

City of Mercer Minutes

March 25, 2021

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

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

Finances were reviewed. Thomsen would like to know why garbage was negative for the month. With residents not paying their bill on time the City is short when the bill for Waste Management is due. Derek makes motion to approve finances, Zinke seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed by council. Thomsen makes motion to pay bills, Zinke seconded it. Roll Call vote: Thomsen- yes, Zinke-yes, Fiedler-yes. Motion carried

Old Business:

Water payments for the month are not as good. City has a few residents that are about 60 days past due, and letters have been sent.

New Business:

Rod Schilling was present to discuss plans for future gas station. City needs to provide sewer up to property, also need to find physical address. Council discussed different options for providing sewer to property, they decided it would be best to try and go by John LaCount's property, which would require an easement. Mayor and council member will go and talk with Mr. LaCount and see what options he's comfortable with. At this time there is no physical address for the property, council and auditor decide with 106 E Highway 200. Auditor Fiedler will make sure this address is correct, and contact county to go forward with this address and be in touch with Mr. Schilling.

City of Mercer has been having some sewer issues on Max Street by the Mercer Community Center and Zinke property. Drain Man came to camera sewer lines and found some pipes that were broken, then it was improperly repaired. When Drain Man was working to flush out lines asphalt was pouring out. Zinke stated that he has never had trouble with his sewer line until they started working on that street for the water project. Thomsen makes motion to hire Drain Man repair the sewer line on Max Street by Zinke's property, and to have Drain Man camera the lines by the Community Center, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Council decided to turn this information into insurance, as the line looks like it was vandalized and needs to be repaired. Pictures and videos were taken and once all is done City will file a claim for the damaged sewer lines.

The city was contacted by a future resident Jim Privatsky. He had just purchased a home on North Main Street, and in the backyard of the property is land that is not used and owned by the City. Mr. Privatsky offered \$2,000, which talking with city assessor this price is reasonable for that land.

Privatsky provided council member Zinke with a \$2,000 check, which was handed to city Auditor as this time, for the sale of NW Block 6 Lot A, 150' west and 100' South. Zinke makes motion to sell NW Block 6 Lot A to Jim and Brenda Privatsky for the amount of \$2,000 and buyer paying for all closing costs and title change, Fiedler seconded it. Roll call: Zinke-yes, Fiedler-yes, Thomsen-yes. Motion carried.

Auditor presented poker tournament gaming permit for Mercer-Turtle Lake Rodeo Club to be held on April 24, 2021 at Chester's Tavern. Zinke makes motion to approve gaming permit, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Council member Ken Thomsen was notified from a few Mercer reunion members that were wondering if there was any way to get the old school yard cleaned up before the reunion this summer. City of Mercer has sent owner David Presser a few letters regarding clean up on his property, but received no response. Council votes to send Mr. Presser a certified letter to see if he'd clean up the yard before the reunion.

Council decides to hold Tax Equalization meeting on April 16, 2021 6 PM, with April meeting to follow.

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

Bills to Pay:

Acoustic- \$1,141.94 (MCC)	McLean Sheridan Water
Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50	– Billing \$227.72
BHG - \$137.09	– Water \$ 476.42
Cenex (MCC) - \$756.52	ND Department of Health - \$16
Derek Fiedler - \$69.26	ND job service - \$3.60
Drain Man - \$2,400	ND Workforce safety (premium) \$300
Fire & Safety - \$27	Ottertail - \$1,034.98
Haugen's Drain - \$435	Randy Zinke - \$69.26
– \$510(MCC)	Ron Schatz - \$138.52
IRS - \$641.88	Waste Management - \$1272.79
Ken Thomsen - \$69.26	WRT - \$187.69
McLean County (Assessor fee) \$555	