



**HAMBURG CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2022**

Mayor Lund called the Hamburg City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were: Councilmembers Jason Buckentin, Eric Poppler, Tim Tracy and Jessica Weber, City Clerk Jeremy Gruenhagen, Deputy Clerk Tamara Bracht, Public Works Brandon Bracht and City Attorney Kelly Dohm. Residents in attendance were Ray Bracht, Cam Bracht, Mike Ashman, Brittney Ashman. Brad Droege, Mitch Polzin, Mike Buckentin, Karen Buckentin, Daton Weber, Russ Schneewind, Lori Schneewind, Kipp Trebesch, Jason Mackenthun, Amy Mackenthun, Trule Mackenthun, Emma Gruenhagen, Heather Feltmann, and Steven Siewert.

Public Comment – No Public Comment

**Agenda Review (Added Items) and Adoption**

**MOTION: Councilmember Tim Tracy moved to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Councilmember Jessica Weber. Motion was approved by all members present.**

**Consent Agenda**

- Approve Added Claims List for September (\$55,442.57)
- Approve Time-Off Request (Jeremy Gruenhagen)
- Deputy Clerk Activity Project List

**MOTION: Councilmember Jason Buckentin moved to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler, and approved by all members present.**

**2023 Preliminary Budget**

- 2023 Proposed Tax Levy and Budget and set Proposed Property Tax Levy/Preliminary Budget for 2023
  - Discussion to remove 1 ton truck, dump trailer and lawnmower, and various other items/tools removes \$90,000 from the budget.
  - Set Public Comment Meeting for Final 2023 Budget on December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
    - **MOTION: Councilmember Jason Buckentin moved to set the Public Comment Meeting for the Final 2023 Budget on December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler. Motion was approved by all members present.**
  - Approve Resolution Number 2022-12 (2023 Preliminary Tax Levy)
    - **MOTION: Councilmember Tim Tracy moved to approve Resolution 2022-12 setting the Preliminary Tax Levy for 2023 at \$601,109, 10% increase. Seconded by Councilmember Jessica Weber. Motion**



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**was approved by all members present.**

**City Council Reports**

- Councilmember Jason Buckentin (Streets) had nothing to report.
- Councilmember Eric Poppler (Parks) had nothing to report.
- Councilmember Jessica Weber (Buildings) had nothing to report.
- Councilmember Tim Tracy (Water/Sewer) had nothing to report.
- Mayor Chris Lund – Starting in October 2022 move Mayor’s In Time to first Monday every month 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Tamara Bracht requested an Open Meeting to discuss allegations made against her. Council moved to the Open Session of the meeting to consider allegations against Tamara Bracht pursuant to Minnesota State Statute Section 13D.05, Subd, 2(b) that requires the meeting to be held in an open session based upon her request that it be open.**

Councilmembers reviewed scope of internal investigation that took place on or about September 8, 2022 regarding personnel and public complaints against Tamara Bracht. Personnel Committee explained that it conducted a thorough investigation of relevant witnesses of personnel and public complaints against Tamara Bracht.

Councilmembers discussed the issues and dynamics of family members, involved that were current employees. Council discussed how to handle the situation and the possibility to refer the matter to the Personnel Committee to review. Council also discussed the possibility of actions to be taken based on the allegations presented against Tamara Bracht. Decision was made to hold off on making any final decision(s) until after the closed meeting(s) take place of the other employees Brandon Bracht and Jeremy Gruenhagen.

**Mayor Chris Lund moved to close the Council Meeting at 7:58 p.m. pursuant to Minnesota State Statute Section 13D.05, Subd. 2(b) to consider preliminary considerations of allegations against Brandon Bracht and Jeremy Gruenhagen. Seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler. Motion was approved by all members present.**

**Council moved to Reopen the City Council Meeting at 9:53 p.m.**

No action was taken against Deputy Clerk Tamara Bracht.



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**MOTION:** Mayor Chris Lund moved that disciplinary action is warranted against Brandon Bracht in the form of involuntary termination of employment, and that pursuant to the city's personnel policies Brandon Bracht be placed on an immediate unpaid 5-day suspension effective until October 3, 2022, on which date his involuntary termination of employment would be effective for the following reasons: 1) failure to adequately perform essential job duties as determined to be performed by the city council; 2) inability to get along with all of his co-workers; 3) inability to get along with some of the city council members; 4) inability to get along successfully with some members of the public; and 5) inability to follow directives from supervisors and city council members. Seconded by Councilmember Jason Buckentin. Motion was approved by all members present.

No action was taken against City Clerk Treasurer Jeremy Gruenhagen.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Jason Buckentin moved to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 9:56 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Eric Poppler. Motion was approved by all present.

Amended/Approved on February 28, 2023

  
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Jeremy Gruenhagen  
City Clerk/Treasurer

