



City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 7, 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 and Szaroletta were present. Also present were City Administrator Jesse Dickson and City Clerk Michelle Morrison. Councilmember Lenzen was absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ADOPT AGENDA

4. VISITOR'S PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, CORRESPONDENCE

City resident Janice Vos shared her concerns over a neighbor's weeds and plans to place a fence on the property line. The Mayor advised that the Council was addressing the weeds with the destruction order that had been added to the agenda, and the current ordinance does allow for a fence to be placed directly on the property line. Ms

Vos also asked if a permit was required to build a play structure with a tower and how far it had to be off the property line.

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. July 17, 2023 City Council Minutes**
- b. August 7, 2023 Check and EFT Summary**
- c. August 1, 2023 Payroll Summary**
- d. Resolution 23-18 Accepting Donations**
- e. Lions Club Temp Gambling Permit Application 9-29-23**
- f. Lions Club Temp Liquor License Application 9-29-23**
- g. St. Bernard's Temp Liquor License Application 10-7-23**

Motion by Councilmember Kells to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 4-0.

6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS

i. Chief Chad Vos, Cologne Fire & Rescue

1. Fire Department Probation Promotions

Fire Chief Chad Vos introduced the Probationary Fire Fighters Nick Burkhalter, Nick Lueck and Carter Milbrett and reviewed the training they have undergone in the past year. Chief's Loscheider and Clay joined Chief Vos to had out their official firefighter badges and helmet fronts. The Council congratulated the candidates on their promotions and thanked them for their service.

2. Grass Rig

Chief Vos updated the Council on the department's firefighting fleet stating that the new tanker is on order and will be delivered in September of 2024. The staff has been working on grant requests to help with obtaining funds to replace the grass rig. The DNR has reached out to Chief Vos about an available 10-year-old truck that could be purchased for \$7,500. Motion by Councilmember Bruss to approve the purchase of the DNR truck at a cost of \$7,500, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 4-0.

Chief Vos told the Council that a committee of fire fighters has been formed to interview different consulting groups to help the department plan for growth in the City and options for dealing with space constraints in the department.

ii. Ordinance 150-Y

Administrator Dickson updated the council on discussions he had with City Planner Cindy Nash regarding a full review of the City Ordinances and Zoning to align with current State Statutes and best practices. Motion by Councilmember Kells to include \$20,000 in the 2024 consulting budget dedicated to a full review and adoption of City Ordinances, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 4-0.

iii. Destruction Order

Administrator Dickson reviewed the City Weed Ordinance and current inspection at 214 Playhouse St E. and the Destruction Order. Motion by Councilmember Bruss to approve the Destruction Order, second by Councilmember Kells. Motion carried 4-0.

7. BOARD REPORTS

a. Village Parkway

The council discussed various options to address the traffic and speed on Village Parkway Administrator Dickson will investigate dropping the speed to 25 miles per hour during posted times at the beginning and end of the school day.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

10. ADJOURN


Motion by Councilmember Bruss to adjourn at 8:55 PM, second by Councilmember Kells. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:


Michelle Morrison

City Clerk



Matt Lein

Mayor