

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
AUGUST 8, 2024, 7:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Mayor Thom Walker called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Councilors present were Vicki Hallin, Jenny Gerold, Jeff Reynolds and Jack Edmonds. Others present: City Administrator Michele McPherson, Community Developer Planner Stacy Marquardt, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Police Chief Todd Frederick, and Wastewater Manager Chris Klinghagen. Absent was Liquor Store Manager Dylan Donner, Attorney Damien Toven, Fire Chief Steve Zumberge and PUC Manager Keith Butcher.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Additions / Deletions

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1. Employee Step Increases
 - 4.1.1. City Clerk Shawna Jenkins Tadych Step Increase effective 8-20-24
 - 4.1.2. Community Development - Zoning Specialist Mary Lou Dewitt Step Increase effective 8-21-24
 - 4.1.3. Community Development - Planner Stacy Marquardt Step Increase effective 9-12-24
 - 4.1.4. Police Officer Drew Scharber Step Increase effective 9-14-24
 - 4.1.5. Police Investigator Matt Mullins Step Increase effective 9-17-24
- 4.2. Approve Gambling Permit for Christ Our Light Church for October 22nd Raffle
- 4.3. Resolution 24-46 - Approving Premise Gambling Permit Application for Youth Hockey at Clyde's Wood Fired Grill
- 4.4. Approve CSAH 4 / 7th Ave N Pay Voucher 1 to RL Larson Excavating
- 4.5. Resolution 24-47 - Call for Public Hearing for TIF 9-5 (Pontious Townhomes& Twinhomes)
- 4.6. Resolution 24-48 - Call for Public Hearing for TIF 9-6 (Pontious Senior Living Facility)

5. Open Forum; public comment on items not on the agenda. Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. The Council will not discuss legal matters.

Greg Anderson is concerned about the proposed development with the Pontious property. He asked how the City was going to get water and sewer to the property. He questioned why the city does not care about the others that live in that area and their rural lifestyle.

John Volkmouth, he lives up near the schools and he is being affected by the 7th Ave project. He also drives for Palmer Bus and understands that the project will not be completed by the time the school starts. Edmonds responded that the roundabout will be done when school starts.

Volkmouth asked if the stop signs along 5th could be removed during the construction as there is one every block. B Gerold responded that when traffic control is changed on a temporary basis, there ends up being more accidents. Frederick added that when it is closer to when school starts, there will be some discussions with the school and bus company regarding traffic patterns.

Volkmouth also questioned the safety of the storm water pond area on the northeast corner of the roundabout. B Gerold responded that it will be a dry basin most of the time, but we had three inches of rain in the past week, so there is some water in it at the moment.

6. Old Business

- 6.1. Ordinance 855- Zoning Map Amendment / Rezoning for 24-519-0010 - FINAL READING

Marquardt advised that 9542 18th Street, PID #24-519-0010 was annexed into the City of Princeton November 22nd, 2022. A dentistry office has been operating at the site for many years.

Analysis:

The site is currently zoned as A-1, Agricultural and will need to be amended to B-3, General Commercial Business District where the appropriate zoning is applied. Professional services such as dentistry is a permitted use, and the site adjoins the B-3 District where the classification will be appropriate.

Rezoning Review Standards:

Many communities utilize the following factors as review standards in rezoning requests, which are being provided as information:

1. The proposed action has been considered in relation to the specific policies and provisions and has been found to be consistent with the official City Comprehensive Plan.
2. The proposed use is or will be compatible with present and future land uses of the area.
3. The proposed use conforms with all performance standards contained in this code.
4. The proposed use can be accommodated with existing public services and will not over burden the city's service capacity.
5. Traffic generation by the proposed use is within capabilities of streets servicing property.

