

**MINUTES OF MEETING
DELLWOOD CITY COUNCIL
February 8, 2022**

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the City of Dellwood was held at City Hall, 111 Wildwood Road, Willernie, MN on February 8, 2022.

The meeting was held by way of teleconferencing as provided by Minnesota Statute 13D.021. The U.S. Health and Human Services Department, on January 30, 2020, declared a Public Health Emergency in response to COVID-19. On March 13, 2020 President Trump declared COVID-19 to be a National Emergency. On March 20, 2020 Minnesota Governor Walz issued an Executive Order which is effective through September, 2021. Mayor McGill has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical because of a health pandemic. Accordingly, no Members of the Council or City Staff were physically present at the regular meeting location. All Council Members were able to participate in the meeting, could hear each other and did discuss business which came before the Council. All votes were conducted by roll-call. Due Notice of the Meeting to be held by teleconference was duly given as required by law.

Present: Mayor McGill, Councilpersons – Deb Christopherson, Scott St. Martin and Brady Ramsay were present. Greg Boosalis was absent.

Also present were City Clerk Joanne Frane, Treasurer Brian Beich, City Engineer Cara Geheren, City Attorney Richard Copeland and City Planner Nate Sparks. Planning Commission Chairman Lin Lindbeck was present.

Also present – Fran Miron, Frank Ticknor, Wayne Sandberg, Conner Schafer on behalf of Washington County; Jane Schneeweis on behalf of the Mahtomedi City Council.

Mayor Mike McGill called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Public Comment: Jane Schneeweis introduced herself and stated that she is acting as liaison to the City from the City of Mahtomedi.

Agenda: Upon motion by Ramsay, seconded by McGill, the Agenda for the meeting was approved with no changes.

The following votes were taken:

McGill	Aye
Ramsay	Aye
Christopherson	Aye
St. Martin	Aye

Minutes: Upon motion by McGill, second by Christopherson, the Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

McGill	Aye
Ramsay	Aye
Christopherson	Aye
St. Martin	Aye

Washington County Highway 96 Update: Miron, Schaefer, Sandberg and Ticknor all spoke about the current status of the proposed turnback of State Highway 96 to Washington County, known as a “jurisdictional transfer”. They also reviewed the history of Highway 96 and Highway 244 and proposed jurisdictional transfers of those roads in the future. It is projected that Highway 96 will become a County Road approximately in May of 2023.

McGill remarked about issues with Highway 96 regarding speed limits, blind spots, etc. in Dellwood. Sandberg stated that MNDOT has control over speed limits on County Roads, but that Washington County will work with the City to address those issues.

St. Martin asked about County Plans for a recreational trail or bike path along the Highway 96 corridor. Sandberg stated that currently there are no such plans, and that the County would work with the City should any arise. Sandberg stated that Highway 96 would be a limited access roadway. St. Martin remarked that the City intends to preserve its rights to the section of the right-of-way of the closed end of Echo Street, which when opened and developed would intersect with Highway 96. There was discussion about the funding associated with the turnback and improvements to be made to Highway 96, and what obligations may be imposed upon the City of Dellwood. Ticknor stated that some items are subject to cost sharing which is generally done on a 50/50 basis with local units of government. State funds are primarily for improvements to the existing roadway. He stated that information as to which items of expense are shared costs is available from the County. The County will meet with the City to discuss and review the County’s vision for improvements, cost sharing, etc. Fran Miron presented materials which summarize the jurisdictional transfer.

Highway 244 turnback from MNDOT to City of Dellwood: Cara Geheren discussed this issue and presented materials. She summarized her meeting with representatives of MNDOT. Generally, it appears that funding will be available in 2027, possibly sooner. The City has the power to refuse accepting a turnback. If MNDOT retains ownership of Highway 244, it will likely expand the width of the shoulder potentially to create a public path, lane, or trail for bicycles and pedestrians. The roadway itself is to be resurfaced at some point in the next 10 years.

St. Martin asked if the City could “give” all or part of the funds appropriated to the City to MNDOT for purposes of constructing a trail on an expanded right-of-way.

Cara noted that if the City assumes ownership, it can set the speed limit for Highway 244. Jane Schneeweis stated that the Highway 244 turnback to Mahtomedi is “still on the table”. Ramsay asked if the City does not accept a turnback, will the condition of the roadway likely deteriorate due to less maintenance by MNDOT? Cara replied that MNDOT would continue to maintain the surface but likely not any trail. She stated that MNDOT would be happy to appear before the Council to discuss the turnback issues.

McGill asked if there is a definite certified survey of the right-of-way of 244 through Dellwood? St. Martin stated that it appears to be a significant difference between a “trail” as opposed to a lane. Presently, there are several pinch points along 244 which would make it difficult to fit in a trail and may require acquisition of private property.

Cara noted that the letter she sent to residents along the right-of-way seeking their opinion about a trail produced few responses, some in favor, some not in favor and some did not respond.

Street Improvement Projects Update: Cara Geheren presented the scope of work to be done and discussed the Letter of Proposal from Bolton and Menk dated January 20, 2022. She is recommending that the Council approve proceeding with Bolton and Menk performing preliminary work to address the streets denoted in pink color on the proposal at a cost of \$22,815. McGill asked if a second bid is needed and Cara answered “no”.

Treasurer Beich remarked that there are funds left over in the bond fund and that the City also has a healthy general fund.

There was discussion as to what sort of bond pay back time would be appropriate for the City as to the potential 2023 street improvement bonding.

Cara is recommending to seal the cracks but not do seal coating. McGill noted that a 10 year bond period would likely accomplish all things which the City wants to do. According to Cara’s presentation, the bond amount could be approximately three million. Cara noted that there could be an overlap of bond issues for perhaps one year. She stated that Ehlers and Company would be happy to come to a City Council meeting to advise the City on these questions.

On motion by Ramsay, second by St. Martin the Council resolved to proceed with the proposal from Bolton and Menk at a cost of \$22,815.

McGill Aye
Ramsay Aye
Christopherson had left the meeting.
St. Martin Aye

Temporary Gambling Permit: Mr. Copeland stated that the Church of St. Odilia is seeking a Permit to conduct a raffle on April 9, 2022. The application gives the address at which the event will be held as 29 East Highway 96, which is the street address for Dellwood Country Club. St. Odilia Church is a non-profit religious 501(c)(3) Organization. The Application and supplemental data show that the Church qualifies for a Temporary Gambling Permit under the regulations of the Minnesota Gambling Control Board. Copeland recommended approval of the Permit with no waiting period.

Upon Motion by McGill, second by St. Martin, the Council approved the issuance of a Temporary Gambling Permit to St. Odilia Church with no waiting period.

McGill Aye
Ramsay Aye
Christopherson had left the meeting.
St. Martin Aye

Claims and Receipts List:

Upon motion by McGill, second by St. Martin, the Council approved unanimously the Claims and Receipts List for January 2022 as submitted. The following votes were taken:

McGill Aye
Ramsay Aye
Christopherson had left the meeting.
St. Martin Aye

Reports of Commissioners:

Beich reported a bank balance of \$1,034,966.00 in the general fund.

McGill reported 3 remodel permits, no new home or demo permits.

There being no further business, St. Martin moved to adjourn, and McGill seconded. The Council Members voted unanimously by roll-call to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m., and the following votes were taken:

McGill	Aye
Ramsay	Aye
Christopherson	had left the meeting.
St. Martin	Aye

Respectfully submitted,



Joanne Frane
Dellwood City Clerk / Administrator