MINOT CITY COUNCIL – SCHEDULED MEETING – MAY 3, 2021 AT 5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:
Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner (Teams), Podrygula, Ross, Sipma

Members Absent:
None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sipma presiding and led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR’S REPORT

The Mayor described some of his meetings and activities over the past month:

7th – MAFB Attended test of ICBM Missile Site Launch Door Activation
7th – MAFB Toured Missile Alert Facility South of Minot
8th – Economic Development Stakeholders Meeting
12th – Minot Police Officers National Guard Deployment Send-off
12th – Task Force 21 Committee Meeting
12th – Special City Council Meeting
13th – Minot Flood Project Home Acquisition
13th – Minot Board of Equalization Meeting
14th – Minot Chamber EDC Monthly Board Meeting
14th – ACHA Tournament Coaches Meet & Greet
16th – Ward County Weed Board Meeting
16th – Knights of Columbus State Convention Welcome
19th – Regular City Council Meeting
20th – Special Meeting with Lt. Masozera – City Operations
22nd – Zoom Meeting with City Staff & BNSF
26th – Broadway Listening Session Focus Group Meeting
27th – COVID Testing Recap Meeting
29th – Task Force 21 Meet & Greet at MAFB for US Senators (North Dakota, Maine, New Hampshire, Nebraska, Iowa & Air Force Officials (USAF Chief of Staff & Commander of AF Global Strike Command
30th – Interview with KX News Regarding Legislative Wrap-up

He also said, there were numerous other meetings, phone calls, e-mails, and individual contact concerning City business.

PROCLAMATION: BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

City of Minot Mayor Proclaims May Building Safety Month.

Whereas, our City is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster, and;

Whereas, our confidence in the resilience of these buildings that make up our community is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, plumbers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings, and;

Whereas, these guardians are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a nonprofit that brings together local, state and federal officials that are experts in the built environment to create and implement the highest-quality codes to protect us in the buildings where we live, learn, work, play, and;
May 3, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting

Whereas, our nation benefits economically and technologically from using the International Codes that are developed by a national, voluntary consensus codes and standards developing organization, our government is able to avoid the high cost and complexity of developing and maintaining these codes, which are the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the world;

Whereas, these modern building codes include safeguards to protect the public from hazards such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildland fires, floods and earthquakes, and;

Whereas, Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council to remind the public about the critical role of our communities’ largely unknown protectors of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, sustainable, energy efficient and livable buildings that are essential to America’s prosperity, and;

Whereas, “Prevent, Prepare, Protect. Building Codes Save,” the theme for Building Safety Month 2021, encourages all Americans to raise awareness about the importance of safe and resilient construction; fire prevention; disaster mitigation, energy conservation; water safety; training the next generation; and new technologies in the construction industry.

Whereas, each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, people all over the world are asked to consider the commitment to improve building safety, resilience and economic investment at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments, fire prevention bureaus and federal agencies in protecting lives and property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Shaun Sipma, Mayor of the City of Minot, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2021 as Building Safety Month. Accordingly, I encourage our citizens to join with their communities in participation in Building Safety Month activities.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

The City Manager provided a written update describing events and activities for various departments.

Mr. Stewart said, since the expiration of the state of emergency declaration, and after discussions with staff, they have decided to cease rapid testing after May 6th. They are still waiting for information from Senator Hoeven’s Office regarding impacts to funding for the Binax testing.

He also reminded the Council about the budget tours coming up later in the month and a work session May 24th focused on economic development.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

The City Attorney submitted a written report.

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the minutes of the April 19, 2021 regular City Council meeting.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

BILLS, TRANSFERS AND PAYROLL – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve payroll for the period of March 14, 2021 through April 24, 2021 in the amount of $3,112,241.91 and approve bills and transfers for April in the amount of $1,991,858.29 and as follows:

