

STATE OF MINNESOTA
GOODHUE/OLMSTED COUNTIES
CITY OF PINE ISLAND
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING/WORKSHOP
AUGUST 7th, 2024

Pursuant to due call, and notice thereof, Mayor Friese called the Special City Council meeting to order at 6:01 PM, at City Hall, 250 S. Main Street, Pine Island, Minnesota.

Members Present: Friese, Johnson, Veith Staloch, and Pahl

Members Absent: Hildenbrand

Others Present: Elizabeth Howard, Steven Scheevel, Tessia Melvin (present virtually for wage study discussion only), Jordan Thiede, Casey Sather, and Matt Schutte (Thiede, Sather, and Schutte present for Fire Relief discussion only)

Tessia Melvin from David Drown & Associates gave a presentation on the progress of the wage study. Council consensus was to proceed with a more competitive model to retain employees. A final plan will be presented before the Council at the next regular meeting.

Administrator Howard presented Council with council wages for area council members. There were many models to choose from and each city pays their council differently. Council directed staff to proceed with a model which had a small stipend each month, but then paid per attendance of meetings. The increase would be less than \$1,000/year per council member and would not take affect until January 1st if passed prior to the November election.

Administrator Howard informed the Council that the DMV has been approved to transition from limited service to full service. This means they will be able to renew drivers licenses in the future. The quotes to purchase equipment will be before them at the next regular council meeting.

An update from the June flooding was provided. Staff will be working with FEMA over the next year to submit costs for reimbursement

Administrator Howard presented Council with their policing options requested at last month's work session. The options include contracting with Goodhue County Sheriff's Office, contracting with Olmsted County Sheriff's Office, or look into their own department/a joint department with a neighboring city. Olmsted County came in with the lowest cost, with a police department being the most expensive. Council directed staff to negotiate with Goodhue County to see if they could match Olmsted County and report back for future discussions.

The Council determined it did not yet want to rent out the pickleball courts/ice rink and tabled this topic until a winter workshop to discuss.

Administrator Howard gave her general report of day-to-day operations.

Jordan Thiede, Casey Sather and Matt Schutte presented Council with their annual Fire Relief audit. They stated it shows they are funded beyond their needs and will be seeking an increase to their pension. They will come to the September regular council meeting with their request.

Be there no further business, Mayor Friese called to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Howard, City Administrator