

City of Mercer Minutes

January 17, 2019

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

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

Finances were reviewed by council members. Zinke questions why there has to be \$26,000 in the Sewer fund. Zinke makes motion to take \$10,000 out of sewer fund and put it towards 6 month CD, Fiedler seconds it. Motion carried.

Wagner makes motion to approve Finances, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed. Fiedler makes motion to approve bills, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

The city is paying more for Waste management than what we are getting in revenue. Auditor states that when residents are late on their bills they aren't paying their part of garbage so it shows it's not equal. Wagner makes motion to remove residents garbage cans if they are two months late. Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Mayor Schatz was contacted by Mrs. Christensen and she is no longer interested in running the Mercer Market during the summer. Mayor Schatz is wondering if we want to drop the Market or if someone would like to take it over this summer. Board member Fiedler suggested we get a packet together and see if anyone would be interested in taking it over before we decide to no longer hold the Mercer Market.

If anyone is interested in running the Mercer Market contact the City of Mercer.

After noticing the size of the food pantry "building" in front of the Mercer Baptist church, Wagner doesn't feel they needed a building permit and the \$10 should be refunded. Board agreed. Zinke makes motion to refund \$10 for building permit, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

Council member Wagner thought maybe the city should consider charging sales tax. Fiedler suggests finding what other cities are charging for city tax. Board will table subject till more information is available.

Board agrees we need to move forward on getting the Advanced Bill paid by responsible party. Mayor Schatz will contact city Attorney to take the next step.

Letters were sent out regarding the new sewer fee of \$18 a month, which will start on the bill you receive in February. Money will then be put in sewer payment fund just like we had to do for the water loan.

City received a letter from County Auditor stating resident Kathrin Volochenko would like to purchase a property that was up for bid due to delinquent taxes. Volochenko put a bid in at \$2,001. Zinke makes motion to approve the sale, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

Mayor Schatz feels the auditor should get a raise, at least \$15 an hour. Would like to take some of the wages out of the water fund as she handles the water bills. Council agrees and wants to make sure we can use those funds for wages. Subject is tabled until information received.

Wagner is wondering how much we pay the guys who are cleaning the streets or when they are doing other things for the city on their own time. As of right now we are not paying anyone to remove the snow, they are doing it all on their own time. Would be nice to know what other cities are paying their workers. Auditor and Mayor will do some checking on wages.

Board would like to start looking at ordinances and changing them if need be. However to inforce ordinances the city needs to have a city judge. Auditor will do some checking on if towns can share judges, and how much they get paid.

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

Next City meeting will be Monday, February 18, 2019 at 7:00 pm.