

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof Mayor Jake Mathison and PUC Chair Greg Ardner called to order the Special Joint meeting of the Mora City Council and Public Utilities Commission at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, July 18, 2023 in the City Hall council room.

2. **Roll Call:** City Council Present: Mayor Jake Mathison, Councilmembers Jody Anderson, Kyle Shepard and Dave Youngquist.  
Absent: Councilmember Sadie Broekemeier  
Public Utilities Commission Present: Chair Greg Ardner, Brett Baldwin and Ryan Christianson, Dave Chmiel, and Joe Heggernes.  
Staff Present: City Administrator / General Manager Glenn Anderson, Administrative Services Director Natasha Segelstrom, Public Works Director Joe Kohlgraf and Accountant Kelly Christianson
3. **Adopt Agenda:** Council MOTION made by Shepard, seconded by Anderson, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.  
PUC MOTION made by Baldwin, seconded by Heggernes, and unanimously carried to approve the agenda.
4. **Business Items:**
  - a. **2024 Budget Priorities:** Glenn Anderson and Natasha Segelstrom presented the 2024 Budget Priorities which included an 8% projected increase in Local Government Aid (LGA) and intended use to be used for property tax relief. It was further explained that the long-range financial plan from Ehlers Financial Advisors was still in progress and that would assist with any future projects. Consideration for specific projects and programs to include in the 2024 budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) included of the City operated Municipal Cannabis Store for retail sales. G. Anderson expanded on the recently pass law which allowed adult recreational use cannabis and the number of retail sales that must be permitted per Minnesota Law. It was further explained this would assist law enforcement compliance by establishing an ordinance that limited the number of retail sales within the City. It was further discussed the local governments would receive Local Cannabis Aid from the state once retail sales begin.

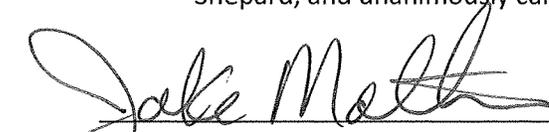
Additional items for consideration for the 2024 budget included the North Country Bottle Shop Maintenance for the exterior siding re-stain. Consideration of a pickleball court was discussed and whether additional courts were needed; future planning for Law Enforcement CIP items so there would not be a large increase when vehicles were scheduled for replacement. Consideration of contribution to the Kanabec County History Center was discussed and whether it was permitted. Segelstrom provided additional information from the State Auditor's office which permitted contributions for historical preservation. Further discussion on whether it was in the best interest of the taxpayers and that the levy for the Kanabec County History Center had failed during the 2022 elections as a ballot question. The Aquatic Center future CIP items were discussed and the aging infrastructure of the pool. The Council discussed a previous feasibility study for aquatic center improvements, American Disability Act (ADA) Compliance, and updating the pool. Previously there had been a pool committee, and it was determined

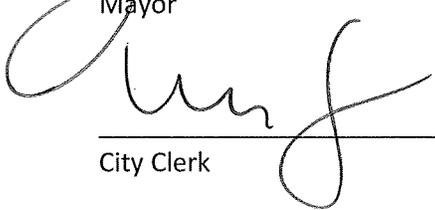
that the Park Board could look at the future planning for the aquatic center rather than another committee.

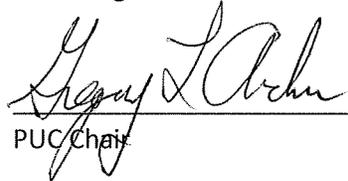
The council discussed the Fox Run Park project and resubmitting the grant application for future grant funding and allocating funds to meet the prospective grant requirements from the City.

**5. Reports:**

- a. **City Administrator / Utilities General Manager**- Nothing new to report.
  - b. **Public Works Director**- Provided an update on the electrical journeyman lineman recruitment and project updates with potholes and trees.
  - c. **Commissioner Baldwin**- Nothing new to report.
  - d. **Commissioner Christianson**- Nothing new to report.
  - e. **Commissioner Chmiel**- Nothing new to report.
  - f. **Commissioner Heggernes** - Nothing new to report.
  - g. **Chair Ardner**- Suggested a warning siren near the school be included in the upcoming budget to ensure the siren could be heard.
  - h. **Councilmember Anderson**- Asked the tax increase from the current budget.
  - i. **Councilmember Broekemeier**- Absent
  - j. **Councilmember Shepard**- Nothing new to report.
  - k. **Councilmember Youngquist** - Nothing new to report
  - l. **Mayor Mathison**- Nothing new to report.
- 6. Adjournment** PUC MOTION made by Christianson, seconded by Chmiel, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:03PM. Council MOTION by Youngquist, seconded by Shepard, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:03PM.

  
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Mayor

  
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City Clerk

  
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PUC Chair