



CITY OF NEWFOLDEN

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Mayor: Lori Warne * City Administrator: Tammy Hansen

Minutes

October 23, 2023

The meeting of the Newfolden City Council was called to order by Mayor Lori Warne at 7:00 PM on Monday, October 23, 2023.

Present: Darin Jacobson Lori Warne Melissa Bjorgaard Adam Gast Mark Augustine

- 1) *Motion by Councilmember Bjorgaard to approve the October 23rd agenda. Motion seconded by Councilmember Gast and carried.*
- 2) *Motion by Councilmember Jacobson to approve the October 23rd Consent Agenda. Motion seconded by Councilmember Augustine and carried.*
- 3) Committee Reports:
 - a. Fire Department:
 - a. Park and Recreation:
 - b. Infrastructure:
 - c. Budget: Next committee meeting is scheduled for November 6th at 6:00PM.
 - d. Public Works:
- 4) The council discussed the feedback received from Lon Aune, Marshall County Highway Engineer, regarding the possible addition of high retro-reflective, slow-down signage on County Road 28 for both east and west bound traffic. The County will not allow the addition of new signage of any kind and will not allow the taping of existing signs with highly reflective tape.
- 5) An update of the website transition was provided. The domain name of newfoldenmn.gov has been paused. This agency is updating their domain name hosting infrastructure. Final approval and use of the new URL could be delayed until January. In the meantime, the new website is being set up and content is being transferred. The date of turn-over is yet to be determined.
- 6) The Council discussed the Humblebees Café building and feedback received regarding the shifting foundation. As the oldest structure in Newfolden, a consensus of opinions is that it is likely to cause more damage attempting to correct shifting as it has occurred over time. We will ask a licensed contractor to inspect and determine if the building is safe as is. We will also renew the Humblebees lease agreement to include the statement: *Lessee further agrees to give Lessor written notice sixty (60) days before the expiration of this lease of their intention to vacate at the end of this lease, otherwise Lessor will have option of continuing this lease from such expiration without notice to Lessee.*
- 7) The Council reviewed communication from the Minnesota Department of Health related to our most recent round of Lead and Copper testing. One of the five test sites exceeded the acceptable lead threshold. This was at a commercial location and was sampled in error. The result cannot be discarded and the MDH and Newfolden must treat this as a lead exceedance incident and provide information to the public in an education campaign that includes brochures, mailings, and postings. Most importantly, the city will engage in a more aggressive pattern of testing every six months to verify that this was an anomaly and not a hazard in the water supply. Samples will be taken every six months and reported until to subsequent testing's confirm normal limits.

- 8) A review of the Earned Sick and Safe Time law included discussion on how best to integrate this into our current benefit model. More information will be gathered and this will be further discussed at the November 6 council meeting.
- 9) Performance Evaluations will be completed by Mayor Lori Warne.
- 10) *Motion by Councilmember Gast to approve the replacement of fluorescent lighting with LED lighting as ballasts need to be replaced. Jason Bring will make these replacements. Motion seconded by Councilmember Jacobson and carried.*
- 11) *Motion by Councilmember Augustine to approve the submitted claims and timesheets. Motion seconded by Councilmember Jacobson and carried.*
- 12) *Motion by Councilmember Jacobson to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. Second by Councilmember Gast and carried.*

Lori Warne
Mayor

Tammy Hansen
City Administrator

