

JASPER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting-April 08, 2025

The Jasper City Council of the City of Jasper met in-person on **Tuesday, April 08, 2025.**

Members present:

Mayor: Kim Lape; Council members: Deb Plahn, Zach Kounkel, Tim Houg, Stacie Smith;

Employees present: Admin/Clerk-Treas: Trinidad Garcia, Deputy Clerk/Treas.: Maggie Erickson;

Public Works Superintendent: Brian Thode

Pipestone Star: Kyle Kupal;

Community members: Don Plahn, Cynthia Jamison, Michelle Haack, Maryln VanGrootheest, Kim Drew, Amy Hamann, Aaron Lape, Spirit Four Horns, Connie Merrill, Shay Knobloch, Mike Adams

Mayor Kim Lape called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance;

Agenda Approval:

Removed: N/A

Added:

- Kim Drew – Stair chair
- Lisa Petersen – Touch a Truck 05/17
- Cynthia Jamison – Arts Council

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/Smith 2nd. All ayes followed

Community Input:

- Don Plahn – Ballfields and pull tabs update. Don shared how ballfields were looking good and shared that Jerry Tower sprayed the fields. He identified that pea rock is needed in some areas and some painting needs to be done.

*Correction
Noted in meeting
only Don is
gambling
managers*

Pull tabs – With the Stonewall Bar closing at the end of January 2025, Lions Club had until the end of March 2025 to renew their gaming license and they didn't have a place to put their pull tabs. The Lions Club was hoping to have the new Jasper Bar open, so the pull tabs could just transfer over to the new location. Since the Jasper Bar did not have an established premise in place, the Lions Club gaming license could not be renewed. Don shared that within the last year the Jasper Lions Club donated about \$10K to the City and various charities and the government got about \$3K. Pull tab history; the previous owners to the Stonewall Bar had pull tabs for about 50 years and 1987 Deb & Don Plahn became the gambling managers, within the last couple of years e-tabs were added and had been successful. If a Bar wants pull tabs, they will need an

organization like the Lions Club to support the gaming license. The bar is at an advantage of making 20% off pull tabs and 15% off e-tabs, with minimum participation, since the Lions Club gambling managers manage the pull tabs on a monthly basis. Once pull tabs are reconciled monthly, the Lions Club receives a cut of the funds to spend and has to adhere to a list of 26 places or areas where the funds can be used. The easiest items to donate to are for kids, 21 and under, schools, cities, items on the list. In February 2024 the Jasper Lions Club donated \$600 to elementary teachers, \$300 to softball, \$300 to prom, \$1,200 to 12 Lions foundations. New donations that the Lions would like to make are towards Jasper Ambulance, Fire Department, Service Memorial, Benches for City Park, and Coffee Pots. At this time the Jasper Lions Club has to comply with a termination plan in order to use the funds from pull tabs. Generally, Don keeps \$4K to carry over year to year and \$3K to have in the bank to have on hand that is use to pay out. With the termination plan, the \$4K and \$3K will need to be added to the funds that will need to be used to spend following the termination plan, leaving the Jasper Lions Club without funds to start up a gaming license in the future. The group will need to meet and decide on how to spend the funds. Don made a suggestion to give the City funds to give out using the same guidelines that Jasper Lions follows from the state. The concern is if pull tabs start up later in the year once the Jasper Bar establishes their premise, it will be about \$10K for the Jasper Lions Club to move forward with applying for a new gaming license. The current pulls tab machine will need to be sent back or destroyed.

*JAMISON → correction
Noted in Meeting*

- Cynthia Plahn → April 15th is National Art day and Cynthia is requesting to chalk the sidewalks with art. Mayor Lape expressed that she did not have an issue with the request. Cynthia proceeded with a phase 2 request to paint the crosswalks for the summer with art images. Council member Plahn questioned if the request only included the main street. Cynthia confirmed the request is for the main street to chalk the sidewalks and paint the crosswalks. Council member Smith asked if the paint would be permanent or will it wash off. Cynthia confirmed that it would be permanent. Council questioned if the crosswalks can be painted with permanent paint and would it pose a safety issue with the crosswalk becoming slippery, if wet. Cynthia will bring samples at a later date of art suggestions.
- RCO/Marilyn VanGrootheest – Request to hire Spirit as part-time – Marilyn explained that she had been assisting Spirit Four Horns with a job placement program through RCO. Spirit is looking to see if the City would consider hiring him as a part-time employee. Spirit read a letter to the City explaining all the work he has done for the City by cleaning the City's QCC and Memorial Hall once a week for the past several months. Marilyn explained the work she has done to assist Spirit with preparing him to work independently with the City to be successful. She also explained that he would need to keep hours under 40 hrs. within a 2-week period due to benefit purposes for Spirit. Council approved hiring Spirit on as part-time help for Public Works.
Motioned by: Kounkel 1st/ Smith 2nd. All ayes followed

- Kim Drew – Requested approval to purchase a new stair chair for the ambulance for \$14,559.00, new mannequins for CPR training, and a monitoring system for CO2 levels for \$1,900K, using the \$52K funding that was received in Dec 2024 that will need to be used and reported. Council approved the purchasing of new equipment for the Ambulance.