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May 3, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting
Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5595 – AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET 2021 WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT (4567) – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5595 on second reading to amend the 2021 annual budget to increase Water Distribution watermain maintenance expenditures and decrease Water Plant watermain maintenance expenditures for the 2021 Watermain Replacement project approve the use cash reserves for the budget shortfall to cover the entire project cost. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5595 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5596 - AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET- 2019 SHSG CAPITAL BUDGET – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5596 on second reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase Fire department Capital fund equipment purchases expenditures and revenues and decrease the General fund supplies expenditures and revenues for the purchase of a service body for a tow vehicle funded by the FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5596 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5597- RIGHT TURN ON RED PROHIBITION ON W BURDICK EXPWY AT 16TH STREET SW AND 6TH STREET SW (4429) – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5597 on second reading to add a right turn on red prohibition to the following locations:
1. Northbound 16th Street SW at W Burdick Expressway.
2. Northbound 6th Street SW at W Burdick Expressway.
4. Westbound W Burdick Expressway at 6th Street SW.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5597 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5598 – AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET- BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST FOR FINANCE DEPARTMENT – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5598 on second reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase Finance Department full-time personnel expenditures and decrease the Finance Department part-time personnel expenditures for the addition of a Business Systems Analyst Position with the use of General Fund cash reserves. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5598 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5600 – AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET- ENGINEERING FOR CITY-WIDE WAYFINDING SIGNAGE – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5600 on second reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase the Planning Department Engineering expenditures for the Wayfinding Signage Design with the use of Sales Tax Improvements cash reserves. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.
Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5600 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none

ORDINANCE NO. 5601 - BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR COMMUNITY SURVEY AND FACILITATOR – SECOND READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5601 on second reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase City Council Expert Professional Advice line item for the addition of a Community Survey and City Council and Management Facilitator utilizing The Novak Consulting Group and ETC Institute. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5601 on second reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

AIRPORT SKID STEER LOADER WITH ATTACHMENTS (2021500002) – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the bid from Swanston Equipment in the amount of $57,182 for the purchase of a commercial grade skid steer loader with heavy duty bucket and box broom sweeper attachment and authorize the Mayor to sign any applicable documentation.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

DOWNTOWN PLANNING SERVICES STUDY CONSULTANT SELECTION – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council select Ackerman-Estvold as the consultant for the Downtown Planning Services Study, authorize the Community & Economic Development Director to negotiate a scope and fee and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ORDINANCE NO. 5602 - BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR – L-TRON OSCR360 PANORAMIC SCENE CAMERA PURCHASE - PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS (2021200003/PD0196) – FIRST READING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5602 on first reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase Police department General fund data processing and equipment supplies expenditures and revenues and decrease the Capital equipment purchases expenditures and revenues for the portion of a data collection camera system that does not meet capital requirements purchased with funding from the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5602 on first reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

RETAIL BEER & WINE LICENSE – LOR SPA – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the Retail Beer & Wine License for Lor Spa, LLC dba Lor Spa, operating at 1412 2nd Ave SW.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ASSIGNMENT OF LEASE, T-HANGAR NO. 3 – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the Airport Lease, T-Hangar between the City of Minot and Dillon Ouellette for T-Hangar No. 3 for $75.00 per month and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.
Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

LIFEPAK CR2 DEFIBRILLATOR – TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AGREEMENT – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council grant approval of the Lifepak CR2 Defibrillator Transfer of Ownership from the ND Department of Health to the City of Minot, Police Department and authorize the Chief of Police to sign the Transfer of Ownership Agreement.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

RESOLUTION NO. 3709 - P# 3529.05A MREFPP PHASE WC-1A – TIERRECITA VALLEJO LEVEE SEGMENT PLAN AND SPEC – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the plans and specifications for the first phase of construction of the Tierrecita Vallejo levee segment, and adopt Reimbursement Resolution No. 3709.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

RESOLUTION NO. 3710 - P# 3529.2C MREFPP PHASE MI-2C – WEST PETERSON COULEE DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PLAN AND SPEC – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the plans and specifications for the West Peterson Coulee Drainage Improvements and adopt Reimbursement Resolution No. 3710.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

RESOLUTION NO. 3711 - P# 3529.5 & 3529.6 MREFPP PHASE MI6 And MI7 DOWNTOWN THROUGH ROOSEVELT PARK TO BURDICK DESIGN ENGINEERING – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the engineering contract for Houston Engineering and Barr Engineers and forward approval to the SRJB for design engineering on MI-6 and MI-7 and adopt Reimbursement Resolution No. 2711 for MI-6 and MI-7.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ENCROACHMENT PERMIT - 101 3RD AVE SW - TRINITY HEALTH – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve of the Right of Way Encroachment Permit requested by Indigo Signs on behalf of Trinity Health for the projecting sign on their building at 101 3rd Avenue SW.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

ENCROACHMENT PERMIT - 1303 S BROADWAY - LASR, LLC – APPROVED

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the Right of Way Encroachment permit requested by Kenn Simenson of LASR, LLC for the installation of private storm sewer to tie into a City catch basin at 1303 South Broadway.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

