

Walnut Grove, MN

March 31, 2025

The City Council met in a special session on Monday, March 31, 2025 at 6:00 PM at the Walnut Grove City Offices.

Present: Ron Stubbe, Yeng Yang, Sue West, Dylan Albertson & Dale Shannon

Also Present: Beth Bjorklund, Owen Todd, Rette Elke, Tom Hansen, David Hoyt, John Clapp, Julie Clapp, Lori Wakefield, Rick Wakefield, Allan Anderson, David Graham, Nathan Arnold.

The primary purpose of the special meeting was to hold a Public Hearing to provide information and receive citizen's comments regarding the submission of an application to the Department of Employment and Economic Development Small Cities Development Grant Program for rehabilitation activities within the city of Walnut Grove. Grant dollars will be utilized for sanitary sewer improvements.

Mayor Stubbe presided at the meeting

City Engineer, Owen Todd from Bolton & Menk gave a summary of activities for Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) clarifying that the dollars have a limit of 3 years. Owen provided an overview of the project, including project location, cost and timeline. If awarded, the project will need to conduct an environmental review at which time impact to any historic properties would be taken into consideration. Bolton & Menk has administered several SCDP grants including performing the environmental review and has the capacity to assist the city in administering this grant. The city was in good standing and Bolton & Menk is permitted to apply for funds. The city will use a portion of the sewer fund balance and will apply for financing the remaining cost of the project.

Motion by Dale Shannon, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve Resolution 2025-0331 a resolution in support of a small cities development program project. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion continued with the presentation of the Facilities Plan and discussion of alternatives. There were no comments from the public on the location or alternatives. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Sue West to approve Resolution 2025-0331B, Resolution Receiving and Accepting the Facility Plan. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on applying for a small cities grant for repairs at Country View. Bolton & Menk will assist with the application process for this grant. Motion by Dale Shannon, second by Yeng Yang to approve the application for the small cities grant for Country View repairs. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The EDA received an offer for the two adjacent properties located at 441 9th Street. Motion by Yeng Yang, seconded by Dale Shannon to accept the combined offer of \$5000 for the Parcel 94-568-0700 and 94-868-0720 located at 441 9th Street. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Discussion was held on the Animal ordinance regarding dangerous animals and creating a review board. The council determined that Sue West and Dale Shannon would be on the animal review board. They will need to find another member from the public to sit on the board. Further discussion will take place at the May council meeting.

Rick and Lori Wakefield were present to ask the council for approval to use the city park for the July Family Festival. The council agreed to this. They are looking to find someone to coordinate activities in the park because the museum no longer wants this responsibility. Discussion will continue at a later date when they have more information to present to the council.

Trent Baker turned in an application for a Land Use permit to put up a shed at the school where the bleachers were taken down. Motion by Yeng Yang, seconded by Dale Shannon to approve the Land Use permit application. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Tom Hansen presented information to the council on purchasing a set of wheels for the front of the plow. Motion by Dylan Albertson, seconded by Yeng Yang to approve the purchase of the swivel snow wheel assembly and bracket for the plow at a cost of \$4200. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Dale Shannon, second by Dylan Albertson to adjourn. All voted in favor, motion carried.

Paula McGarvey

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Clerk-Treasurer