Motioned by: Smith 1st/ Kounkel 2nd. All ayes followed

- Amy Hamann & Aaron Lape– Requested a change in Ordinance 4.53 - Hours and Days of Liquor Sales to change the hours of liquor on-sale consumption from 1 a.m. to 2 a.m. City Admin explained what steps will need to take place to amend an existing Ordinance. A public notice will need to post 10 days prior to the hearing and Council can take in public feedback prior to making a decision on amending the Ordinance. Council agreed to move forward with the request, since Council approved a 2 a.m. permit application at a prior meeting, no knowing that the City had an Ordinance in place for on-sale liquor sales to end a 1 a.m.

- Lisa Petersen – Touch a Truck 5/17 – Quartziter Club is requesting approval from Council to host an event “Touch a Truck” at the City ballfields. Lisa has a number of vehicles lined up for the event.

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/ Smith 2nd. All ayes followed

Review and approve minutes from:

- Special Meeting – Hall Rental Agreement on Tuesday, March 11, 2025
- Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 1st March 11, 2025
- Special Meeting – Jasper Lions Club premises permit/Meet Legal on Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/ Houg 2nd. All ayes followed

Review/Approve receipts and claims to date.

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/Houg 2nd. All ayes followed

Delinquent Sewer/Water/Garbage:

May 1st the City will start to shut off water for delinquent payments.

#198 – It was questioned if the resident was on a payment plan and it was noted that they were on a payment plan. The resident made the payments and is back on the delinquent list.

Deputy Clerk explained that shut off notices will be hung up giving the residents 10-day notice to pay. Public Works Supt will hang letters on residents’ doors and will shut off water for none payment.

#06 – delinquent charges will be assessed to the resident’s property taxes if S/W/G payments are not made by the end of the year, since the resident is currently incarcerated.

Wellness Center/QCC:

- Daycare - Back door – Cynthia Jamison noted an issue with the back doors by the Daycare in the QCC. Daycare had not shared with the City if they have experienced any problems.

Open Public Hearing – Conditional Use – 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Lape closed the regular Council meeting and opened a public hearing for the Conditional Use Request.

- CUP – Amy Hamann for the bar at 110 Wall St W – Request to approve a new Bar business at the 110 Wall Street location. Jasper Bar is planning for the end of May to be open. The public had a question for the Jasper Bar owners, if parking in the rear was going to be available and the answer was no for the business, but spaces will be made available for tenants and the bar tender. Fencing was questioned for the rear, and fencing will be placed in the rear of the business. The City received a land use permit request for the fencing but it was questioned if the permit was not needed for the use of a temporary fence, but the business has not decided on the actual fencing that will be used. Access will not be available to the public from the back door. Plumbing had been approved, so plans will start to move forward more quickly with the construction of the bar.

Zoning Commissioners recommendations were to move forward with the request.

Open Public Hearing closed at 7:35pm and regular Council meeting opened back up.

New Business:

- Conditional Use - Amy Hamann for Bar at 110 Wall Street E
Council moved forward with approving the Conditional Use Request for the Jasper Bar.
Motioned by: Smith 1st/ Houg 2nd. All ayes followed
- DEED/SCDP –Subordination Agreement – Waiting to received finalized paperwork for Council approval.
- D's Liquor – Off Sale Liquor Renewal for 6/01/2025. Received renewal form from the state to renew D's Liquor for another year of off-sale. Council approved the renewal of off-sale for D's Liquor. City Admin shared with D's Liquor that the City Code references the sale of beer on Sunday to be from 12 noon to 6pm and that the City was going to look into this. D's Liquor did not have an issue with the time and will makes changes on his end to comply with City Code.

Motioned by: Houg 1st/Plahn 2nd. All ayes followed

- Rock County Wetlands Resolution No. 25-98 – Rock County requested the City of Jasper to grant authority to administrate responsibility to implement WCA as the LGU within the legal boundaries of the City of Jasper that is located in Rock County and will delegate to Rock SWCD

as of 04/08/2025 in accordance with MN Rules, Chapter 8420. Council approved Resolution 25-98.

