

Owatonna City Council Minutes

February 18, 2025

On Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., Council President Raney called the regular session of the Owatonna City Council to order in the Chambers of the Charles S. Crandall Center. Present were Council Members Voss, Dotson, Burbank, Boeke, McCann, Svenby and Raney; Mayor Jessop; City Attorney Walbran; Public Works Director Murphy; Finance Director Burns; Fire Chief Hoffman; Library Director Blando; Police Sergeant Hunt; Assistant City Administrator Tuma, IT Technology Specialist Inz; City Administrator Busse and Administrative Coordinator Clawson.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council President Raney welcomed everyone. Council Member Boeke made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion, all members voted aye in approval.

Public Hearing – Preliminary Assessment – 2025 Street & Utility Project

Council President Raney advised there would be a public hearing and explained the hearing procedure. Public Works Director Murphy commented that this public hearing is to consider the making of the 2025 Street and Utility Project with improvements to Linn Drive and Oakdale Street SW. Project information was presented and explained at an informational meeting held on February 12, 2025, the 39 property owners affected by this project were invited to attend. If the project is approved, project completion is anticipated to be in the Fall of 2025. The next step in the construction process is to direct the Engineering Staff to finalize plans and specifications for the 2025 Street & Utility Project. Total Project Cost is currently estimated at \$2,306,715.35; current estimate of cost to be assessed, approximately 10% of the total project cost is \$234,916.24. At 7:03 p.m. a public hearing was opened.

Steve Lacount, 1975 Lemond Drive made two requests for council consideration:

- 1) Eliminate special assessments as property taxes should cover needed improvements.
- 2) Renew the city's policy on how Special Assessments are calculated. Linn Drive is irregular shaped with ten properties on the inside curve, they have a lot more front footage than other properties. There should be more equitable calculations such as using the property lot's square footage amount as the basis for special assessment calculation.

Jeanette Raichle, 212 Oakdale Street commented she has spoken to several of her neighbors and mostly concur that more of these improvement costs should be paid by property taxes and not special assessments as in other cities. If special assessments are required, she requested no interest be charged similar. Many of her neighbors told her they cannot afford a special assessment and request that Council reconsider how special assessments are done.

At 7:10 pm, with no additional comments heard, Council Member Voss a motion to close the public hearing, Council Member Dotson seconded the motion, all members voted aye for approval.

Council Member Dotson commented council has held discussions about eliminating special assessments and council must decide if assessments should continue and if not, how this change will be handled. He is advocating moving away from the assessment process; as each year, assessments cover a smaller percentage of the total project cost and assessment processing would be eliminated.

Council Members Boeke commented that this process is not as simple as adopting a new fee; there are properties currently paying assessments so a policy change would create a snowball effect, and we want and need to be fair to all property owners.

Council Member Raney agreed that the Council has discussed eliminating special assessments and the council is also tasked with keeping property taxes low, If special assessments are eliminated, more project improvement costs would be paid from the General Budget which all property owners city-wide contribute to.

Resolution 8-25 Street & Utility Project – Authorize Plans and Order Improvement

Public Work Director Murphy requested approval of Resolution 8-25 regarding the 2025 Street & Utility Project to authorize the plans and order the improvement. Council Member Boeke made a motion for approval, Council Member McCann seconded the motion.

Council Member Voss asked if there was an option to change the calculation of the Preliminary Special Assessments? Director Murphy responded that staff prepared the special assessments based on the city's current assessment policy and do not have the option to change the calculation of a preliminary assessment amount. City Administrator Busse commented there is a formal process to appeal an assessment amount after it has been approved. Council Member Dotson commented that if a property owner questions how their special assessment was calculated, they should talk with staff members as there have been exceptions and a few changes made within the formal appeal process. Property owners may also have the option to defer a special assessment; City Administrator Busse confirmed property owners meeting income, age or disability requirements can request a deferment of their special assessment. Council Member Raney questioned what rate of interest will be charged on these special assessments. City Administrator Busse commented that the terms of the assessment (length and interest rate) are set by resolution following a public hearing after completion of the project. Usually, the interest rate charged for special assessments is 2% higher than the rate of the city's last bonds; this year, that amount was 4.25% so recommendation to charge special assessments will be 6.25%. With no additional comments, all members voted aye for approval of Resolution 8-25.

