

City of Mercer Minutes February 21, 2020

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order at 6 pm with Council members Randy Zinke, Gary Volochenko, Julie Wagner 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. Randy Zinke makes motion to approve finances, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed by council. Scherbenkse will pay K & L Bobcat half of the balance for the work they did back in October. Fiedler makes motion to pay bills except for Ulteig, Gary Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Fiedler yes, Zinke yes, Volochenko yes, Wagner yes. Motion carried to pay bills.

Volochenko makes motion to except SRF request 11 to pay Weisz and Sons for \$3,410, Wagner seconded it. Roll call vote: Zinke yes, Fiedler yes, Wagner yes, Volochenko yes. Motion carried

Old Business:

City is still looking for members to be a part of the Home Rule Committee, otherwise nothing new to report.

Ken Thomsen was present last meeting to discuss if he'd be willing to be the new city assessor. Thomsen would charge \$20,000 for a 4 year period to assess the town and get everyone's value up to date. Thomsen suggests the county take over as county assessor, council would need to call and find out how much it would cost for County to assess the town. Fiedler makes motion to have auditor call the County and get all necessary information, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Walter Lipp notified the Sheriff's department to collect the balance from Dave Presser regarding flooding in the Community Center last year.

New Business:

Northland Community Center would like a permit for a poker tournament to be held at Chester's Tavern on May 17, 2020. Wagner makes motion to approve permit, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Tina Goven from the Park committee stated the committee has started looking at quotes for the new equipment. They have been working with Larry from Williston on bids, as well as Dakota playground from Bismarck. In the bid besides the equipment will also be benches. The Committee was told it would be cheaper for the city to take down the old equipment when time comes, then to have contractors take it down. The Park Committee had their first fundraiser, Chili Cook off. They had 18 people sign up to compete, the event raised \$4,800. The Park committee will now be sending out letters to businesses to see if they'd like to donate to the new playground. The Committee would like to put up a couple of signs, one would a thermometer saying what needs to be raised and showing how much has been raised. Another sign would be if you donate \$500 or more your name, business, ranch logo would be put on the sign. That sign will stay up. Zinke makes motion to approve signs, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Council would like to know what CPA suggests for raising utilities or applying special assessments and how much the city should be looking at having to be safe. Council members will table discussion till CPA can give a better suggestion on how much we should collect.

Engineer AJ Tuck, and Ward from ND Rural Water Systems suggest the City purchase a pump that can help make sure the pipes are pumped out and not freezing up. The pump will cost about \$500, and will come from the grant. Fiedler makes motion to purchase pump, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Zinke yes, Volochenko yes, Fiedler yes, Wagner yes, motion carried.

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

Bills to Pay

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG - \$273.76

BND (interest and principal) - \$1,723.65

Bobcat (cc) - \$290.82

Cenex - \$ 1150.88 – (MCC) \$663.67

Derek Fiedler - \$69.26

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

Hardware Hank- (MCC) - \$20.99

Julie Wagner - \$69.26

K & L - \$1200

McLean Sheridan Water

– (Billing) \$226.60

– (Water) \$1,152.83

ND Department of Health - \$16

Ottertail - \$1,223.74

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Runnings (cc) - \$191.94

Ulteig - \$4,826.70

Walter Lipp (Easements) - \$990.80

Waste Management - \$1,260.82

Weisz & Sons - \$3,410

WRT - \$176.60