

City of Mercer Minutes

July 16, 2020

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with Council members Gary Volochenko, Ken Thomsen, Randy Zinke and Derek Fiedler. Also in attendance Ashley Fiedler, Auditor, AJ Tuck, Ulteig Engineer.

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

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

Bills were reviewed by Council Members. Volochenko makes motion to pay bills excluding Scherbenke bill, Fiedler seconded it. Roll call vote – Volochenko –yes, Thomsen-yes, Zinke-yes, Fiedler-yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Water payments for the month are looking good, and up to date.

Volochenko makes motion to have Waste Management do curbside clean up on August 13, 2020, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

New Business:

Council member Thomsen attended the park meeting, and the park committee would like to have their own account. The Park committee is applying for grants to help fund the new equipment, and it would be easier to show the income and expenses. Committee wants city to still be in charge of the account. Zinke makes motion to approve Park Committee to open their own savings account through the city, Thomsen seconded it. Motion carried.

Council member Fiedler spoke with 701 Dirtworks regarding quote to blade roads in town. He was told it would be \$110 an hour and roughly about 10 hours to blade the streets. Council decided it would probably be better to blade the roads after winter, however there are places in town that need gravel now, then blade those areas. Fiedler will talk to 701 Dirtworks and get quote for gravel and blading those areas.

Water loss for the month of June was 43%, 214,862 gallons. Council wants the issue fixed, it's been long enough with all the water loss. Zinke makes motion to amend motion for bills, and only pay McLean Sheridan for the usage and not for the water loss. Volochenko seconds motion. Roll Call – Volochenko –yes, Fiedler – yes, Zinke – yes, and Thomsen- yes. Motion carried.

With rates that were raised from McLean Sheridan that we are paying, the city needs to raise rates to make money to pay for the loan, and for the reserve accounts. Council members discuss raising it more now and not have to worry about it for a while. Ken Thomsen makes motion to raise base rate to \$53, raise per thousand rate by 30%, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Ulteig Engineer, Tuck presented change order 3 for Weisz & Sons of negative \$6,225. There was overruns on concrete, as well as things that didn't need to be put in. This change order would make project 100% complete. Fiedler makes motion to approve change order, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Tuck also presented pay estimate #5, final pay estimate for Weisz & Sons of \$19,436.10. There hasn't been anything new done. The \$19,436.10 is the retainage amount we have been holding till the project has been finished. The projects final walk through will be Friday July 17th at 11 am, which all council members need to be present to approve project. Warranty will begin after the final walk through, July 17, 2020, for one year. The project is \$70,000 under budget. Thomsen makes motion to approve pay estimate 5 of \$19,436.10, pending councilmembers approval at the walk through, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Volochenko-yes, Fiedler-yes, Zinke-yes, Thomsen-yes. Motion carried.

Erika Lorenz from the park committee was present to give update on the equipment project. Park has raised about \$10,000 towards the \$55,000 needed to replace the equipment. They have about another \$26,000 they will be requesting from difference sources by the end of the year. Park annual dinner will be august 8th at Chester's Tavern. Park would like a permit to have a 50/50 raffle at their annual dinner. Thomsen makes motion to approve raffle permit, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Our Saviors submitted a permit for their annual raffle held in October. Fiedler makes motion to approve permit, Thomsen seconded it. Motion carried.

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

Bills to Pay:

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50	ND Department of Health - \$16
BHG - \$280.29	OtterTail - \$972.10
Derek Fiedler - \$69.26	Randy Zinke - \$69.26
Erika Lorenz (park) - \$48.28	Ron Schatz - \$138.52
Farmers Union Oil - \$571.27(MCC) - \$453.32	Scherbenske - \$2,200
Gary Volochenko - \$69.26	Tom Brewster- \$40
IRS - \$641.88	Turtle Lake Farmers Union - \$307.69
Job Service - \$3.53	Waste Management - \$1260.85
K & L Bobcat - \$5,695.30	Willa Murray - \$67.50
Ken Thomson - \$69.26	Willa Murray (Park) - \$61.91
McLean County Auditor - \$61.50 (election costs)	WRT - \$177.14
McLean Sheridan Water- \$226.60 (billing) - \$2,153.90(water)	Wyatt Wagner - \$70