Owatonna Public Library – Quasquicentennial Plans

Library Director Mark Blando commented the kickoff event for the library's 125th celebration will be this Saturday, February 22nd beginning at 2:00 pm in the Adult Reading Room. This is the anniversary date to begin the 125th year, staff have a variety of activities planned during

this next year. This weekend, the original Children's Room will be open for the public to view. Several speakers will participate in the event and refreshments are available.

Consent Agenda Items

Council President Raney explained council members review the Consent Agenda items prior to the meeting for approval in one motion. Consent Agenda items for this meeting include:

Minutes – Council Meeting – February 4, 2025

Building Inspections Monthly Report- January 2025

Fire - Monthly Activity Report - January 2025

Event Permit - Great River Greening Tree Project - May 10, 2025

Event Permit - Owatonna Bike Blessing - May 4, 2025

Accept Donations for the Owatonna Human Rights Commission

Riverland Community College - \$500 donation

Alliance for Greater Equity - \$250 donation

Rainbowatonna - \$100 donation

Set Date of 2025 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting - April 15, 2025

Council Member Voss made a motion to approve these Consent Agenda items, Council Member Dotson seconded the motion; all members voted aye for approval.

Finance Report

Council Member Voss recapped payments made for amounts greater than \$20,000 during this period.

\$ 23,514.76	Fareway Stores - hospital redevelopment TIF (year 10 out of 26)
61,016.44	MTI Distributing Inc - 4520 Kubota tractor with accessories - park
32,721.96	Owatonna Motor Company
	- 2025 Ford F-350 - street - \$31,732.76
	- misc. parts \$989.20
141,003.79	Nero Engineering - WWTF upgrade & expansion project - January 2025
881,384.54	Rice Lake Construction Group - WWTP Expansion pay est #32
26,160.00	Versaterm Public Safety US Inc - Body, desk & interview room annual subscription renewal
<u>341,919.37</u>	Other Expenditures
\$1,507,720.86	Total Expenditures Presented for Approval

Council Member Svenby made a motion to approve payment of all bills presented, Council Member Burbank seconded the motion, all members voted aye in approval.

Second Readings Proposed Ordinance 25-01: Amend Section 93.029 - Noise in Public Parks and Ordinance 25-02: Amend Chapter 95, Noise Control

City Attorney Walbran commented on the first readings of these proposed ordinances received approval during the last City Council Meeting; there have been no changes since. The first ordinance will update reference to modern-day audio devices and amends to

include listing the current city parks. The second ordinance adds MPCA Standards with noise area clarifications and additional restrictions to public nuisance noises prohibited increasing the ease of law enforcement compliance.

Council Member Voss made a motion to approve Proposed Ordinance 25-01 to amend Section 93.025 regarding noise in public parks, Council Member Boeke seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, voting aye were Council Members Svenby, Voss, Burbank, Boeke, and Raney; No Nays; the motion carried. This will be known as Ordinance 1669 to be effective upon publication within the next week.

Council Member Boeke made a motion to approve Proposed Ordinance 25-02 to amend Chapter 95 regarding Noise Control, Council Member McCann seconded the motion. With a roll call vote, voting aye were Council Members Svenby, Voss, Burbank, Boeke, and Raney; No Nays; the motion carried. This will be known as Ordinance 1670 to be effective upon publication within the next week.

First Reading Proposed Ordinance 25-04: Amend Chapter 90, Animals – Prohibit Roosters

City Attorney Walbran presented Proposed Ordinance 25-04 to prohibit roosters within the city limits. A current city ordinance prohibits nuisances caused by animals. A rooster's crow is a loud noise which constitutes a nuisance. This amendment adds the word "crow" to prohibitive sounds and "roosters" will be shown as a prohibited animal. Council Member Svenby made a motion for approval, Council Member Boeke seconded the motion.

Council Member Boeke commented that he will vote for passage of this proposed ordinance but wishes it contained more restrictions on chickens. He has received questions about the number of chickens allowed, the amount of confinement space required, accumulation of wastes, the possibility of Bird Flu; none of these concerns have been addressed within this proposed ordinance. Council Member Svenby commented he has also received requests to limit the size of chicken coops, and the number of chickens allowed. With no additional comments a roll call vote was taken, voting aye were Council Members Voss, Dotson, Burbank, Boeke, McCann, Svenby and Raney; No Nays; the motion carried. The second/final reading of this proposed ordinance will be heard at the next Council Meeting on March 4th.

