRCS, and FSA which is in line with the Environmental Quality Program. This allows for brush management. Honey suckle shades out some native plants and kills pollinators. It does not have food value for wildlife. The plan, if the grant is funded, is to cut the honeysuckle down to ½ inch in diameter. After this is done it will be sprayed with a herbicide. This will be treated in year two as well. After that it would be up to the city to maintain it. New plants and trees can be planted in the areas where brush is removed. For budgeting purposes, this would take a few thousand dollars a year. If the grant is funded the city still has the option of doing this or not doing it. If a contract is signed it will be for 24 months. We won't know the rate per acre until December or January. If the city signs a contract something must be done within the first six months.

This project has been under discussion since June. Caleb Ebeling will do the brush removal. He will bill the city and the city will send the bill to the state.

Following more discussion, Councilman Gnann made a motion to approve sending in the grant proposal knowing that it could be stopped later if there was a reason to do so. The motion included the information that the Council has a plan to mark property lines, and all city property would be included in the proposal. The motion was seconded by Councilman Knudsen. The motion passed.

Individual residents should check to make sure that their property lines are flagged, and they can prevent anything from being taken down that they think enhances their property.

This proposal will be discussed at the picnic.

- Westwood Trail Project** The trail has been partially cleaned and that work will continue, taking the trail to the road by Bob Slidell's home. Betty Lowe will work to keep the trail up for a year and see if people use it.

New Business

- Set Date for Fall-Clean up** Fall clean-up will be October 15, with October 22, as a rain date. Work will be mainly around the entrance.
- Take Fountain Out of Pond** Council will do this sometime in mid to late October.
- Fall Dumpster** The dumpster will be available September 30, through the following week.
- New Business**

Mayor / Council Member Comments

City Utilities Comments The summary was reviewed

Adjournment: There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Gnann and was seconded by Councilman Knudsen. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 17, at 6:30 p.m. Home of Mayor Brant Knudsen at 3005 Hickory Lane.

Respectfully submitted

Brant Knudsen, Mayor

Nancy Erickson, Clerk