

City of Mercer Minutes November 19, 2020

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

Councilmembers look over minutes. Derek Fiedler makes motion to approve minutes, Ken Thomsen 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 will not pay Scherbenske bill, as we have found a few leaks that need to be fixed. Thomsen makes motion to pay bills except for Scherbenske bill for \$2,200, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Fiedler – yes, Zinke-yes, Volochenko-yes, Thomsen-yes. Motion carried

Old Business:

Water payments for the month as of now are pretty good. The City has 5 residents who are 60 plus days past due, and their water is turned off.

Scherbenske bill is still outstanding for \$2,200, which was for them digging and looking for a leak. At the time no leak was located. Scherbenke dug where Ulteig suggested they dig. There was a leak at the property that was found, just not where they dug. Council wants to send Scherbenske a letter stating we found a leak, and that was missed when they dug in the incorrect location.

New Business:

Council and employees from ND Rural water System Association located another water leak on Regan Street. They had determined about where the leak is, which could be in two different locations. They suggest the City dig up a couple test holes and look to see if it's wet. This will be at the City's cost. Fiedler makes motion to get Dirty Deeds Excavating to come in and locate water leak on Regan Street, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

City received liquor License request for Chester's Tavern at \$425. Council will discuss raising the liquor license fee for the year 2022. Thomsen makes motion to accept liquor license, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Council looking at getting police contract to help enforce ordinances and help look over City. The police contract is \$5,011.20 for a year. Council decided to look over all the ordinances, get them in order before moving forward with police contract.

Resident contacted Mayor Schatz about having a leaking spigot. The city wasn't notified of this residents leak when letters were sent out last year. Council decides after this long it's the resident's responsibility to take care of it.

Erika Lorenz was present to give an update for the park committee. The park has raised over \$30,000 for the new equipment. The park is applying for a grant from ND Park and Rec Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. This grant could reimburse up to 50% of project costs. The city would need to be Title 6 Certified to qualify for the grant. The City doesn't need to approve the Title 6 tonight, but should be thinking about it for the future. Fiedler makes motion to allow Park Committee to apply for ND Park and Rec Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Rhonda Stradinger was present to give an update on Mercer Community Center. The committee reached out to about 6 different organization for grants to help with bills. They also applied for a grant for about \$2,800, which will be applied for new baffling in the ceiling so it doesn't echo so much. Just waiting to hear how much the MCC was granted. January 1, 2021 the gym code will change.

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

Bills To Pay:

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG - \$82.37

Derek Fiedler - \$69.26

Dirty Deeds Excavating - \$1,335

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

Hardware Hank - \$76.84 – (MCC) \$69.99

Ken Thomsen - \$69.26

McLean Sheridan - \$1,623.86 (water) – (billing)
- \$226.95

ND Department of Health - \$16

Otter Tail - \$741.76

R & D Makeef - \$1,256.50

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Scherbenske - \$2,200

Waste Management - \$1,260.85

West River- \$177.19

Wyatt Wagner - \$60