



# City of Clarkfield

## Minutes

3:00 PM Special Council Meeting

Friday, January 17, 2020

City Hall Meeting Room

904 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue – Clarkfield, MN 56223

A special meeting of the City of Clarkfield was called to order by Mayor Hendrickson at 3:00 PM, Friday, January 17, 2020, in the City Hall Meeting Room. Councilmembers present: Mayor Hendrickson, Councilmember Fritz, Councilmember Hedman, Councilmember Kaupang, and Councilmember Stringer Jr. Staff/Boards present: Amanda Luepke – City Administrator. Also, in attendance: various residents.

**1. CALL THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda by Councilmember Fritz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stringer Jr. Motion carried with all in favor.

**a. Additional to the Agenda: Action Item 9A – Consideration to Accept Petition**

~~**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**~~

~~**5. INVOICES PAYABLE**~~

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- a. **Naomi Peterson** approached the council regarding the west gym. She discussed that we need to look for other options. There is a group of individuals looking into grants and donations.
- b. **Jean Lynner** approached the council to discuss Clarkfield's history and the discuss the city saving the west gym. She stated that we need to continue our rich history.
- c. **Nathan Grengs** approached the council and stated we need to build up our community not tear it down. He stated that keeping the west gym would be a good investment into the community.
- d. **Pati Marquette** approached the council regarding her love for Clarkfield and time has ripped this community apart. We need to move forward by saving the west gym.
- e. **Gary Fritz** approached the council to ask if the west gym was saved what would it be used for. He stated a lot of people have come forward to help fix it, but with a price tag of \$175K to \$200K, can the individuals afford to.
- f. **Joan Longhenry** approached the council and stated this community has given her a life that people just don't get. There are big dreams for the west gym. She asked for an opportunity to do something with the west gym.
- g. **Brenda Risa** approached the council regarding the future of Clarkfield and the financial burden to taxpayers by keeping the west gym. The community has a school and a gym. She stated it doesn't make financial sense to keep the structure especially when there are other options in town.

~~**7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND CITY STAFF**~~

**8. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. **Old School Project:** There was discussion regarding the west gym. Councilmember Kaupang stated that this is a hard decision. The community has a school and a gym. The council is getting both sides and the council needs to make the right decision for the city. Councilmember Fritz stated that the council is elected to do what is best for the city. The petition is great and appreciated. The council cannot make rash decisions. The budget, levy, assessments need to also factor into decision making. Councilmember Stringer Jr stated that the council should give the individuals some time to put together a plan and finances. The petition is asking for time to prove. Councilmember Hedman stated that the petition has 150 signatures to save the west gym, but there are nearly 400 registered voters in the city. The council needs to look at the 10-year plan for the west gym.

**The City of Clarkfield is an equal opportunity employer and provider.**

**9. ACTIONS ITEMS**

- a. Consideration to Accept Petition:** Motion to accept the petition by Councilmember Stringer Jr, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mayor Hendrickson. Motion carried with all in favor.
- b. Consideration of Old School Project if a motion to reconsider is made:** Motion to reconsider the demolition by Councilmember Kaupang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Stringer Jr. Mayor Hendrickson requested a roll call request: Councilmember Kaupang, save; Councilmember Stringer Jr, save; Mayor Hendrickson, not save; Councilmember Fritz, not save; Councilmember Hedman, not save. Motion carried 3-2.

**10. ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn at 3:31 PM by Councilmember Hedman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilmember Fritz. Motion carried with all in favor.

**Respectively Submitted By: Amanda Luepke, City Administrator**