WARD COUNTY TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT – APPROVED
Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve a temporary construction easement for Ward County to replace culverts across County Road 12 west of Minot adjacent to City owned land used for the pistol range with new box culverts.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5603 - STOP SIGNS FOR SIDE STREETS OF 16TH ST NW AND 36TH AVE NW (4552) – FIRST READING – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5603 on first reading to add a stop sign restriction to the following approaches:
1. Westbound 32nd Avenue NW at 16th Street NW
2. Westbound 35th Avenue NW at 16th Street NW
3. Northbound Kodiak St NW at 36th Avenue NW

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5603 on first reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3706- PAVING & UTILITY DISTRICT 2021-1 (4585) – AMEND THE ENGINEER’S REPORT – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council adopt resolution no. 3706 to approve the amendment to the Engineer’s Report for Paving & Utility District 2021-1 to add the adjacent Magic City Discovery Center parking lots and related items to the improvement district.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3707- PAVING & UTILITY DISTRICT 2021-1 (4585) - ENLARGE DISTRICT – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council adopt resolution no. 3707 to enlarge improvement district 2021-1.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5604- AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET- PAVING & UTILITY DISTRICT 2021-1 (4585) - ENLARGE DISTRICT – FIRST READING – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5604 on first reading to amend the 2021 annual budget to increase water, sewer, storm sewer and capital infrastructure expenses/expenditures and refunding bond revenue for the enlargement of the Minot Park District paving and utility improvements. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5604 on first reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**PAVING DISTRICT 499 - FAMILY REC ADDITION (4591) - FUNDING AGREEMENT – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve the funding agreement for Paving District 499 Family Recreation Addition and authorize the Mayor to sign on the City’s behalf.

Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**33RD STREET SW - ROADWAY/RAILROAD CROSSING CLOSURE – APPROVED**
The City has been made aware of a Harrison Township project that will close 33rd Street SW at the BNSF crossing. 33rd Street SW is a gravel township road. Harrison Township is working with BNSF and the NDDOT to remove the railroad crossing on 33rd Street SW. Removing the crossing will close that portion of the roadway, resulting in dead ends on either side of the railroad tracks. This project is slated for 2021 construction.

Once an at-grade railroad crossing is removed it’s likely that it will never be put back. In the future, an overpass or underpass will likely be necessary for a roadway to cross the railroad in this location. This could be part of a future southwest connector. Ward County is currently undertaking a SE and SW Connector Corridor Study

While this is very near the City landfill, it will have minimal impact to current operations. City garbage trucks and commercial haulers are already not using this road. It will have more impact to residents of the area.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5599 - MODIFYING THE PROCESSES REGARDING PERMITTING AND LICENSING – SECOND READING – APPROVED**

Mayor Sipma pointed out a notable change in the ordinance since the first reading. He said, the number of allowable gaming sites within the city was changed to six. Since there were numerous conversations leading up to the Council meeting, he asked if anyone wished to speak regarding the issue.

Josh Ressler, Gaming Manager for Magic City Lions said, the ordinance was in place before e-tabs came out. The introduction of electronic gaming completely changed charitable gaming so non-profits can do very well. He said he would be in favor of a limit of six total sites, whether the games were manned or unmanned. He said he would be opposed to an unlimited number of sites.

Jon Ries, Gaming Manager for Minot Junior Golf, Minot State University Beaver Boosters and MSU Alumni Association, explained that Minot Junior Golf currently has five manned sites and one unmanned site which would be the limit under the proposed change and would eliminate his options for expanding. He agreed there should be a set number and while unsure what the number should be, he suggested eight.

Upon questioning by Alderman Ross regarding growth for Minot Junior Golf, Mr. Ries said there are potential projects in the works and he would hate to have to turn them down or discontinue a current partnership.

Robert Teets, Gaming Manager for Minot Hockey Boosters said he is on board with six locations. There is little to no cost for organizations to have e-tabs so it would be possible for one non-profit to overrun the market if they allowed an unlimited number of unmanned sites. He also brought up an issue where organizations are permitted to operate on 40% of the gaming profits and pocket the other 60%.

Upon questioning by Alderman Ross, Mr. Teets explained that organizations can solicit sites in which to operate. It has been a gentleman’s agreement not to steal sites from another organization but the issue has come up across the state. Minot Hockey Boosters currently has five sites.

