1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Wallen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Council Members present: Seth Hansen, Rose Johnson, Paul Knier, and Mike Wallen. Council Member absent: Dick Backlund. Also present: Finance Director Deb Wegeleben, City Clerk Gina Wolbeck, Community Development Director Hanna Klimmek, Public Works Director Mike Goebel, City Engineer Layne Otteson, Police Chief Joel Scharf, and Liquor Store Manager Greg Zurbey.

3. **PROPOSED AGENDA**

Council Member Knier motioned to adopt the proposed agenda as presented. Seconded by Council Member Johnson, unanimous ayes, agenda adopted.

4. **BUSINESS**

4A. **Freedom Rock at Veteran’s Memorial Park Presentation**

Karen Blake and Linda Paulson, representatives from the Veteran's Memorial Phase II Committee presented information on the installation of a Freedom Rock at Veteran’s Memorial Park. The goal of the rock is to tell Veteran’s stories through a mural painting. Benefits of having a Freedom Rock in the Big Lake community would be media exposure, providing a tourist attraction, and fundraising opportunities. Blake and Paulson reviewed a breakdown of the artist fees and other costs associated with this type of project, and reviewed the project timeline which most likely wouldn’t occur until 2021. The Big Lake Beyond the Yellow Ribbon committee has created a committee to continue discussions on the possible design and install of a Freedom Rock. Paulson informed Council that the project would qualify for a Central MN Arts Board grant, and Public Works Director Mike Goebel has offered to apply for other grants. It was also noted that the committee has some connections to possibly secure a large boulder that could be used for the mural. Blake and Paulson informed Council that the Committee will most likely ask the City to front the costs and use donations and grants to pay back the fund over time.

Council Member Johnson asked what the projected cost of a boulder would be, and if a specific location has been chosen yet. Paulson explained that they don’t know specifics at this point as to the cost of the boulder, but the Committee is hoping to place the monument to the south of the main Veteran’s Memorial monument. Mike Goebel indicated that Public Works staff and the Parks Advisory Board will determine the final location based on what area would best work for the weight of a large boulder.
Mayor Wallen acknowledged that as a Veteran, he feels this project would be a tremendous tribute. Discussion was held that the goal would be to get the boulder donated, and that maintenance costs would be minimal unless vandalism occurs. Blake noted that there is a sealant that can be used to help with vandalism. Council Member Knier stated that he thinks we can get this project done without using public funds.

The general consensus of the Council was that the City supports the project moving forward.

4B. Computer Replacement Schedule Review

Deb Wegeleben reviewed the City computer replacement schedule put together by the Sherburne County Sheriff’s Office IT Department. Currently the City has 21 computers that are utilizing Windows 7 which will not be supported after 2020 and will need to be replaced. The County’s recommendation is that the City replace 10 right now, another 11 in 2020, and then get on a system of replacing 10 per year. This will have the replacement on a four year replacement schedule. Wegeleben reviewed a breakdown of costs associated with the planned replacement schedule noting that going forward, the City should budget $15,000 annually to the computer fund to fulfill the replacement schedule as recommended by the IT consultants. The replacement costs for 2019 is $11,800 which would be funded in the Computer CIP Fund.

Council Member Knier stressed that we should be keeping computers as long as we can. Staff noted that an evaluation will be done by the IT consultants on a case by case basis.

The general consensus of the Council was to utilize funds in the Computer CIP Fund for the replacement of computers per the direction of the IT consultants on a case by case basis.

4C. Recreation Coordinator Position Summer Hours Update

Hanna Klimmek discussed hours designated to the Recreation Coordinator position. The Personnel Committee has recommended that the position hours be increased from 27 hours to up to 35 hours during the busy summer months. The position is still included in the 2019 budget as full-time so the increase in hours will not negatively impact the budget.

Mayor Wallen expressed that he has been coordinating some events with Corrie and knows she has been working more than 27 hours per week which is a liability to the City if we aren’t paying her for her hours worked.

Council Member Knier stated that he fully understands how hard she works, but questioned why we are reevaluating her hours after we recently voted to keep her part-time. Deb Wegeleben reviewed permanent part-time employment regulations, noting that there are no issues with temporarily increasing a positions hours.

4D. New Ideas Discussion
Council Member Knier discussed a recent email he received from a resident proposing a citizen led organization to create a bee boulevard. Clay Wilfahrt noted that this topic has been talked about at staff level and is currently under review. This item could possibly be brought to Council sometime in July. Mike Goebel reminded Council that the City hosts a Pollinator Day at McDowall Park every year.

5. **OTHER** – No other.

6. **ADJOURN**

Council Member Hansen motioned to adjourn at 5:26 p.m. Seconded by Council Member Knier unanimous ayes, motion carried.

Gina Wolbeck                  07/10/19
City Clerk                    Date Approved By Council