Regular City Council Meeting

**09-08-21**

Mayor Opdahl called the meeting to order at 7pm

Present: Mayor Opdahl, Lyle Kovar, Drew Madler, Tom Gorek, Breann Krebs, Chris Fitterer

Excused: None

Motion by Lyle, seconded by Tom to approve the August 2021 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Mayors Report

Parking on 12th Street by the school (from McKenzie to Main Street) on the south side of the road has become a hazard because of the parking that was implemented with the new addition to the school. The hazard starts when people park on the North side of 12th Street. The parking on the North side of the street is not diagonal so when people back out they could be backing up too far which would create a hazard on the South side of 12th Street. Motion by Drew, seconded by Tom to approve having no parking on the South side of 12th Street from McKenzie to Main Street. The city will paint the curb yellow and put no parking signs on the boulevard. Motion carried.

The gate at the school on 13th Street will be closed during the school hours only.

Street & Lights

Chunks of asphalt and chip sealing may be coming up in spots. Clarence will check on the areas to make sure it isn’t the pavement.

Zimmerman Contracting was contacted regarding crack sealing. We will be put on the list, however there is no guarantee the crack sealing will be done this year. If we cannot fit into their schedule this year, we will be on the list to have the crack sealing done in the spring.

Water & Sewer

Engineer’s Report

Phase IV

10 month warranty walk-through was completed in August. Punch list and defective work items given to contractor to complete. There was some defective work discovered. A temporary coupler was found in a sewer service. BEK will have to tear up the street and fix the sewer line. There is cement at the school that needs to be fixed. The contractor is in process of completing the punch list items. Retainage around $50,000 is being held at this time.

Motion by Drew, seconded by Breann to approve contractor’s payment #7. Motion carried.

Phase 5 -Street Replacement

10 month warranty walk-through was completed in August. Punch list and defective work items given to contractor to complete.

Motion by Breann, seconded by Drew to approve Invoice 27844 for $2,635 to Moore Engineering. Motion carried.

Moore Engineering explained that they have sent in the questionnaires for the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund. This gets us on a priority list for low interest loans and or a grant for loan forgiveness. Moore Engineering submits them every year for the City of New England.

Buildings & Grounds

We did get the dishwasher from the school and there is only one place to put it at the Memorial Hall because of where the sewer is located, and B&K Electric quoted a price to rewire the dishwasher for around $2,700.00. There may have to be some construction done as well. For as many times as it will be used, the council sees no need for a dishwasher at the Memorial Hall. The play committee will pay for an outlet for their sound system. They will also pay for some rewiring for lighting and the cost of sound board equipment improvement.

Equipment Committee

Nothing to report

Ordinance Committee

Tom discussed race cars and how it pertains to our ordinances. Many of our ordinances are state law and this city ordinance is in century code as well. A resident came to our last meeting to discuss his race car. The council agreed that the Mayor will send a letter to this resident with the ordinance, and to let them know they are in violation of the ordinance.

Auditors Report

Motion by Breann, seconded by Lyle to approve the following bills for payment. Motion carried.

8/2/2021 14196 NE Library State Aid -441.34

8/10/2021 14197 NE Park Board Revenue Sharing -2,834.67

8/14/2021 14198 MDU Utilities -3,258.35

8/14/2021 14199 NE Lions Ad in Calendar -35.00

8/14/2021 14200 NDSWRA Dues -90.00

8/14/2021 14201 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance -2,059.47

8/14/2021 14202 Helena Chemical Chemical -90.00

8/14/2021 14203 Fitterer Oil Battery -325.32

8/14/2021 14204 Virtuoso Leidholm Consulting LLC Website Maintenance -250.00

8/14/2021 14205 GS Publishing Minutes -378.34

8/14/2021 14206 Barry Brentrup Reimburse Skunk Traps -312.80

8/14/2021 14207 NE Community Grocery Store Supplies -21.95

8/14/2021 14208 City Of Dickinson Landfill Charges -1,579.20

8/14/2021 14209 Consolidated Ambulance Phone -54.51

8/14/2021 14210 Consolidated City Hall Phone -373.62

8/14/2021 14211 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -989.10

8/14/2021 14212 AFLAC Insurance -523.82

8/14/2021 14213 One Call Concepts Call Tickets -18.00

8/14/2021 14214 VISA 8078 Repairs -506.44

8/14/2021 14215 Visa 1864 Supplies -1,032.09

8/14/2021 14216 Aramark Rug Cleaning -121.22

8/14/2021 14217 Tri County Parts -440.34

8/19/2021 14222 Southwest Water Authority Monthly Water -14,043.68

Motion by Drew, seconded by Tom to approve the Pledge of Securities from American Bank Center. Motion carried.

Zoning Commission

Nothing to report

Old Business

The property cleanup letters have worked for a majority of the residents we have sent them to. However, there are a few that are not in compliance. One suggestion was to put fines on first then they can be waived. If an extension letter is submitted then no fine will be administered. Fines can be retroactive if they don’t finish by the extension. Motion by Breann, seconded by Drew to approve sending letters with fines for those who have not cleaned up their property. Motion carried.

What the city has started has been successful and this will be an ongoing process.

New Business

Discussed the open city council position. There is a person that is interested and his name is Mike Grote. This position will be up at the next election as well. Motion by Tom, seconded by Breann to appoint Mike Grote to the open city council position. Motion carried.

The City Council gave permission for all street closings and trailer parking for the Wheat Harvest Jamboree.

Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to approve the Special Liquor Permits for McKenzie Mercantile and The Golden West Bar. Motion carried.

Matt Krebs was present to discuss the gate valve that was put on the water line going to the old water tower. He feels that the city should have informed him before they put the gate valve in. The city has an easement, however communication that we were putting the gate valve in with the land owner would have been appropriate. The box is put down 18 inches and Matt would like this put down further. We will make sure it gets put down further. We will fix the fence as well.

Council Comments

None

Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to adjourn. Motion carried.

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Mayor City Auditor