

## City of Mercer Minutes December 17, 2020

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

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, Thomsen seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed by council. Council will not pay Scherbenske bill. Thomsen makes motion to send Ulteig the bill for \$2,200, as AJ Tuck, Ulteig told Scherbenske where to dig, Zinke seconded it. Volochenko makes motion to pay bills except for Scherbenske bill for \$2,200, Zinke seconded it. Roll call vote: Zinke-yes, Volochenko-yes, Thomsen-yes. Motion carried

### **Old Business:**

Water payments for the month are up to date, except one resident was sent a letter that their water needs to be paid by December 25, 2020 or their water will be turned off.

Board member Volochenko has been watching the water meters in the pump house. Volochenko found within 3 days the two meters were off about 4800 gallons. Lynn Oberg, McLean Sheridan Rural Water, the meter was installed incorrectly. The top meter reads higher than the lower meter. Oberg stated, when McLean Sheridan reads the meters for the month they read the lower meter, which is the correct one. City of Mercer was reimbursed for the incorrect readings for the past year. City of Mercer council feels the City should have been reimbursed for all the miss readings from when the line was hooked up, not just for the past month. Oberg stated, the City will be reimbursed from when the lines were moved from outside to the inside, which will be about \$1,800.

Council would like to know if the City owns the pump house, since they don't own the water line. Oberg stated, the previous board had several conversations prior to start of construction regarding McLean Sheridan taking over the main line after construction is complete. It was agreed upon that once the line is in and functioning McLean Sheridan would take over the responsibility of the line. Such as if there is a break, or issues with the line that McLean Sheridan would take responsibility for costs. Mr. Oberg stated we will get to the bottom of this issue, and for the water loss.

Dirty Deeds Excavating came to dig up two test holes on Regan Street, where there was a possible water leak. No leak was located. Dirty Deeds stated the clay around the lines were pretty tight, so would be hard to find until it becomes a bigger leak.

### **New Business:**

Rhonda Stradinger from MCC committee stated, the MCC received \$1,000 grant that will be put towards the curtains for the ceiling to help with the echo. Someone donated speakers, and three family's donated LED bulbs for the MCC. The MCC committee would like to thank everyone for donations, and for getting their memberships sent in.

Mayor Schatz and board member Thomsen have been working on cleaning up ordinances. Thomsen makes motion to adjust ordinance # 7 Article 2 & 4, Zinke seconded it. Roll call vote: Zinke-yes, Thomson-yes, Volochenko- yes. Motion carried.

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

## **Bills to Pay**

Ashley Fiedler - \$42.45

- (Walmart – 3 Binders)

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG - \$82.37

Farmers Union – (MCC) \$378.06

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

Ken Thomsen - \$69.26

League of Cities (Membership) - \$215

League of Cities Membership- \$215

McLean Sheridan Water

- (Billing) \$226.95

- (Water) \$811.13

ND Department of Health - \$16

Otter Tail - \$1,293.63

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Rust's Hardware- \$11.98

- (MCC) \$3.98

Scherbenske - \$2,200

USDA Loan - \$15,684.99

Waste Management - \$1,260.85

West River - \$187.19