

## CITY OF MERCER MINUTES

JULY 16, 2015

Mayor Kathy Schon called meeting to order with council members Randy Zinke, Joe Jerkovich, and Allan Laib, Mark Johnson and A.J. Tuck, Ulteig Engineer, Lynn Oberg, McLean County Water Board and Marlene Wardner, auditor.

Jane Tesch was wondering if it was okay to bring in a portable 12x 32 new building instead of building a 16 x 24 shed. It has the same square footage so council approved doing so. Tesch's are also wondering where there is plat maps. City does not have any and Ulteig engineering stated that discuss with your neighbor where boundaries should be and pound in a stake for boundary lines.

Chet and Elaine Faudskaar were present to inform council that when the company that did the hole boring drove over a lot grass and hay and matted it down; and there is holes yet and broken boards. Ulteig Engineering stated they did receive an easement to go on land but if there is any damages send a bill and we will compensate owners.

Previous minutes read and Randy made a motion to approve and seconded by Allan. Motion carried.

Allan asked if anyone is behind on their city utilities. Auditor stated as of now everyone is up to date with their payments but it is not due until July 20. Effective July 20, 2015 there will be a penalty of \$20.00 assessed to utilities if anyone is 2 months behind on paying. Still working with a few people to get their dogs licensed.

Randy made a motion to accept financial report. Joe seconded and motion carried.

Allan made a motion to pay bills seconded by Randy and motion carried. We are also to pay Ray Murray \$100 for storing tractor and Towner \$500 for new pressure tank.

Lewis and Clark is having a meeting August 5, 2015 in Bismarck to see if we qualify for handicap grant.

Cash Wise grocery is interested in having a grocery store in our town. We need to find a real estate company to write a commercial development proposal for a grocery store.

Chesters bar and lounge filled out a building permit to refurbish their building and mayor checked with council members and received a verbal okay for them to get started before our meeting. Allan made a motion to accept building permit and Randy seconded, motion passed.

No one has turned in a petition to run for mayor or councilperson for the positions that are being recalled. League of Cities informed us that we still have to hold the election because of write in candidates. Election will be held September 22, 2015.

Standards committee started on Saturday July 11, 2015, those present that day were, Amanda Presser, Jason Meidinger and Darren Murray. Many others were asked and nobody wanted to be on this committee.

Tving of the sewers is to start Monday July 27, 2015. So council will try to locate manhole covers to get them opened. Council would appreciate help from anyone in town to do this, since it will save the city money.

One proposal for a lift station would be a PTO lift station driven by a PTO on a tractor. The council would like a proposal for a regular lift station. They stated they would like to get away from running a tractor because of fuel issues.

There was no readable PSI on meter to test fire hydrants in order to meet State standards level it must read 20 PSI.

Lynn Oberg visited with council about Rural Water. That we might have to invest in a new holding tank and building as of now the state would like to see a separate room for chemicals. And other cities have a holding tank and buy bulk water from Rural Water and at the moment it is \$3.45 per thousand gallons. At present we have about 84 people and 200 parcels that receives water. Engineers can get a survey on what other communities pay. It would also be nice to put in water meters for every household and then we could share a census meter reader with another community and everyone would get a bill each month and there would no reason why people are late in paying their utilities.

Engineers would like us to establish an assessment committee which would be different than a standards committee. They would report back to Engineers that work has been done. A standards committee could not be a council member.

Need to get a contract with an on call service company. Survey all things in proposal for designing water system and where water main is going to go.

Lynn Oberg stated that a 24 x 40 building is easy to work above ground instead of below ground. State health department has a lot of new regulations. The lift station is meant to lower lagoon #2.

Joe made a motion to adjourn meeting and Allan seconded, motion passed.

Next meeting August 20, 2015; 7:00 P.M.

#### BILLS:

BHG (Newspaper)	\$178.00	Ray Murray	\$100.00
City of Towner	\$500.00	Rhonda Stradinger (MCC)	\$150.00
Darwin Saari	\$377.00	Rust Hardware (PARK)	\$59.48
Farmers Union Insurance	\$1,114.00	Sylvia Grosz (PARK)	\$ 24.41
Internal Revenue Service	\$328.95	Sylvia Grosz (PARK)	\$50.00
Hawkins	\$121.00	USPS (Box Rent)	\$114.00
Job Service	\$1.58	Waste Management	\$1,121.53
Marge Laib (MCC)	\$138.52	West River	\$88.88
McLean Electric	\$59.88	Willa Murray	\$101.58
Otter Tail	\$508.94		