Conclusion / Recommendation:

A Special Planning Commission meeting was held on July 1st, 2024 where a public hearing was held and approved for the rezoning of the site at 9542 18th Street, PID #24-519-0010, Lot 1, Block 1, Lodge Pine Plantation, from A-1, Agricultural District to B-3, General Commercial Business District and forward the recommendation for the zoning map amendment to the City Council to hold a first reading July 11th, 2024 of Ordinance #855.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 855 REZONING PID 24-519-0010. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.2. Ord. 857- Zoning Map Amendment / Rezoning for 24-028-3500 - FINAL READING

Marquardt advised that Chad Heitschmidt, submitted an application to rezone his property at 1300 7th Street North from B-3, General Commercial Business District to R-3, Multiple Family Residential District.

Analysis:

The property has a single-family home on it for many years and the applicant would like to have it zoned residential. Mille Lacs County has this site classed as Residential/Single Unit.

The property next door to this site is zoned R-3, Multi-Family Residential District where a single-family home is on the lot. The rezoning request would be appropriate for the site. The Future Land Use Map has the development designated as commercial. This designation will remain if the property owners in the future would want to have the site be used as commercial.

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2. The proposed use is or will be compatible with present and future land uses of the area.
3. The proposed use conforms with all performance standards contained in this code.
4. The proposed use can be accommodated with existing public services and will not over burden the city's service capacity.

5. Traffic generation by the proposed use is within capabilities of streets servicing property.

Conclusion / Recommendation:

The City Council held a first hearing on July 25th, 2024, and approved to move forward with the final reading of the rezoning of the site at 1300 7th Street North, PID #24-028-3500, from B-3, General Commercial Business District to R-3, Multiple Family Residential District. Staff recommends to the City Council approval of Ordinance #857.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 857 REZONING PID 24-028-3500. EDMONDS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6.3. Rural Tax District Partial Tax Refund Request

Marquardt stated that at the June 27th City Council meeting, Ordinance 852 amending the Rural Taxing District was approved.

Jane Odgers' property was annexed into the City of Princeton along with six others in 2022 – 2023 to square up the City's boundary following State Statute 414.033, Sub 3.

At the July 11th meeting, the Council approved a partial tax refund for 2024 for those properties that would qualify for the Rural Taxing District. Staff determined that three met the Rural Tax District Requirements, but there was an additional property that staff was not aware of that due to it being residential in nature. This property also qualifies for the Rural Taxing District. While the property has been added to the Rural Taxing District for 2025, it is not for taxes payable in 2024.

Staff has received the 2024 Tax Statement and Mille Lacs County calculated what the city portion would be if calculated at the Rural Tax district rate.

	City Portion paid 2024	Rural Taxing Dist. \$	Refund \$
24-515-0020	\$2158.71	\$744.37	\$1,414.34

HALLIN APPROVED THE PARTIAL TAX REFUND TO BE MADE TO JANE ODGERS ONCE THE 2024 TAXES HAVE BEEN PAID IN FULL. EDMONDS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. New Business

7.1. Resolution 24-45 - Approving Donations for Splash Park Free Days

Marquardt advised that the City has received more free splash park day sponsors. The Splash Park has received sponsors for over 30 free days this year.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 24-45. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.2. Ordinance 858 - Amending Hunting Ordinance & Amending the Firearms Map - FIRST READING

Marquardt advised that this ordinance amendment will add language to allow bow and arrow only hunting on properties. The property owner will need to request their property be added to the map. Staff is also requesting a few properties to be removed from the map that no longer apply.

Klinghagen stated that he believes the golf course is hunted on. Walker will check with them to confirm.

WALKER MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE 858 AND AMEND THE MAP AS NOTED. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

7.3. Bill List

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 8, 2024, CHECK REGISTER CONTAINING CHECKS 88615-88668 AND ACH PAYMENTS 241000-241004 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,598,996.61, AS WELL AS THE PAY PERIOD 16 CHECK REGISTER CONTAINING ACH PAYMENTS 24161001-24161071 AND THE PAY PERIOD 16 TRANSMITTAL REGISTER FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$183,238.69. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Committee Reports

Edmonds stated the PUC will have a full report at the next meeting. They did recognize Lee Steinbrecher and his family with an MMUA Award for their service to the community over the years.

9. Adjournment

J GEROLD MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:30PM. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

ATTEST:

Shawna Jenkins Tadych
City Clerk

Thom Walker,
Mayor