

**LAMBERTON CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION • CITY HALL
December 4, 2023 • 5:00 P.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER/ADOPT AGENDA/CEREMONIAL DUTIES

- Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM December 4, 2023.
- Present: Mayor L. Sik, D. Knutson, L. Pfarr, L. Bittner, D. Irlbeck
- Staff in Attendance: V. Halter, J. Thram

A. Adopt Agenda

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Bittner/unanimous 5/0) to approve the agenda.

2. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. 2024 Budget

1. Fee Schedule – Halter presented the proposed 2024 Fee Schedule. Halter and the Council went through the items with proposed changes. The 2022 audit revealed the Sanitary and Storm Sewer account balances are lower than the regulators like to see. Halter is proposing a slight increase in base fees for both services to help raise those balances. The council discussed the Library Fines and are proposing raises on those fines. Halter is proposing a slight increase in the fee charged for black dirt and gravel. The Street Department delivers the dirt/gravel the process of the dirt/gravel does not include any cost of delivery. Halter is proposing something be added for delivery. Discussion was held on the proposed pool fee increases. Discussion was held on adding a Commercial Service connection fee for water and sewer. Currently the City only has one rate.
 2. 2024 Budget – Levy – Halter presented the 2024 Budget. It is calling for a 2.94% increase. Halter presented a memo from the League of Minnesota Cities that states most cities are looking at an 8.4% increase. The council reviewed items in the budget. Council would like a reduction of Library hours. Halter will change the budget to reflect a 2.5 hour a week reduction in Library hours. Discussion was held on the Yard Waste Site.
- B. Utility Fee – Senator Pappas asked during the Capital Investment tour if the City of Lambertton charged a fee on the utility bills that is used to raise funds for future projects. The thought of doing so the City should have matching funds that maybe needed, or the amount the City needed to bond for would be lessened. Halter reached out to other clerks and received two responses. One City charges a fee based on the depreciation value of the water plant they had installed - \$10.76/month. The other city charged a base fee on each service ranging water \$49.78/month, Sewer \$43.02/month and Storm \$24/month. Discussion was held.
- C. Police Department – Police Chief Walk contacted Halter and would like a raise. Discussion was held.
- D. Parking Ordinance – Halter presented the council with the beginning of an updated Parking Ordinance. She has more that needs to be done with it.

3. NEXT MEETING DATES

A. December 11, 2023

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/Second/Pass (Irlbeck/Pfarr/unanimous 4/0) to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Valerie Halter
Clerk



Lydell Sik
Mayor