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/Kounkel 2nd. All ayes followed

- Coffee Makers for Memorial Hall/QCC – The City office received feedback from the Coffee Club that the large coffee maker in the Memorial Hall upstairs was not getting hot enough to brew the coffee, so the coffee maker from the meeting room downstairs was moved upstairs to use. That coffee maker from the meeting room works, but leaks at times. The Coffee Club suggested for the City to purchase a new coffee maker and they would give a donation of \$500 to put towards the cost of a new one. The City office also received feedback from the Auxiliary Club that they were willing to donate towards the coffee maker, but suggested getting new coffee makers for all the halls including the QCC. The coffee makers were priced out and it was suggested to get a BUNN with two warmers for \$369.99, for each hall, a total of three coffee makers. The Auxiliary group was also going to reach out to the Progress Study Club to see if they can donate some funds towards the coffee makers too. During Council discussion, it was noted that the large Commercial coffee maker at the QCC is not used because it is in need of repairs. Council approved the purchase of three BUNN two warmer coffee makers for all three halls.

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/Kounkel 2nd. All ayes followed

- Council Ride along & Clean-up Days – Council requested to have the annual Council ride along around town to review resident properties on Wednesday, April 16, 2025 at 6pm. The spring clean-up day had been scheduled for Saturday, May 3, 2025 with a drop off site by the City garage.
- Grand Opening of Splashpad – Tentative date of June 7, 2025.
- Splashpad – Painting the splashpad floor. Council member Plahn shared an email that she received from CSR regarding painting the splashpad. CSR's recommendations were to wait on painting the floor until it has been up and running. He shared that he does not have any splashpad's with the floor painted. Every splashpad that has color in the floor had put color in their concrete. Public Works Supt explained that he is suggesting a stain not paint and that Wild Water West used the same paint that he purchased. Council is going to hold off for now on painting the splashpad floor.

Old Business:

- Jasper Bar Liquor License Request – Amend 2 a.m. permit request approval. City Admin explained in the previous Council meeting on March 11, 2025 Council approved the Jasper Bar's 2 a.m. permit request. After the City's attorney review the Liquor License applications it was identified that the City's current City Ordinance Hours and Days of Liquor Sales did not allow for 2 a.m. on-sale liquor sales. Council made a motion to amend the 2 a.m. off-sale liquor sale permit request for the Jasper Bar.

Motioned by: Smith 1st/Plahn 2nd. All ayes followed

- Quarry Apartments – Parking lot paving & Snow Removal – Keith Etriem inquired with the City Office about cost sharing with him to repave the shared space of the Quarry Apt parking lots and City Camp ground entrance. It has been discussed last year and in the past about expanding the pavement area due to the wear and tear of the campers being pulled in and out of the camp ground. Council requested Public Works to get bids to repave the shared paving area of the campground and Quarry Apts parking lot.
- City Office Roof Repair – City Admin explained that the City office roof was looked at in the previous year and was determined that it was in need of repair. Some quotes were previously received for material from Tinklenberg for \$11,626.67, but the labor part was never quoted from Kurt Jandl on the labor. Kurt asked Hawes to provide a bid for the job since he is retiring. Hawes gave the City a bid for \$37,125.65. Council discussed the need for the repairs and suggested putting a bid in the paper for a couple weeks.

Public Works & Building/Grounds Report:

- Land-Use Permits – 408 4th St E to move in a garage.
- MDH -Sanitary Survey Report for Public Water System – Report summarizes an on-site inspection of Jasper's community Public Water System. The report is required to be kept on file and made available for public review for not less than ten years.
- Hydrant Flushing & Street Sweeping – Public Works Supt started street sweeping as of today's date after being back from vacation. It was questioned by the City Admin if a street sweeping notice can be sent out to residents that street sweeping has started, and she received feedback that she can.
- City Shop Cameras – Follow-up – Public Works received a quote from Intelli-Pro for \$1,358.90 to install a camera at the City Shop to replace the personal Blink cameras that are being used. City Admin explained to Council that previous Council approved the camera, that the City had been waiting for Intelli-Pro to respond to the request. Council discussed if the camera was actually needed and if the purpose of the Camera is to monitor the trash can. After multiple discussions, Council approved the camera for the City Shop.

Motioned by: Plahn 1st/Smith 2nd. All ayes followed


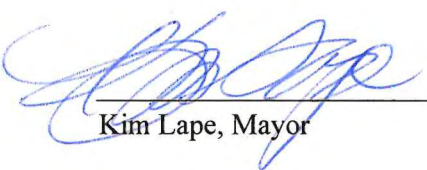
- Asst. Public Works position – City received 2 applications and Council will schedule interviews for April 16, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

- Summer Help – Public Works would like to have 2 positions for summer help to assist with mowing and other summer maintenance. Out of the 4 individuals for summer help last year, 2 of the individuals may be interested. Deputy Clerk will check with her children to see if they are interested in helping the City for the summer.
- City Admin requested to have the May Council meeting moved to Wednesday, instead of a Tuesday night, since both office staff members had a Track & Field event to attend for their children.

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting: May 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Smith motioned to adjourn, Houg seconded all ayes, carried; regular meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

	
Trinidad Garcia City Admin/Treas.	Kim Lape, Mayor
5-14-25	5-14-25
Date	Date