

Minutes and Proceedings of the
City Council of the City Of Emily in the
County of Crow Wing, State of Minnesota

July 18, 2024
Special Meeting

THESE MINUTES ARE PARAPHRASED AND ARE NOT WRITTEN WORD FOR WORD.

The Emily City Council met for a Special Meeting on Thursday, July 18, 2024 in the Council Chambers and was called to order by Mayor Tracy Jones at 12:00 p.m. Councilmembers Bryce Butcher, Gerhart Hanson, Andrew Hemphill, and Gregory Koch were present. Cari Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer, was also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

At the July 9, 2024 Council Meeting the Council made a motion to place a moratorium on cannabis businesses for five months, however an interim ordinance is required to place a moratorium. A Public Hearing must be held before adopting an interim ordinance, so a Public Hearing is proposed to be held on Monday, August 12 at 6 p.m. to discuss a proposed Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study and Imposing a Moratorium on the Operation of Cannabis Businesses (Cultivation, Processing, and Distribution) in the City of Emily. The proposed moratorium does not apply to the sale, testing, manufacturing, or distribution of edible cannabinoids/THC products. The proposed moratorium would authorize and direct the Planning Commission to consider the proper regulations to be put in place regarding reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of operation of Cannabis Businesses (cultivation, processing, and distribution) within the City. The Planning Commission would then make a recommendation to the Council about whether the City should amend its zoning, business-licensing, or other general Code provisions related to the manner of the operation of cannabis businesses. Minnesota Legislature requires the Office of Cannabis Management to begin accepting applications for social equity applicants on July 24, 2024 with applications closing on August 12, 2024. A successful social equity applicant would gain preapproval to operate a cannabis business. Submitted business license applications would go through a review and vetting process, and, if qualified, be entered into a lottery. The first license lottery is planned for this fall. The proposed moratorium would be through December 31, 2024 or until the Council repeals the interim ordinance. Lorie Wosmek reported on the social equity application process. Wosmek reported after cultivation licenses are approved during the lottery process licensees could begin cultivating in October in order for dispensaries and manufacturers to have product next year. Wosmek stated a concern that the moratorium would limit local cultivation businesses. Wosmek stated businesses chosen in the lottery would have to comply with local zoning ordinances, state and fire building codes, and Minnesota rules and, if compliant, the applicant would be issued a temporary license. Wosmek reported before receiving a final license, security, ventilation, waste disposal, etc. requirements would have to be implemented. Wosmek reported the social equity process would give applicants a head start on business operations. The Council is allowed to review the cannabis business regulations before allowing cannabis businesses in the City and will request the Planning Commission to consider possible amendment of zoning provisions regarding cannabis businesses as quickly as possible. **MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE FOR THE INTERIM ORDINANCE IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON CANNABIS BUSINESSES (CULTIVATION, PROCESSING, OR DISTRIBUTION). COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The Council discussed using Public Safety Aid funds to purchase a Flock Security System(s), which is a license plate reader. The license plate data would be used by the Sheriff's Office to help fight crime. The City does not have a Police Department and the Sheriff's Office has requested the City purchase two systems. **COUNCILMEMBER BUTCHER MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF ONE FLOCK SECURITY SYSTEM IN 2024. MAYOR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION.** Discussion included this would be the first Flock Security System in the County, the system is not used for traffic control, and the benefit of the system would be for federal, state, and county law enforcement use in solving major crimes. There was a concern that the City would not receive any data from the system, but would be paying for it. There was an additional concern that there are ongoing annual charges of an estimated \$3,000 for each system. Further discussion included the data is also used for finding lost people, a cost sharing option would be preferred, and after one year the Council may opt out of the system. **ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, AND HEMPHILL VOTED AYE. HANSON AND KOCH VOTED NAY. THE MOTION PASSED. COUNCILMEMBER BUTCHER MADE THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-25, AMENDED, REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY AID USE FOR FLOCK SECURITY SYSTEM(S). MAYOR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-31 AUTHORIZING GRANT ACCEPTANCE FOR SOURCEWELL COMMUNITY IMPACT FUNDS OF \$48,573.98. MAYOR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING QUOTES AND USE SOURCEWELL COMMUNITY IMPACT FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASES:

- **TREMOLO FOR AUDIO EQUIPMENT, MICROPHONES, VIDEO EQUIPMENT, CAMERAS, CABLE MATERIALS, INSTALLATION, TRAINING, AND MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT OF A/V SYSTEM FOR \$20,845**
- **TENNANT SALES AND SERVICE COMPANY FOR S10 ELECTRIC SWEEPER FOR \$13,778.80**
- **TSS AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT SERVICE FOR CL 12A-2 12K TWO POST HYDRAULIC LIFT WITH 2 FOOT EXTENSIONS AND 3 STAGE ARMS FOR \$12,760.18**
- **UP NORTH ELECTRIC FOR WIRING OF HOIST, PIPING, AND PULLING WIRE IN MAINTENANCE SHOP FOR \$1,190**

COUNCILMEMBER BUTCHER SECONDED THE MOTION. Discussion included two quotes were received for the sweeper and two post hydraulic lift, the A/V equipment is specialized, and Up North Electric will provide a service. **ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE SHERIFF'S OFFICE NORTHERN OUTPOST COMPUTER PURCHASES AS FOLLOWS:

- **STATE CONTRACT PURCHASE OF DELL NASPO COMPUTER, MONITOR, AND STAND FOR \$1,368.22**
- **CIT FOR CHECK POINT 1530 SOFTWARE FOR \$1,477.52**

COUNCILMEMBER BUTCHER SECONDED THE MOTION. Discussion included the computer would be the property of the County, CWC IT looks at the Northern Outpost as an extension of the Sheriff's Office squad room, and the City needs to pay for the computer for CJIS compliance reasons. **ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**


The Council discussed a preliminary Fire and Rescue Department Ordinance and preliminary Fire and Rescue Department Personnel Policy. The preliminary Fire and Rescue Department Personnel Policy was developed with input from the Fire and First Response Chiefs and included a combined overall department with the firefighters and first responders remaining as separate sub-departments with separate meetings and no cross-training requirements. Discussion included the Fire Department and First Response Unit need to be combined into one department and have accountability to the Council. Discussion included an Executive Review Board would be responsible for recommending hiring, resignations/firing, and disciplinary actions, including regarding alcohol use. The Executive Review Board should include at least one firefighter and first responder for balanced representation. A Council Workshop will be held on Tuesday, July 23 at 4:30 p.m. with the Council, Fire Chief, First Responder Chief, and Assistant Chiefs. The goal of the workshop is to allow the departments to provide input on the development of a combined Fire and Rescue Department. The Council plans to work on the successful merger of the Fire and Rescue Department and guide the department into the future with a fully integrated department, including holding one combined meeting per month and having combined trainings.

COUNCILMEMBER BUTCHER MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, BUTCHER, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED. The meeting ended at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cari Johnson, MCMC
City Clerk/Treasurer

Attest:


Tracy Jones
Mayor