Alderman Ross moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5599 on second reading modifying the City of Minot Code of Ordinances relating to various permits and licenses amending the ordinance to read, “Sec. 18-186 (b) No organization shall be allowed authorization for more than eight (8) sites at the same time within the city during one license period.” Motion seconded by Alderman Podrygula and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson asked about the recommendation of six sites, to which the Mayor explained that after conversations with Gaming Managers and staff, there is one provider already operating at six sites. They also considered the number of sites allowed in other cities across the state and decided six was a reasonable place to start.

Alderman Ross described his reasoning for the motion by saying, the larger charitable gaming organizations are reputable and operate smoothly. He does not want to penalize them and prevent them from growing.

Mayor Sipma commented that he was introduced to the issue not knowing much about gaming sites but was quite surprised to find out that 60% of the funding can go towards overhead costs. Since gaming began with manned sites it is understandable the costs to operate were higher before electronic games were included. There is a lot of movement from new organizations getting into gaming and he reminded that the ordinance can be revised as the industry changes.
Alderman Ross moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5599 on second reading including the proposed change. Motion seconded by Alderman Podrygula and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

PUBLIC HEARING: BUILDING RELOCATION REQUEST TO 811 3RD ST NE- JOHN THOMPSON – APPROVED

The City Council held a public hearing to consider a request from John Thompson to relocate an accessory building from 2263 62nd Ave NW, Ryder, ND 58779 to 811 3rd St NE, Minot, ND 58701, also known as Lakeview Addition Lot 2 Block 16, subject to conditions.

John Thompson, the applicant, said he would like to add a shop to his property. Once it is relocated, he will improve the exterior of the structure with paint.

There being no further comment, Alderman Jantzer moved the City Council close the public hearing and approve the request. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

RESOLUTION NO. 3708- EMINENT DOMAIN FOR IDENTIFIED FLOOD BUYOUT PROPERTIES – APPROVED

Alderman Olson moved the City Council approve resolution no. 3708 authorizing special counsel for Eminent Domain to commence proceedings for acquisition of properties needed for flood control projects for 1209 6th Avenue SW owned by John and Susan Dokken, partial parking lot take at 400 9th Street SW owned by the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge No. 822, and 2816 14th Ave. SW and 1318 28th Street SW owned by Robert and Annelies Roberts.

Mayor Sipma stated, given the comments received after a previous Council meeting, that the acquisition process is followed to the letter of applicable federal laws. The issue is not taken lightly and they make every effort to find an amicable solution.

Motion seconded by Alderman Pitner and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

CTE MAGIC FUND AGREEMENT – APPROVED

Alderman Olson moved the City Council approve the MAGIC Fund Agreement between the City of Minot and MSU Foundation relating to the CTE Project. Motion seconded by Alderman Jantzer.

Alderman Olson expressed her enthusiasm to have gotten to this point. She thanked the attorneys for working out the details of the agreement.

Alderman Jantzer shared his support for the project and emphasized the need for technical education to improve the workforce.

Mayor Sipma thanked everyone involved and said what a tremendous asset the CTE will be for the community. He said he hopes it will be a starting point for future projects.

Whereupon a vote was taken on the above motion by Alderman Olson, seconded by Alderman Jantzer and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

CITY HALL PROGRAM FINAL RECOMMENDATION (4466) – APPROVED

The City Engineer introduced Doug Larson, of JLG to present the options for City Hall. Mr. Larson explained both options but recommended Option #2 which minimizes construction on the first floor of the new building and leaves room for future growth. It also keeps the Engineering and Community Development departments at Public Works along with the other infrastructure departments.

Alderman Olson moved the City Council approve Program Space Option #2 which includes keeping the engineering and community development departments at the Public Works Building. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross.
Alderman Ross moved the City Council adopt the 2021-2025 Capital Improvement Plan excluding the Anne Street Bridge Reconstruction project. Motion seconded by Alderwoman Olson.

City Engineer, Lance Meyer, presented the CIP. He said, every year, City departments submit projects for inclusion into the five-year Capital Improvement Plan. The plan becomes the guiding document for City staff to program and budget capital construction projects throughout the city. He explained the process to evaluate a project and summarized the funding sources. Staff has included dozens of projects for Council’s consideration for program years 2021-2025.

After the City Engineer’s presentation, the Mayor asked what would happen with program funding allocated to the Anne Street Bridge project if it is removed from the CIP.

Mr. Meyer said, the recommended funding for the project would be a tax levy so if they move forward with the project, the City Council would levy taxes for it and if not, they could rede dedicate those dollars to something else or not levy the taxes.