Resolution 9-25 Accept Bids & Award Contract - 2025 CIPPS Project

Public Works Director Murphy presented four quotes received for the 2025 Cured in Place Pipe System (CIPPS) Project:

Hydro-Klean, LLC of Des Moines, IA	\$312,791.34
Visu-Sewer, LLC of Pewaukee, WI	\$342,287.80
SAK Construction, LLC of O'Fallon, MO	\$459,357.00
Insituform Technologies USA, LLC of Chesterfield, MO	\$473,749.99

Murphy presented Resolution 9-25 accepting these quotes and awarding the project to Hydro-Klean with the low bid of \$312,791.34, 36% below the engineer's estimate. Council

Member Voss commented bids received for the 2024 CIPPS Project were unfavorable and rejected. Director Murphy added that this year, staff began the project process earlier and a larger quantity is proposed as no project was done last year. Council Member Burbank asked how many years are needed to complete this project; Murphy responded, at the current rate, it will take 30 years to complete. With no additional comments, all members voted for approval of Resolution 9-25.

On-Sale Liquor with Sunday Sales License - LaMain Capital Group LLC, dba DoubleTree by Hilton Owatonna - 2365 NW 43rd Street

City Administrator Busse requested approval of the application received from LaMain Capital Group LLC for an On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor with Sunday Sales License. They will operate as doing business as the DoubleTree by Hilton Owatonna at 2365 NW 43rd Street. Site renovations are in process; they request this liquor license become effective April 1st. Council approved the license application contingent on issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy to be issued by the City's Building Official. Council Member Burbank made a motion for approval with the requested contingency. Council Member McCann seconded the motion, and all members present voted aye for approval.

Rivers Springs Water Park Facility Assessment – ICS

Assistant City Administrator Tuma requested approval of a proposal received from ICS for a Rivers Springs Water Park Enhanced Facilities Assessment. The facility is 16 years old, some of its amenities are approaching the end of their lifecycle. To assess the overall condition of the park, a comprehensive evaluation will identify the facility's needs and equip the city with information necessary for planning improvements and developing future Capital Improvement Projects (CIP). In 2022, a mechanical project was included in a CIP Project to update key components of the pool's operating system, including the sand filtration system, screening baskets, pool features, and circulation pumps. This assessment will cover the following areas to establish a baseline:

Building Systems & Components:

- Facility Site (including parking lots, sidewalks, and grounds)
- Building Envelope (brick, metal panel, sealants, windows, roofs, etc.)
- Building Interior Finishes (flooring, walls & ceilings)
- Ancillary Items (Pool structure, equipment, and structures)
- Mechanical Systems (HVAC, plumbing, controls, etc.)
- Electrical Systems (service, power distribution, lighting, etc.)
- Life Safety Systems (PA, fire alarm, fire protection, security, etc.)
- Accessibility Issues (building and site)
- Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FFE)

This assessment will take 4 to 6 weeks to complete in the spring. The assessment cost is \$21,660. Council Member McCann made a motion for approval, Council Member Voss seconded the motion.

Council Member Svenby asked if staff could do some of the proposed tasks. Tuma responded yes, but all tasks were included in the plan as staff input would be minimal and

doubt they would create substantial savings. Council Member Dotson questioned if any of these repairs would hinder opening for the season, Tuma the necessary projects should be done and allow a timely opening. Council Member Voss commented he would like to see the waterpark remain open longer for the season and not close mid-August. With no additional comments, all members voted aye approving the agreement with ICS for this assessment proposal.

Professional Services Agreement - 18th Street SE Reconstruction & Trail Project - SEH, Inc.

Public Works Director Murphy requested approval of an agreement for Design Services and Construction Administration/Observation from SEH, Inc. for the 18th Street SE Reconstruction and Trail Project. The section of 18th Street between Austin Road and just past Cornerstone Lane up to the new roundabout connection is currently planned for reconstruction in 2026. Projects will consist of a phased approach to reconstruct the roadway in an efficient manner to minimize construction costs, impacts on local property owners, and the traveling public. Construction is expected to include complete replacement of the corridor, including but not limited to; pavement, curb and gutter, sidewalk, multi-use bituminous trail, driveways, water main, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer.

Three proposals were received and after review, Engineering Staff recommends the proposal from SEH, which included a thorough understanding of the project, a team of highly qualified individuals, a timeline that involved meeting critical deadlines and time constraints relating to the Federal Funding Process along with construction limitations due to the Steele County Free Fair and beginning of the 2026 school year.

