1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Eidinger called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
Mayor Eidinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Deputy Mayor Steve Cope, Mayor Daryl Eidinger, Councilmember Donna O' Rapez, Councilmember Paul Crowley, Councilmember Luke Meyers, Councilmember Stephanie Shook, Councilmember Tyrone Christopherson.

**Staff Present:** City Manager Mark Bauer, Assistant City Manager Eric Phillips, Interim Assistant City Manager Becky Hasart, Acting City Clerk Jane Montgomery, Police Chief Ed Knutson.

2. **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

A. **Discussion- Council/Mayor Compensation.**

Mayor Eidinger began the discussion on the agenda item. He asked Council if they wanted to separate out the discussion of the Mayor's compensation from City Councilmember's compensation. The Council chose to start the discussion on the topic of councilmember's compensation.

There was discussion between staff and Council about a possible range. City Manager Bauer informed Council that the average compensation for City Councilmembers in similarly sized City's is $563. Some factors that Council discussed to form a basis for Council compensation were:

- Average compensation
- Duties of a Council in a strong Mayor form of government.
- Impact on the City Budget
- Philosophy of service to the community

Assistant City Manager Hasart discussed the impact on the budget for the possible options in the range. There was further discussion between staff and Council.

Council then discussed a possible range for Mayor's compensation. City Manager Bauer informed Council that the average compensation for Mayors in similarly sized cities is $1300. Some factors that Council discussed to form a basis for the Mayor's compensation were:

- Average compensation
- Duties of a strong Mayor
- Impact on the City Budget
- Active Mayors/Successful cities

Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance for the next council meeting that cited $500 for Councilmember's compensation and $1,300 for Mayor's compensation.
B. Vegetation Control for Nelson Farm Property.

City Manager Bauer briefed the Council on a proposal to allow sheep at Nelson Farm Property to control vegetation. The proposal came from an agricultural teacher at Sumner High School. The sheep are part of the teacher's curriculum at Sumner High School. City Manager Bauer informed the Council that any such agreement would come with requirements that ensured no liability on the part of the City. There was additional discussion between Council and staff. Council directed City Manager Bauer to pursue the proposal.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Christopherson reminded Council of the Event for Milton Police Officers on February 4th.

City Manager Bauer informed Council that he had met with the Utility Operations Manager of Cherrywood Mobile Home Park. There may be a case made for updating how Cherrywood is assessed for stormwater/sewer taxes. City Manager Bauer would like to make this a topic at a future Council meeting.

Councilmember Cope would like to discuss an additional Police Officer position at the next Council Study session. City Manager Bauer informed him that staff would not be able to prepare for that discussion until the third study session in March.

Mayor Eidinger asked if staff is working actively to fill the Administrative Assistant position currently held by Julie Bennett who is retiring. City Manager Bauer discussed the challenge of recruiting for this position while at the same time transitioning to new permitting software. Assistant City Manager Hasart briefed Council on the timelines for the recruitment, new permitting software, and updating job descriptions and duties.

3. ADJOURN

Mayor Eidinger adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.

Jane Montgomery, Acting City Clerk

Daryl Eidinger, Mayor