

**Barrett City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, August 12, 2024**  
**5:00 p.m.**  
**Barrett City Office**

**Present:** Mayor-Michelle Jenson; Council-Aaron Ray, Katie Hauglie, Tim Lasch, Susie Sieben; Clerk/Treasurer-Marita Rhude; Maintenance-Jason Wendt; Guests: Brian Koehn, Sophia Maruska, Nathan Fiest, Lindsey Jaeger, Chris Ray, Joyce Hanson, Kevin Pettee

Mayor Jenson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Visitor Comments: Kevin Pettee requested the City provide a picnic table and port a potty at the lake public access on Front Street due to the high number of people fishing off the docks.

Sieben made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the compost site, seconded by Hauglie. MCU

Sieben made a motion to approve the July 8, 2024, City Council meeting minutes, seconded by Ray. MCU

Brian Koehn, City Auditor, was present to go over the 2023 Audit. Sieben made a motion to close the Capital Project Fund of \$45,691 and transfer those funds to the debt of the Water Fund-\$1,601, Sewer Fund-\$20,585, GO Bond 2019-2021-\$12,399 and 2022A GO Bonds-Streets-\$11,106, seconded by Hauglie. MCU

Sophia Maruska, Pomme De Terre River Watershed Coordinator, was present to introduce herself as she is new to her position 3 weeks ago. She explained the current programs they are working on and other programs they have available.

Nathan Fiest, Bollig Engineering, was present to present the final update on the Lead Service Inventory. Nathan explained about ( I & I ) inflow and infiltration of water into your sewer system and the importance of staying on top of it to prevent future problems.

Council discussed the proposed Sheriff's contract for 2025 through 2027. The Sheriff's Department is requesting a three-year contract with a 3% increase for 2025 and leaving 2026 and 2027 open for discussion. The council agreed to the 2025 rate but is not willing to sign a three-year contract with unknow amounts.

Lasch made a motion to contract propane from Haley Oil Company in Elbow Lake from October 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025, for 4,200 gallons @ \$1.45 per gallon, seconded by Sieben. MCU

Our current utility billing program UBMax was purchased by gWorks. They will be discontinuing providing support for this program on December 31, 2024.

Ray made a motion to move to the gWorks essential hub and front desk at a cost of \$1,920 per year, seconded by Lasch. MCU

The council discussed and reviewed the proposed 2025 General Fund Budget.

The Composite site is continuing to have problems with people dumping items not allowed. Council discussed options. Sieben made a motion to go with a key system whereby residents can get a key to the compost site for \$5 and the gate will remain locked (residents will be required to sign a key policy), seconded by Hauglie. MCU

Unfinished Business:

- 1) Pavilion Roof – After last weeks large rain event the Pavilion roof had two spots where water was still coming in. The contractor came out and put more sealant around the flashing on the dormer. Follow-up will be conducted after the next rain.
- 2) Ladwig property well sealing - MN Department of Health was out and looked at the well and determined that there were no safety concerns with the well and the cover is in reasonable condition.

Maintenance Update: Lawn mower is not working properly. We either need to replace the mower or contract out all the mowing. Jason discussed the option of putting rain gutters on the City Office.

Sieben moved to resolve Resolution #2024-08-01 expressing acceptance and appreciation for the donations of \$1,150 for the Pavilion fund, seconded by Hauglie. Roll Call Vote: Lasch-yes, Sieben-yes, Hauglie-yes, Ray-yes, Jenson-yes.

Sieben made a motion to pay bills in the amount of \$34,936.94, Check #20325 to Check #20349, seconded by Lasch. MCU

Lasch made a motion to adjourn at 5:59 p.m., seconded by Ray. MCU

Respectfully Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_ Marita Rhude,  
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Michelle Jenson,  
Mayor