Construction Administration and Observation Services were included as an alternate item. It is beneficial to have the same firm provide Design Services and Construction Administration/Observation as they have a thorough understanding of the design and project history. The design process will begin immediately upon Council approval. Plans are anticipated to be in review this fall and bidding to take place in early 2026. Construction is expected to commence in the summer of 2026. The total cost of the Design Services and Construction Administration/Observation agreement is not to exceed \$864,170.00 without prior authorization. The SEH proposal includes costs for Easement and ROW Services, which may be reduced upon design and determination if all estimated temporary and/or permanent easements are necessary.

Council Member Voss questioned if SEH would submit the required federal project documentation and how the city's engineering staff would be involved in the process. Murphy responded that this is a significant project which will require a lot of communication, the agreement includes regular updates; specific design meetings and weekly meetings for construction administration,

Council Member Svenby asked about the 2025 18th Street Trail Project. Director Murphy responded the 2025 18th Street Trail Project will complete the trail section between Linn Drive and Austin Road. With no additional comments, Council Member Boeke made a

motion for approval, Council Member Mcann seconded the motion, and all members voted aye for approval.

Bioretention Practice Maintenance Agreement - Halla Construction & Landscaping

Public Works Director Murphy requested approval of an agreement with Halla Construction & Landscaping, LLC for 2025-2028 Bioretention Practice Maintenance. Current bioretention practices are placed in effort to reduce stormwater run-off and pollutants from discharging to local waterways including the raingardens and filtration basins located at the Rose Street Parking lot, Mosher Avenue, Mineral Springs Park, and the West Hills Tennis Center. This agreement provides services by a qualified contractor to perform agreed-upon tri-annual routine services (Spring, Summer, and Fall) that include vegetation management, debris and trash removal, inspection completion, documentation, and other non-routine services that may incur a cost with approval of the Stormwater Division.. Annual cost for services is estimated at \$13,500. Council Member Boeke made a motion for approval, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion, and all members voted aye in approval.

STAFF COMMENTS

Fire Chief Hoffman thanked council for their support in the property inspection process. Several months ago, he requested Council declare two properties with dangerous conditions. Safety updates are almost finished on one of the properties and he is working with City Attorney Walbran on the city's next step with the other property. This is the second year, Fire Training was offered at the high school, he recently met with the principal to evaluate the program, there are some financial constraints so discussing future of this program; hoping the course will be offered again. Fire staff participate in on-going training: Department Training, Full-time Training and Squad training. Fire fighters can also attend Regional Fire Schools or receive technical training. Last year members participated in confined space training, trench training, low angle rescues, live house burns or prairie fires and online safety courses. During 2024, 35 fire staff members each received an average of 118.5 training hours.

Council President Raney thanked the city's first responders for their services, the quality of their services is result of their extensive training. Both our Fire Chief and Police Chief encourage staff to complete training requirements. Chief Hoffman commented they value training opportunities with their enforcement partners, they collaborated with the Police Department for active violence training and are currently preparing for ice rescue training with the Sheriff's Department.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kesiah Winters, 345 Broadway Street commented she is opposed to the proposed ordinance prohibiting roosters within city limits. She has raised chickens since 2020, the covid pandemic. She has received only one noise complaint about her roosters over the last five years, she cannot rectify a problem if she is unaware of the problem. She recently measured the decibel level of her rooster's crow; it is eighty-five decibels and lasts for only

two seconds. She believes it would be a shame to lose her hobby because of this ordinance amendment.

Matt Sennott, 2519 Stony Creek Drive commented he speaks on behalf of 100s of residents deeply concerned about the location of the proposed East-side corridor. They have received 580 signatures on a petition and have come united to protect the safety and peace of their neighborhood and formally present this petition to the council and will seek this to be a matter of public record in regard to this project. This project proposed on 29th Avenue is placing a highway close to established homes putting our children and families in harm's way, safety should never be an afterthought. The noise from a truck engine and jake brakes is ninety-five decibels, the city's new ordinance for noise levels in public parks should also be observed in residential areas. This is not a desired environment for our Owatonna families. This project is unprecedented, there has never been a road built adjacent to an existing neighborhood with the city or within Steele County. We ask council members to stand up for your constituents, that is why we are all here this evening,

