The regular meeting of the Colby Common Council was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Mayor James Schmidt. On roll call: Sazama, O’Brien, T Schmidt, Kolden, Hesgard, Hederer and Lindeman. Also present were Mayor James Schmidt, Clerk Gurtner and DPW Harland Higley Jr.

**Agenda** was posted by the clerk.The agenda will stand as the order of the meeting.

**Minutes** of the July 6th meeting were pre-read and reviewed. Motion was made by Kolden, seconded by O’Brien to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Financial Statement and Bills** were discussed. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Kolden to approve the financial statement and bills. The amounts approved are as follows: General Fund $125,044.74; Water Department $25,882.79; Sewer Department $27,576.11; Net payroll $23,292.58. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Sazama to approve Pay Request #3 from Earth Inc in the amount of $15,099.77. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission** met on June 8th.

The commission approved minutes and expenditures.

Village of Dorchester Police Coverage: Chief Bauer said he had discussed a proposal to provide police coverage to the Village of Dorchester with its Police Committee and the mayors of Colby and Abbotsford. The proposal calls for an expenditure of $206,947 in the first year (2022). Dorchester's attempts to hire a police chief have been unsuccessful. They have been relying on the Clark County Sheriff's Department to provide coverage when possible. It was noted Dorchester does not participate in the Wisconsin Retirement System, which has been a drawback in salary negotiations for police staffing. Chief Bauer said he was not interested in providing part-time coverage for Dorchester. Under the proposal, the CAPD would have to hire two full-time officers. The cost includes wages and overtime. Chief Bauer said Dorchester's population is 18 percent of the total compared to Colby and Abbotsford. He said the arrangement would help the three communities. He would propose a three-year contract. Dorchester would not be charged for utilities, as their current police office would be utilized also. Dorchester has some equipment, including one squad car. President Schmidt said the proposal must not call for any increased expenditures by the cities of Colby and Abbotsford. Chief Bauer said the proposal was going to be considered by Dorchester's Finance Committee and Village Board. Mayor Schmidt and Mayor Weix said the CAPC would take the lead in developing a contract proposal, which would have to be ratified by both city councils and the Dorchester Village Board.

Accept Letter From Union to Open Contract Negotiations: The commission accepted a letter from the police union offering to open contract negotiations. The current contract expires December 31, 2021. President Schmidt said the process usually consists of receiving a letter from the police union containing requests for changes in contract language, which would be discussed by the CAPC in a future closed session. He said the process should be concluded so any financial impact would be included in the 2022 CAPD budget.

Chief's Report: Chief Bauer said activity numbers for June were lower because the department was still short an officer. He said speed was a factor in a recent fatal motorcycle accident at the intersection of Hodd Drive and STH 13. He said all CAPD officers completed their 24 hours of required training, which was offered online. Chief Bauer said the online training modules did not meet the CAPD's style, calling it some of the worst training the officers have had. A return to in-person training is planned for 2022. He said there were four K-9 activities reported for the month of June, resulting in four arrests. There were 923 total CAPD activities reported for the month of June, for a cumulative total of 4,993, compared to 5,623 activities for the first six months of 2020.

**City Planning Committee** met on July 12th.

Clerk Gurtner review the process to approve the new Code of Ordinances for the City of Colby. The committee asked that the Appendix of changes be included in the city’s packet. The clerk is going to work on a Resolution and Fee Schedule to cover the fees under the new ordinances. The committee approved the recommendation of Resolution 7-2021 to the council. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Kolden to approve Resolution 7-2021. Resolution 7-2021 is a Resolution Providing for the Publication, Filing, Inspection and Adoption of a Code of General Ordinances for the City of Colby. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Personnel/Labor Relations Committee** met on July 13th & August 3rd.

July 12th - The committee continued reviewing the Employee Personnel Manual that has been reviewed and amended by Lisa Bergersen or EngageHR Law. Noted changes are as follows:

Article 8, Section 4 - The committee started reviewing the Sick Leave section. It was suggested that we add wording to include the use of sick leave for illness or appointment of immediate family including spouse, children, mother, father, sister, brother, mother-in-law and father-in-law.

