

City of Mercer Minutes

December 18, 2018

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order with Council members Julie Wagner, Derek Fiedler and Randy Zinke. Also in attendance Ashley Fiedler, Auditor.

Councilmembers look over minutes. Wagner makes motion to approve minutes, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed. Zinke questioned why we are paying more for garbage than what we are getting for garbage. Auditor states there has been some confusion on the bills the last month, which is still being worked out. Board wants to table the Western Dakota Membership fee until more information is provided. Zinke makes motion to pay bills excluding the Western Dakota Energy. Wagner seconded it. Motion carried

Financials were reviewed. Fiedler makes motion to approve, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Old Business, the city received their second notice from Advanced cleaning regarding the cleanup in the Community Center. No word from the party responsible for the incident. Board feels Advanced Cleaning bill should be paid by person who is responsible for the incident, not the city. Wagner makes motion for Mayor Schatz to talk with city attorney for advice regarding Advanced cleaning bill for the MCC. Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

The land that the City Hall is on was never owned by the City before. The land was up for auction with the County due to previous owner and delinquent taxes. No one purchased the property, which mean the City now owns the property.

There was a property in town on Lot 13 and 14, south side of lot 15 which was up for County auction due to delinquent taxes and special assessments. That Property did not get purchased. Mayor Schatz is wondering if the town would like to purchase that property and keep it or sell it. Other option for the property would be for the city to refuse and the County can sell it to someone else. Zinke makes motion to let the property stay with county and they can sell it, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

Karen Zinke would like gaming permit for Poker tournament at Chester's, which funds the Bull Riding event at Brush Lake every year. Fiedler makes motion to approve gaming permit, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

Councilmember Wagner has had a few board members from the park board and MCC board come to her and ask what is expected from each board. Wagner feels we should sit down with them and get everyone on the same page. Maybe we could get someone from each board to come to the meetings and discuss how things should be handled. Councilmembers feels it's a good idea.

Wagner would like the board to go through a few City Ordinances at every meeting to make sure they are up to date, and so the board gets to know them better. Board feels it's a good idea to go through them. Auditor Fiedler will print out some ordinances every meeting that the board will go over.

There used to be a speed limit sign in town that was knocked down by the construction workers this summer. The sign can't be put back up until the board knows it was put up legally. Schatz can't find anything in minutes saying it was approved. The board feels that we should look into signs for all over town, not just one street. Board will do some more research on costs of signs.

A resident in town made a shelter for a local food pantry, and didn't want to put it in front of their property so they contacted the Baptist Church in Mercer to just put it on their property. This pantry does not belong to the Church, it's for the City. It's for anyone who needs it. Zinke makes motion to approve building permit for food pantry, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Mayor Schatz needs input on the upcoming Sewer Project. Board members haven't heard any negative input on the sewer project. The new sewer fee would be \$18 instead of \$10, which will be on the January bill. Auditor will send out a letter to residents with this information. Fielder makes motion to go ahead with sewer project and to start charging the \$18 a month, Wagner seconded motion. Motion carried

McLean Sheridan will do the city water testing for \$100 a month. Then the City won't have to have someone get certified and worry about all the testing. Mayor will call McLean Sheridan Rural Water to see if they are still on board with doing the samples for \$100 a month.

Fiedler makes motion to adjourn meeting, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills To Pay

1. BHG - \$89.16
2. McLean Sheridan Water - \$1,621.37
3. Waste Management - \$1,203.70
4. McLean Sheridan Rural Water - \$147.82
5. League of Cities - \$40
6. ND Chemistry Lab - \$51.79
7. ND Job Service - \$109.73 (quarterly)
8. WRT - \$ 176.44
9. Department of Health - \$16
10. OtterTail - \$882.87
11. Taxes - \$4.51
12. Western Dakota Energy - \$200.00