Melissa Zimmerman, 2525 Stony Creek Drive, commented that our neighborhood recently presented a petition with 580 signatures of supporters for placement of the east-side corridor on 34th Avenue. This request may seem premature, but we want to be sure our petition will be considered at the right time. Our support remains strong and continues to grow. Through Data Requests we have uncovered several critical concerns which we addressed within this petition. Peter Roscoe, a State Noise Analyst strongly recommended elected officials and residents receive education on impact of noise and a noise wall within this type of project. The decision on a noise wall rests entirely on the decision of the residents, there are 4-12 homes affected along the proposed 29th Avenue route which will vote to require a noise wall. After last week's county meeting, I was told this project could be voted on within the next month. Even WSB staff advised they would vote in favor of a noise wall if they resided in our neighborhood. Also, the two-road narrative, e-mails state it would be hard to build just 29th Avenue as residents are pushing for use of 34th Avenue. 34th Avenue was mapped to preserve as an inner corridor and then he then sought a way to justify why both roads were mapped with no supporting data. Minor differences but we do not need two \$30 million roads with only minor differences. A vote for 34th Avenue is the most fiscally responsible decision, the city is a partner in this project, you hold a vote tied to taxpayer decisions. We are willing to meet to discuss further findings.

Tyrel Alastair Hunter, 2595 Mossy Creek Drive commented he wanted to express concern regarding meetings held by select city county council members and select county commissioners about the east-side corridor project, referred to as the Transportation Committee. Based on e-mails now made public, it appears these discussions affect how this project will proceed. If decisions are being made, then residents deserve full transparency in these discussions. Minnesota Open Meeting Laws requires business to be conducted openly. These meetings do not appear to have any public notice or public documentation. Council cannot respond to my comments tonight, but I respectfully request these meetings be addressed at the next Council Meeting, Our community deserves to be fully informed about decisions affecting the east-side corridor.

Seth Muir, 2551 Mossy Creek Drive stated the east side corridor highway being proposed on 29th Avenue with speeds up to 55 miles per hour is too close to homes and complete disregard to the safety of the people you represent. The route on 29th Avenue is being forced into a space insufficient to support sound and safety mitigations. There is no longer a one hundred' easement as there was in 1999, lots were sold and homes built on part of that easement. Current plans jeopardize residents' safety and very much affect the homes' resale value. Putting a 55 mile per hour speed limit within 17 feet of existing homes is unprecedented and unacceptable. Beyond being dangerous this plan is shortsighted and does not align with Owatonna's plan for growth. Additionally, you don't want to spend \$2 million more on a huge sound wall that will be required if you build a highway that is too close to homes. Furthermore, how is putting a tall unsightly wall conducive to Owatonna's future development? Do not mindlessly trust WSB engineering company, which has not always provided 100% accurate information, or which has not followed every rule at the state and federal levels. Think of the safety of the people you represent, think of wellbeing of the people of Owatonna, think of the future growth of Owatonna. Putting a highway at 29th Avenue is not OK.

Colin Whalen, 2435 Briarwood Place commented that in regard to the proposed east-side corridor project the process has been a long and winding road. Thanks to recent truths we have seen come to light, we are seeing a clear picture of non-transparency forming a Joint Transportation Committee to hold secret non-public meetings about the project in violation of Minnesota's Open Meeting Law and several documented cases of deception as it relates to past feasibility studies and where we are at now. This petition represents 580 concerned voices that need to be heard. Putting this highway at 29th Avenue will affect the safety, peace, and wellbeing of our established neighborhood. We are asking for responsible, thoughtful, and transparent planning. The 34th Avenue route offers the safest most fiscally responsible and best option for our citizens. Our support has not waned, we are more than two or three voices. Please do the right thing for your constituents and consider our petition and the voices of many to move this road out.

Curt Orchard: 1060 Countryview commented that when they first had the pleasure to move to Owatonna, they lived in the El Dorado townhomes, right off Highway 14. They were less than 100 feet off of Highway 14 and blessed that they did not have children or animals at that point. It was extremely difficult to enjoy any outdoor activities, we were 80 feet from the highway and most conversations we had to repeat or yell to be heard because it was much closer to living establishments than what it should have been but that was built before, we knew about this. I feel for you all having to navigate a road that you did not start planning and because of plans that the city had and then sold off extra land to developers you are now having to navigate this. I ask that you take into consideration the many people that have signed this petition, almost 2% of the population of Owatonna that you are here represent when you are making this decision and please take into consideration the lives you are going to impact and try to make the decision which will have the least amount of impact on the people within your community.

Susan Mullenbach, 2535 Mossy Creek commented that more than 20 years ago, she and her husband Don built their forever home on Mossy Creek. When she looks at plans for the 29th Avenue Road, she sees her back yard butts up to the road. The highway comes very close to her back door. This will negatively impact her property and quality of life. They signed this petition, let's consider this petition with 580 signatures, 580 residents and your constituents signed this petition. They came forward put their name and shared contact information on that petition and stand together to oppose 29th Avenue location. Just think 580 residents oppose the 29th Street location, just think 580 people oppose that location.