Josh Wolsky, the Downtown Business & Professional Association Interim Director, spoke in support of the Anne Street Bridge reconstruction. He provided letters to Council representing testimony on behalf of DBPA:

“Plans
The City’s Comprehensive Plan, the River Front & Center Plan, the IEDC Report. They all speak to issues like connectivity, transportation alternatives that encourage walking and biking, and reduce the need for cars and parking. They speak to making the future people-centric versus a recent past that has been very auto-centric, and they invite us to recapture our connection to the river in a positive way. Restoring the Anne Street Bridge to service represents a commitment to all those ideals we’ve heard over and over again throughout these many planning exercises.

Students & Schools
Please consider that most downtown elementary-age students attend Mckinley school and every 9th and 10th grader in the public school system in Minot attends Central Campus in downtown. The Anne Street Bridge was and has the potential to be the most direct, safest route to both of these schools to and from downtown. In a future where Central Campus becomes a middle school -- a concept that has been widely discussed, there’s a strong possibility that student-demand for the bridge would increase as few middle school students are of driving age.

Convenience & Experience
We’ve heard comments that the Anne Street Bridge isn't needed because we have the Broadway Bridge and Third Street Viaduct. And I agree -- if you're traveling at the speed a car travels, the distance between these bridges does not seem inconvenient. But if you travel at the pace of a pedestrian the time and added distance are significant. The walk across the Anne Street Bridge into the heart of downtown is about 800 ft. To go over to Broadway or 3rd Street, you're looking at a minimum of 2100 feet, and that distance leaves you at the corner of downtown with some distance yet to walk to get to where the action is. On this point, we'd make a request: before you consider the bridge's fate, make sure you take these walks, and note the time lost and the aesthetic of the experience of having speeding cars constantly present during your walk. A walk across the Anne Street Bridge creates a completely different experience.

Opportunity & Loss
Please consider what happens if the bridge is taken down. Currently, we have an easement with the railroad, but the question we'd ask you to consider is this: do you ever see them giving us another easement if at some point the future we want to restore this connection? There is a lot of vacant, underutilized land between the river and the tracks. If we lose the bridge, we lose our convenient, heart of downtown access to it. But if it's goes, we should acknowledge now that it will be gone forever.

Place & Potential
We're just at the tail end of prom season; have you noticed all the prom pictures on Facebook taken throughout downtown? Now, imagine for a minute the likelihood of teenagers staging for a prom picture on our brand new Broadway bridge? It's kind of an absurd idea, right? That's because, while beautiful in it's own way and functional, it's not authentic and it's not unique. When in service, the Anne Street Bridge delivers on both of those fronts in ways few other pieces of infrastructure in Minot do. These are the elements that make a place memorable. And please consider the potential of the bridge to help tell our Minot story. Imagine a walk from downtown across the bridge with storyboards along the way showing pictures of the boneyards of the early days and the roundhouse of the railroad's glory days. On the other side, it's the story of our floods and resilience with commemorative park at the North end of the bridge on the site of a former church that was needed to make flood protection possible. Our point is this: this bridge has the potential to be much more than pedestrian and bike infrastructure.

Possible Infrastructure Investment
We understand the bridge has reached a point where cost to keep it in service is significant. That's a lesson we've all learned the last few years; when we defer maintenance, things get more expensive. That's a reality we have to face, but it should not be a reason to demolish a largely functional, historic and cultural piece of infrastructure that when in service, is regularly used. And to do so on the eve of when at least a few transformative funding sources are coming available would be a mistake. The federal government's infrastructure investment proposal and pandemic recovery money are possible sources, but in both cases, much uncertainty remains regarding project eligibility. Perhaps this is not the best moment to take a project out of our CIP?"

Alderwoman Evans requested Alderman Ross split the motion to consider the Anne Street Bridge project separately from approval of the CIP.

Alderman Ross confirmed, his motion is to approve the CIP without inclusion of the Anne Street Bridge project. He said, the motion does not intend to tear it down but he believes there are more important projects to fund at this point and the Anne Street Bridge should be put on a back burner. He also said, maybe this is a good opportunity for DBPA to find grant funding to support the bridge.

Alderman Podrygula addressed the overall CIP process. He said it is very staff driven and would prefer it highlight opportunities for input from the citizens and Council. He suggested there be a mechanism clarified for Council input, similar to the form submitted by staff. He commented on the data-driven nature of the report and wondered if there’s too much precision in the ranking system. He raised concerns that it doesn’t consider priorities and values. He also said he would like to focus on human capital improvement to identify areas to grow staff, enhance functions and advance employees. He concluded by saying, they can discuss ideas in more detail during a future planning session.

