

City of Mercer Minutes October 15, 2020

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order at 7pm with Council members Gary Volochenko, Randy Zinke, Derek Fiedler, and Ken Thomsen. Also in attendance Ashley Fiedler, Auditor.

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

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

Bills were reviewed by council. Council made a motion a few months back to not pay McLean Sheridan for water loss. Council doesn't want to pay Scherbenske bill for \$2,200, as they dug up the wrong area. Volochenko makes motion to pay bills except for Scherbenske and for water loss to McLean Sheridan, Zinke seconded it. Roll call – Volochenko-yes, Zinke-yes, Fiedler-yes, Thomsen-yes. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Monthly water payments are pretty good for the month. The city has one resident with water off as they haven't paid for a few months. The city has sent a letter to another resident stating they have 10 days to pay water bill or they will be shut off.

New Business:

Rhonda Stradinger member of the MCC committee, would like to set up a saving account. MCC committee is applying for grants to be put towards their stereo system and they need to keep better track of what the grant money is used for. Thomsen makes motion to have MCC set up savings account, Volochenko seconded it.

Rhonda also stated possibly sending out letters regarding members to pay their membership as the gym code will be changed January 1, 2021. Council feels it would be a good idea to remind residents of memberships.

Councilmembers would like to discuss the McLean Sheridan line. Council would like to know why the City had to pay for a \$12,000 easement for a resident when McLean Sheridan owns the line. According to City attorney Mr. Lipp, he stated it was in the contract, when work is finished the line would be McLean Sheridan's. Council would like to get a second opinion from another attorney.

Park committee had a meeting recently would like to change their savings account to a checking account, as we only get statements every 3 months, and hard to keep up with all the donations. Thomsen makes motion to approve Park committee to change account to checking, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

A water leak was found on a resident's property. At this time it looks as if it's the resident's responsibility to fix the water leak, as it's before the curb stop on their property. There will be more information once the plumber comes up and looks at it. Thomsen makes motion to have plumber come dig and look for the leak, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Another leak was detected at a different residents. They need a high pressure water pump that hooks up to the hydrant that will help locate the leak better. We can rent the pump from Fergusons and employees from ND Rural water Association will be here to help locate leak. The City will have to pay for the rental of the pump. Council is fine moving forward to locate leak.

There are 3 residents that are 6 plus months behind on their water bills. Fiedler makes motion to apply those bills to their property taxes, Thomsen seconded it. Roll call: Zinke – yes, Thomsen – yes, Fiedler – yes, Volochenko-yes. Motion carried.

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

Bills to Pay

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG - \$190.37

Derek Fiedler - \$69.26

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

IRS (quarterly) - \$641.88

Ken Thomsen - \$69.26

McLean Sheridan Rural Water
(billing) \$226.95
(water) \$961.27

ND Chemistry Lab - \$251.58

ND Department of Health - \$16

ND Job service (quarterly) - \$3.36

Otter Tail - \$763.20

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Robi's Repair - \$1,917.25

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Rust's Hardware – (MCC) \$47.99

Scherbenske - \$2,200

Tonya Wellington (MCC) - \$180

Turtle Lake Farmers Union - \$12.27

Waste Management - \$1,260.85

West River - \$177.19