

City of Mercer Minutes

March 24, 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, AJ Tuck, Ulteig via conference call.

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

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

Bills were reviewed. Board discussed Ulteig invoice for \$5,401.70, council members don't feel Ulteig should be paid until issues in town are corrected. Issues involving Charlene Lelm's property that still haven't been corrected. Work still needs to be done in the city, finding water leaks, fixing the roads, resident's spigots. AJ Tuck stated the city has warranty till July, and those issues will be addressed from Scherbenske. Zinke makes motion to pay all bills except for Ulteig, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Fiedler yes, Zinke yes, Wagner yes, Volochenko yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Auditor Fiedler spoke with Attorney Walter Lipp about the bill for the Mercer Community Center and what Dave Presser still owes. Lipp stated he has notified the sheriff's office, Dave has till April 18th to pay the other half of the bill.

As of today there are only a few water accounts that are 60 days past due, their services have been turned off for some time now. All other water accounts are up to date.

CPA Harold had planned on attending the meeting regarding the audit that he has been working on, but with the weather and the new concerns of Covid-19 he had decided to not come tonight. He did suggest the board consider raising utilities. Right now the city isn't getting much revenue to pay for the loans we have from the water, sewer project. If the City raised utilities and used that amount towards the loan payments it would make a difference. Council member Zinke doesn't feels raising utilities would be the best option, as some people struggle paying what they are supposed to right now.

New Business:

Chester's Tavern would like to be open on Sunday's starting April 5, 2020 through the first Sunday of Deer Season, each year going forward. Zinke makes motion to approve Chester's request, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

The city received a contract from the county about them becoming our assessor for the city. The contract stated they would charge the city \$555 a year unless there are new improved parcels then it will increase. Board would like someone from the county to attend the next meeting to explain the contract more, before they make a decision. Contract will be tabled for now.

County sent a contract for joint power for the election on June 9, 2020. Fiedler makes motion to approve joint power contract, Wagner seconded it. Motion carried.

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

Bills to Pay

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG (Park) - \$190

Derek Fiedler - \$69.26

Erika Lorenz (Park-stamps) - \$26.40

Farmers Union (MCC) - \$1,038.89

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

Julie Wagner - \$69.26

McLean Sheridan Water

– (Billing) \$226.25

– (Water) \$1,047.19

ND Department of Health - \$16

OtterTail - \$1,186.74

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Rhonda Stradinger (MCC cleaning) - \$100

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Rusts Hardware (MCC) - \$9.49

Ulteig - \$4,826.70

Ulteig - \$5,401.70

Waste Management - \$1,260.82

Workforce Safety (Premium) - \$250.16

WRT -\$176.60