



## City Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:00 PM  
Cologne Community Center, 1211 Village Parkway

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### 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

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**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, Lenzen and Szaroletta were present. Also present was City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Michelle Morrison. Councilmember Kells was absent.

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

### **3. ADOPT AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to adopt the agenda, second by Councilmember Bruss. Motion carried 4-0.

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

### **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. **January 2, 2024 City Council Minutes**
- b. **January 16, 2024 Check EFT Register**
- c. **January 16, 2024 Payroll Summary**
- d. **2020 Street & Utility Project Final Pay Request**
- e. **Approve Gambling Permit for Cologne Academy PAVE Raffle**
- f. **Adopt Resolution 24-01 Approving a Reduction in Line of Credit for Winkler 5<sup>th</sup>**

After discussion, Councilmember Bruss made a motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0.

## **6. NEW COUNCIL BUSINESS**

### **a. Lions Park Update**

Mayor Lein updated the council on the current status of an agreement for the Lions to donate Lion's Park to the City. The process has been in the works for almost 1 year and no agreement has been reached. The City wants a date in the agreement after which changes may be negotiated between the two parties if desired, and the City has issues with language that indicates they will provide a significant size storage area for the Lions to use in perpetuity. Lions President Jeff Thompson and Lion Bernie Shambour shared the Lion's concerns. Both parties shared that they value each other's contributions and would like to come to an agreement acceptable to both. President Thompson was going to share the City concerns with the fellow Lions at their next meeting and reach back to Mayor Lein after. President Thomson would also be sending the current insurance coverages on the park to City Administrator Morrison who would then work with the League of Minnesota Cities to see if insurance could be placed under the City at a more favorable cost.

### **b. Planning Commission Membership Discussion**

Mayor Lein shared with fellow Council Members that there has been public questioning of the level of attendance at both the City Council and Planning Commission meetings. After discussion, Councilmember Bruss made a motion to vacate Kevin Fafinski's seat on the Planning Commission, second by Councilmember Szaroletta. Motion carried 4-0. Councilmember Bruss then made a motion to post the open seat to fill on the Planning Commission, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0. The Council discussed instituting terms for planning commission appointees. After discussion Councilmember Bruss made a motion to annually review and appoint members to the Planning Commission for the next year at the last meeting in December, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0.

**7. BOARD REPORTS**

**a. December 2023 Sheriff Report**

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

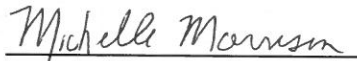
**9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

**10. ADJOURN**

Motion by Councilmember Szaroletta to adjourn at 7:54 PM, second by Councilmember Lenzen. Motion carried 4-0.


Respectfully Submitted:

Attest:



Michelle Morrison

City Administrator



Matt Lein

Mayor