Article 8, Section 7 of Sick Leave – the words “forced to retire” should be removed. It was also discussed that the city should look at an HRA to administer the sick leave conversation to Med/Hosp money. This would allow the employee to pay for a medical plan of their choice. In this section it was also discussed to prorated benefits for employees that do not work at least twenty (20) years – using 20 years as 100% of the 75% benefit. If the city goes with an HRA plan, we will have to remove the paragraph allowing for a lump sum cash payment.

Article 11 – add “if employee is terminated with cause, no accrued unused vacation will be paid”

Article 12 – take out the word “consecutive” from the first paragraph. It was also determined that Section 2 could be removed.

Article 15 – clarify that pay is for time spent in class/course/training/seminar. The committee questioned if the employee should get paid for at least 8 hours.

Article 16, Section 2 – the committee agreed to up the safety shoe to $200.00.

August 3rd - The committee reviewed Article 17 and reviewed Article 8 and 15 after getting more information from Lisa Bergersen. They also reviewed Articles through number 32. Clerk Gurtner will look into an existing IT Policy and the committee will start with Article 33 at the next meeting.

**Parks/Rec/Recycling Committee** met on July 13th.

Discussed Parks Budget for 2022, tentative items to be considered:

-Trees

-Replace wood chips under playground equipment

-Spray parks

-Clay for ball diamonds

DPW Higley will be getting bids for these items.

Discussed replacement of shelter on 1st street (used for Cheese Days). Discussed budgeting for plan for this shelter. We decided to schedule a meeting for September to meet with interested parties (St Mary’s, Zion, Boy Scouts, Lions) Meeting date to be set at August Parks meeting.

**Central Fire & EMS District** met on July 15th.

Nancy O’Brien reported on the meeting.

**Mayor Schmidt:** Mayor Schmidt reported on the United Communities of Clark County.

**Clerk Gurtner:** Clerk Gurtner reported that she contacted the contractor for the city hall remodel and we will be meeting next week or the following to discuss a start date.

**Harland Higley:** The following building permits were issued: Astia Health, 608 N Division St, sign; Tim Krueger, 509 N 4th St, re-shingle; Leroy Kralcik, 205 E Spence St, concrete slab; Allan Raatz, 501 E Wausau St, replace windows; Leroy Kralcik, 119 S 1st St, concrete slab between garage & existing building.

DPW Higley reported on the precipitation and flows for July 2021 at the STP. He also reported on the pumpage of water for July 2021.

**Picnic License – Colby Knights of Columbus – 9/12/21:** Motion was made by Kolden, seconded by O’Brien to approve the Picnic License for Knights of Columbus for the St. Mary’s Fall Festival, 205 S 2nd Street on 9/12/21. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Picnic License – Colby Pullers Club – 8/20-22/2021:** Motion was made by Lindeman, seconded by Hesgard to approve the Picnic License for the Colby Pullers Club, 705 E Spence Street for an event on August 20-22, 2021. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**City Hall Air Conditioning Replacement Bids:** The City received two bids for the City Hall Air Conditioning Replacement. The bids were as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Contractor** | **Bid** |
| Jakel Plumbing (York)/(Lennox) | $11,897/$13,969 |
| Advance Heating and Cooling (Bryant) | $15,450 |

Motion was made by Kolden, seconded by Schmidt to authorize the Mayor and DPW to research and select between the three options. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Fee for Donation of a Tree to the City:** Currently the fee to donate a tree for the city is $100. The cost of the tree is than that and we also place a stone recognizing the donation at the location. Motion was made by Kolden, seconded by Schmidt to set the fee for a tree donation of $250. Motion carried with a voice vote.

**Committee meetings for August:**  Colby-Abbotsford Police Commission will meet on August 9, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. at the Police Department. Personnel Committee will meet on September 7, 2021 at 5:30 P.M. Parks/Rec/Recycling will meet on August 17, 2021 at 6:00 PM. Public Works Committee will meet on August 17, 2021 immediately following Parks/Rec/Recycling. Central Fire & EMS will meet on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

**Adjourn:**  Motion was made by Hederer, seconded by Kolden to adjourn at 7:16 PM. Motion carried with a voice vote.  
  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

James W Schmidt, Mayor

Attest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
 Connie Gurtner, Clerk