Mayor Sipma stated, the evaluation questions create a picture of the projects included in the CIP. It explains why we are spending where we’re spending and why emphasis is put on one project over another. He then said, the Anne Street Bridge project was estimated at $1.97 million dollars but since then, lumber prices have tripled. He agreed with Alderman Ross that grants should be identified to find a solution for the bridge and property taxes could be better served elsewhere.

Alderwoman Evans said, she supports all of the projects in the CIP but is opposed to the motion.

Alderman Pitner asked about the timeframe and funding for Anne Street Bridge project.

Mr. Meyer responded by saying, the 2022 budget would include $130,000 for design and permitting and the construction would take place in 2023.

Whereupon a vote was taken on the above motion by Alderman Ross seconded by Alderwoman Olson and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: Evans.

**RECRUITMENT SERVICES FOR AIRPORT DIRECTOR POSITION – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council approve using the recruitment services of ADK Consulting and Executive Search for the Airport Director position and further, authorize the Mayor to sign the contract on the City's behalf. Motion seconded by Alderman Pitner.

Upon questioning by Alderman Podrygula, the City Manager explained that the Airport Director provided recommendations for recruitment firms. ADK Consulting is highly recognized in the aviation community for their expertise. The HR Director also looked for alternatives but given the technicality of the position ADK was the stronger candidate.
Whereupon a vote was taken on the above motion by Alderwoman Olson, seconded by Alderman Pitner and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**ORDINANCE NO. 5605 - AMEND THE 2021 ANNUAL BUDGET - RECRUITMENT SERVICES FOR AIRPORT DIRECTOR POSITION – FIRST READING – APPROVED**

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council place ordinance no. 5605 on first reading amending the 2021 annual budget to increase the Airport’s consultants expense for the hiring of a consulting firm to assist with recruiting the new Airport Director, using Airport cash reserves. Motion seconded by Alderman Pitner and carried unanimously.

Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council pass ordinance no. 5605 on first reading. Motion seconded by Alderman Pitner and carried by the following roll call vote: ayes: Evans, Jantzer, Olson, Pitner, Podrygula, Ross, Sipma; nays: none.

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES**

Mike Stamness, a Minot resident, brought several issues before Council. He asked why four-wheelers are allowed to go 50 mph in the ditches on north hill. He said the 21st Avenue area has ditches that were never completed and there are trees on the property that haven’t been hauled out. The land is overgrown and is only hayed once a year. He said, there’s also a business in that area with mounds of garbage in their alley.

Mayor Sipma said the City Manager will talk with staff and address the issues for Mr. Stamness.

**BROADWAY CORRIDOR STUDY (4443) - SECOND VIRTUAL PUBLIC INPUT INFORMATIONAL**

Traffic Engineer, Stephan Joersz, gave a brief presentation of the second virtual public input opportunity for the Broadway Corridor Study. He said, there will be a Virtual Open House April 19th through May 17th; there will be two live Question and Answer Sessions May 5th and May 6th; and six listening sessions with stakeholders. He demonstrated the interactive survey on the website and showed where the public could find videos and descriptions of various sections of Broadway.

After the presentation, Mayor Sipma encouraged everyone to take the survey and to explore the information provided.

**HYDRANT TESTING/INSPECTION PLAN**

The Fire Chief and Public Works Director presented information regarding the Hydrant Flushing and Inspection Program. They explained their goals in which they will create an inspection/flushing program of all public hydrants in Minot, create an accurate inventory and maintenance program utilizing asset management for the documenting and maintenance of the hydrant system, identify long term replacement program for cast iron piping, create an inspection/flushing program of all private hydrants to ensure they are flushed and operational, and achieve the highest ISO rating possible for residents of Minot.

After their presentation, Alderman Ross asked who would conduct inspection on private hydrants.

Fire Chief Kronschnabel said, they are done by contractors, who will complete the same inspection as is done for public hydrants. If any issues are found, they could potentially be cited under the Fire Code.

**MISCELLANEOUS & DISCUSSION**

Alderman Podrygula thanked members of the Fire Department for a guided tour of the new fire truck. He said it is important the citizens know the amount of effort put into the specifications for such equipment and understand the professional manner in which those purchases are made.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Alderwoman Olson moved the City Council meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Alderman Ross and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.