Regular City Council Meeting

**7-5-22**

Mayor Kovar called the meeting to order at 7pm

Present: Tom Gorek, Breann Krebs, Mike Grote, Chris Fitterer, Rex Fitch

Excused: None

Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to approve the June 2022 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Mayors Report

A resident would like to park a camper for the summer on someone’s property. A conditional permit would be required. The Zoning Commission requests that they stay in the trailer park if there is room. They would have to apply for a conditional use permit first then the City Council would approve or disapprove the application of the conditional use permit.

There was a request from a citizen to block off a street for a block party on the 4th of July weekend. The Mayor approved it as we have approved it in the past.

Lyle Kovar’s City Council positon is vacant. We do not need to rush into a decision at this time to appoint a new council member. The Mayor would like to keep yards clean in New England. There are a few yards where grass needs to be cut.

Water & Sewer

Nothing to report

Street & Lights

Nothing to report

Buildings & Grounds

Nothing to report

Equipment

Motion by Chris, seconded by Breann to put Rex on the equipment portfolio. Motion carried.

Ordinance

Tom asked to re-visit the fireworks ordinance. A suggestion of his was to delete the last days in June for shooting off fireworks. There were places that were not cleaned up and the city does have an ordinance that says fireworks need to be cleaned up within 24 hours. Next year we need to get information out to residents on the cleaning up of the fireworks. The council had a consensus to keep things the way they are concerning fireworks. Tom said there is a possibility he will get a petition to try and make changes.

Discussed having a code enforcer. We need to talk to our City Attorney on the process of appointing or having a code enforcer.

Zoning Commission

The Zoning Commission has developed a tree and shrub ordinance. Some bushes need to be trimmed on some corners.

Auditors Report

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

7/14/2022 14638 MDU Utilities -3,435.42

7/14/2022 14639 Edward H Schwartz Construction Blade Dirt Streets -386.00

7/14/2022 14640 NE Library June Taxes -91.64

7/14/2022 14641 NE Cemetery Taxes -10.71

7/14/2022 14642 Special Assessment Deficiency Specials 2-35 -710.36

7/14/2022 14643 Special Assessment Deficiency City Share -99.65

7/14/2022 14645 Special Assessment Deficiency Street 3-35 -7,514.21

7/14/2022 14646 Special Assessment Deficiency Water & Sewer 4-35 -4,862.51

7/14/2022 14647 One Call Concepts Call Tickets -3.90

7/14/2022 14648 City Of Dickinson Landfill Charges -1,894.00

7/14/2022 14649 Tri County LLC Gasket and cartridges -51.84

7/14/2022 14650 Consolidated City Hall Phone -378.05

7/14/2022 14651 Consolidated Ambulance Phone -51.83

7/14/2022 14652 Southwestern Dist. Health Unit Water Samples -60.00

7/14/2022 14653 Butler Primary & secondary element -109.13

7/14/2022 14654 GS Publishing Minutes -210.00

7/14/2022 14655 Southwest Water Authority Monthly Water -11,926.69

7/14/2022 14656 Helena Agri- Enterprises LLC Chemical for Spraying -247.50

7/14/2022 14661 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -1,453.75

There are 46 houses or businesses that do not have a number on them. The City Auditor will send out letters requesting that numbers be put on houses and businesses.

Old Business

None

New Business

Cliff Stecher was at the meeting representing Kunze Township. They are re-graveling the road North of Slope Electric. This is the responsibility of Kunze Township and not the City of New England. It was the city’s intention to do the township and city gravel roads where they intersect at the same time. The City of New England has not been able to get the concrete at the landfill crushed. We will contact Schwartz Construction again to see if they are getting the crusher to come to New England.

Motion by Tom, seconded by Breann to appoint Jason Jung as City Auditor. Motion carried.

Motion by Chris, seconded by Mike to not appoint a single City Engineer and choose an Engineer on an as needed basis. Motion carried.

Motion by Chris, seconded by Breann to appoint Jordan Selinger as our City Attorney. Motion carried.

Motion by Rex, seconded by Mike to appoint Breann Krebs as President of the City Council. Motion carried

Motion by Chris, seconded by Rex to appoint Tom Gorek as Vice President of the City Council. Motion carried.

The roof at City Hall is leaking. Will get two bids for the roof repair and go from there.

Discussed the fact that MDU has a pavement break in town and they will be doing more as they replace gas lines to residences. The city does have ordinances regarding pavement breaks. The Auditor will contact MDU to make them aware of our ordinances.

Motion by Chris, seconded by Breann to keep portfolio members the same and add Rex to equipment. Motion carried.

Council Comments

Chris discussed that he has a renewed interest in the revamping the Golf Course. He has a person who will be helping him write grants to help get the golf course revamped.

Chris wanted to complement LuAnn Dart of The Herald on how the paper has evolved since she has taken over and that she is doing a great job.

Discussed the 4 way stop South of the Post Office and the council agreed to leave things as they are.

The Auditor read a letter from the New England Lions Club thanking the city for the use of the Memorial Hall for their events and fundraisers.

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

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Mayor City Auditor