Kris Whitehead, 410 Elm Ave S commented she is speaking in regard to the proposed No Rooster ordinance. Her husband served in the army for 17 years, one of the things they dreamed about when renting houses on posts, within the states or Germany, was to someday have their own little plot, to be able to raise their own food and be self-sustainable, so not having to rely on others to feed ourselves and our family. Our chickens do that for us. We have twins, 14 years old, they are in 4-H two years ago my daughter showed two of our chickens. Wouldn't it be great if she could continue to show a breeding pen, which is male and two females. At the fairgrounds, the 4-H kids show breeding pens during the fair you can hear those roosters crowing two blocks away. By removing the opportunity to have roosters in town, you will be taking away that opportunity to show a breeding pen at the fair. You will also be taking away freedoms that my husband fought for, his friends died for like being able to be self-sustainable. By having roosters on our property, so we can protect Heritage Breeds, we can make a sustainable living by selling chicks. We do not need roosters to make eggs, but they do provide protection from hawks and other predators, cats, eagles. My roosters help protect the flock along with the runs and coops that we have. Before worrying about decibels and worrying about the noise ordinances, take a look at the bigger picture. It is not about what is comfortable for you individually but about the community coming together. Do you know what I do with my eggs, I help feed my neighbors, they have kids, they have babies. So, if you reduce my flock and get rid of my roosters you are taking livelihood away from me, my children, and other people in this town.

Gary Jones, 995 Ridge Road commented that this is the thirtieth Council Meeting he has spoken in regard to the City's Deer Management Program. He will be making a fun presentation and asks everyone to keep an open mind. When you look at an internet listing for the City of Owatonna, the top three points of interest are the Louie Sullivan Bank, Mineral Springs Park, and the State School Museum. Now if there were a large number of pigeons sitting on the roof of the bank and in Central Park, and there is beginning to be a mess of pigeon droppings, would Park & Rec set up a hunting season with the DNR to allow you to make your own rules to reduce the number of pigeons? Could fifty people line up on top of bank with shotguns at any time to remove the pigeons? People would be concerned and ask how people can hunt there within the park. Think how ridiculous this sounds, deadly weapons in Central Park, hunting from the roof of our bank, it sounds ridiculous but that is what you are allowing in Mineral Springs Park, but you are just being quiet about it.

Chad Parrish, 558 East Academy Street commented he is strongly opposed to the proposed ordinance banning roosters in our city. While I understand the concerns that have been raised but I believe this ban is unnecessary and not fair and harmful to many

responsible residents. First let's recognize that roosters are an important part of sustainable farming and backyard poultry keeping. Many residents rely on roosters to maintain healthy flocks, fertilize eggs and protect hens from predators. Banning them outright punishes responsible animal owners who follow best practices for keeping their birds. Second concerns about noise can and should be addressed by reasonable regulations and not an outright ban just as you regulate barking dogs or loud music we can set reasonable guidelines for rooster care such as limiting the number per household, requiring proper enclosures or setting quiet hours. A blanket ban is an overreach as it unfairly targets a small segment of our community. Finally, this ordinance disproportionately affects people engaged in small scale farming, cultural traditions, and food independence. Many families, especially those from agricultural or immigrant backgrounds have kept roosters for generations as part of their way of life. Stripping them from that right without offering them fair alternatives is simply not the answer, I urge the council to consider a more balanced approach, one that addresses a more reasonable approach. let's work together for a solution that is respectful of our community's needs and our citizen's rights.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Council Member Dotson commented his support for the rooster ban was not very high, but acknowledged that enforcement will complaint based.

Council Member Boeke commented responsible owners respond and should know what is going on with their animals. It is common for council members to get calls because someone is not wanting to knock on their neighbor's door to complain. We get calls from constituents when they are upset. It is unfortunate it has come to this, but we have received too many calls.

Council Member Svenby thanked the leaders and members of the Boy Scout Troop 351 for attending tonight's meeting.

Council President Raney also thanked the Boy Scout Troop attending and commented that last week, City Administrator Busse announced her plans to retire in August. Staff are working with Human Resources Director Thamert as we prepare plans for her replacement.

At 8:24 p.m., Council Member Dotson made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Boeke seconded the motion and with no objection, the meeting ended.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Clawson, Administrative Coordinator