

City of Mercer Minutes November 21, 2019

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order at 7 pm with Council members Julie Wagner, Randy Zinke, Gary Volochenko, and Derek Fiedler. Also in attendance Ashley Fiedler, Auditor, AJ Tuck, Ulteig Engineer.

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

Finances were reviewed. Derek Fiedler makes motion to approve finances, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed by council. Zinke makes motion to pay bills except for K & L Bobcat and Hauling as contractor Scherbenske should be responsible for charges, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Fiedler yes, Wagner yes, Zinke yes, Volochenko yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Resident Charlene Lelm would like to know if the City has received any information regarding her property and the charges they paid to have the curb stop. Engineer Tuck received an e-mail saying that the charges could be reimbursed as long as the plumber was licensed with the plumbing board. Tuck and auditor Fiedler will work together to find out if they are licensed.

New Business:

Mayor Ron Schatz presented Auditor Ashley Fiedler with her Auditors Certification that was completed with League of Cities.

Rhonda Stradinger for Mercer Community Center was present to update on the community center. The MCC has been quite lately, there will be some events coming up in December, Santa Day is December 21st. The MCC board has been looking at expenses and need to change some things, they would like to have propane filled only when it's getting low not every other week to top it off. They will also be talking with the custodian of the MCC that she only needs to do the basics and doesn't need to deep clean every week. Which will save on hours she puts in. She would like the board to check the sidewalk and door of the community center when it snows so people can get it when wanted. Board will keep an eye on the sidewalk and keep it cleaned.

When resident Erika Lorenz moved onto her property she didn't have sewer or water lines to her property. In 2017 she came to the board and asked if they would provide those services, they denied her request and she had to pay for the services herself. She would like to know if she could be partially reimbursed for these charges as it should be city responsibility to provide residents for these services. Volochenko makes motion to reimburse Erika \$3,607.50, Zinke

seconded motion. Board did roll call vote – Fiedler yes, Wagner yes, Volochenko yes, Zinke yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Schatz, Auditor Fiedler, Ward Heidbreder from ND Rural Water Systems Association along with a few of his coworkers were in town checking meters and looking to see where we are losing water. The meters that were checked are all working as they should. It would be very time consuming to check every meter in town. Letter will be sent out to residents if they would like their meters checked. A leak was found in the city park that will be fixed.

Chester's Tavern would like to be opened on a Sunday for a private party. Volochenko makes motion to approve, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried

Engineer Tuck presented Pay Estimate 3 of \$74,869.03 for Weisz & Sons. Tuesday November 26, 2019 the lift station will be up and running. Fiedler makes motion to pay, contingent on Tuesday if the lift station is up and running, Wagner seconded it. Roll call vote – Fiedler yes, Wagner yes, Zinke no, Volochenko no, Mayor Schatz yes. Motion carried.

When McLean Sheridan was off line the pumps in Mercer were pumping back, wasn't working as a check valve. Weisz and Sons is purposing to put in a 6 inch check valve in the water building, which will prevent back flow. Will come out of loan and the cost would be \$3,410. Zinke makes motion to approve check valve, Volochenko seconded it. Roll Call vote – Volochenko yes, Zinke yes, Wagner yes, Fiedler yes. Motion carried.

With it becoming that time of year again city would like to discuss snow removal. Last year when the city removed snow by the Lutheran Church and piled it by the big tree in the front, which was where they've always put the snow. A few of our board members who remove snow were harassed by a resident. Mayor Schatz talked with Lutheran Church board member Matt Fischer and he stated, yes please continue to remove the snow and there is no problem with it being put by the tree. Board will continue to help out the church.

The city removes snow by resident Schlafmann's which is out of town, and Mayor talked with resident about paying for this service. Resident is very understanding and has no problem with paying for the service. Board suggested charging \$50 each time.

Board member Fiedler talked with the sheriff's department about getting information for a contract. For a year 212 hours, 30 minutes a day would be \$4,827.77. Board will table until next meeting.

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

Bills to Pay

Aileen (Judge) - \$237.25 – Quarter \$138.54 = \$375.79

Ashley Fielder \$923.50 (Council pay) – (Auditor courses) \$120

BHG- \$197.68

Derek Fiedler \$69.26

Gary Volochenko \$69.26

Hardware Hank - \$40.46

Julie Wagner \$69.26

K & L Bobcat and Hauling - \$2,400

McLean Sheridan Rural Water- (water) \$914.95 – (Billing) \$226.60

ND Department of Health - \$16

ND State Chemistry Lab - \$39.72

Otter Tail - \$ 580.39

Randy Zinke \$69.26

Ron Schatz \$138.52

RUD Oil – (MCC) - \$733.21 – (City) - \$552.47

Stamps – 2 rolls (city card) \$110

Ulteig - \$28,649.04 - \$1,480.00

Waste Management - \$1,232.21

Willa Murray – (park) \$30

WRT - \$176.99