



## City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 17, 2023 7:00 PM

Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Parkway

---

### Vision Statement

*The City of Cologne is a vibrant small town that respects its heritage, embraces its future and offers a high quality of life for all who live, work and visit our community.*

Mayor: Matt Lein  
Councilmember: Carol Szaroletta  
Councilmember: Sarah Bruss  
Councilmember: Rachel Lenzen  
Councilmember: Nathan Kells

---

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF DISCUSSION. TO ENSURE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT FOR ITEMS OF INTEREST, PLEASE ARRIVE AT 7:00 PM.

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mayor Lein called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmembers Bruss, Kells, Lenzen and Szaroletta were present. Also present were City Administrator Jesse Dickson, and City Clerk Michelle Morrison.

### **2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **3. ADOPT AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Bruss to adopt the agenda adding Josh Kerwood discussion under New Council Business, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

### **4. VISITOR'S PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, CORRESPONDENCE**

Cologne Resident Scott Williams asked to speak to the Council about a concern he had with the street project. Contractors were allowed access across his back yard, and he

was asking for compensation for damages. Staff would do some research into the request.

## **5. ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

Items listed below are considered routine and non-controversial by the Council. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless requested by a Councilmember, Staff or Citizen. If removed, the item will be discussed at the end of the regular agenda.

- a. April 3, 2023 City Council Minutes**
- b. April 10, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes**
- c. April 17, 2023 Check and EFT Summary**
- d. April 11, 2023 Payroll Summary**
- e. Pitney Bowes Postage Machine Lease Renewal**
- f. Inn Town Liquor License Renewal**

Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Kells. Motion carried unanimously.

## **6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- a. Cologne Fire & Rescue Department Extrication Equipment Purchase**

Assistant Fire Chief Randy Clay reviewed the need for updated extrication equipment, the contract pricing agreement received from HGACBuy and the FEMA grant received that will cover all but \$4,666 of the cost. Motion by Councilmember Kells to approve the quote for extrication equipment as presented, second by Councilmember Bruss. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Roger Storms – Community Garden Presentation**

Roger Storms reviewed his concept plan to develop a Community Garden on City owned land. Soil samples are being analyzed by MidCounty Coop, draft user agreements and rules have been written. Users would pay a small fee to rent a plot. Getting water to the location is a challenge that is being worked on. The consensus of the Council was that there was interest in the project moving forward.

- c. Discussion with Josh Kerwood**

Josh Kerwood attended the Council meeting as a member of the Communities of Belonging and is a member of the Arts Workstream Group. Discussion was had about wrapping utility boxes with art and crosswalk painting.

**d. Call Franchise Agreement Public Hearing May 15, 2023**

Administrator Dickson advised the Council that the next steps in moving forward with bringing Comcast into the city would be to call for a Franchise Agreement Public Hearing. Motion by Councilmember Bruss to call for a Franchise Agreement Public hearing on May 15, 2023, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

**e. Park Street Public Lobbying Proposal**

Administrator Dickson reviewed the proposal received from Park Street Public Lobbying to represent the City in its efforts to secure funding from the State in the current legislative session for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. After discussion, Councilmember Bruss made a motion directing staff to execute an agreement with Park Street Public Lobbying at a cost not to exceed \$8,000, second by Councilmember Kells. Motion carried unanimously.

**f. On-sale Liquor License Fee Waiver Request**

Mayor Lein discussed a refund for the On Sale Liquor License fees collected for July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024, for both the Hollanders and Inn Town Wine & Spirits. The Hollanders are helping to improve Fritz Park Field with revenues from the sales and Inn Town Wine & Spirits needs the license to serve at the City's Community Center for events. After discussion, Councilmember Bruss made a motion to refund Inn Town Wine & Spirits \$250 of the On Sale Liquor license fee they have paid, and to invoice the Cologne Hollanders \$250 for their On Sale license, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. BOARD REPORTS**

**a. March 2023 Sheriff's Report**

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**10. ADJOURN**

Motion by Councilmember Bruss to adjourn at 8:45PM, second by Councilmember Kells. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Michelle Morrison

City Clerk

Attest:

  
Matt Lein

Mayor

