

City of Mercer Minutes for Special Meeting

July 22, 2024

Mayor Lori Stute called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tonya Wellington-Auditor conducted roll call with Barb Stute-present, Gary Volochenko-present, Erika Lorenz-present and Randy Zinke-present.

New Business

Mayor Lori Stute stated that the estimate for the valley project by the post office has changed. The board has allocated \$6,000.00 for the valley project and the estimate is \$6,864.00.

Erika Lorenz made the motion to re-allocate up to \$7,000.00 for the valley project and the rest of the ARPA Funds on curb stops and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko, Erika Lorenz and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Erika Lorenz made the motion to approve the bid with changes up to \$7,000.00 to valley project and Randy Zinke seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko, Erika Lorenz and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Mayor Lori Stute talked about the new Mercer Community building project. The committee for this project has met and were going to ask approval from the city counsel for grants for funding that needed to be run through the city. However, they received information this morning and are no longer going to be doing that at this time. One of the grants that had been looked into was the Block Grant however after getting some more information we couldn't continue with that grant. At this time, we are not asking the city to help us with grants for the new Mercer Community building.

Mayor Lori Stute stated that the committee for the Mercer Community building project is Randy and Karen Zinke, Barb Stute, Lori and Casey Stute, and Victoria Goven.

Mayor Lori Stute stated they do have a draft of the building. The building is 96L x 40W with a kitchen, 2 bathroom and storage with the open space left of 72L x 40W. The project cost is \$320,000.00.

Randy Zinke state that he had 2 roofing contractors come look at the roof at the current Mercer Community Center. A new roof would start at \$250,000.00 and will go up from there.

Mayor Lori Stute stated that it is not to tear down and build new. The cost of the land is included in the \$320,000.00. We are looking at the 7 lots across from Chester's Bar. Lori stated that when we are looking for these grants, they would like to show how it will benefit the community if it's in a centralized location. If it's on main street, we will have a better change of them agreeing.

Randy Zinke stated that there will be no extra taxes on the residents. If there isn't grant money or private funding the project will not be done.

Randy Zinke stated that Mercer Community building project has applied for a \$350,000.00 grant at this time that is not through the city.

Erika Lorenz stated that she has looked and there is not any grants out there for older buildings.

Randy Zinke stated the committee for the new Mercer Community building project met last week. We did invited Megan Sparrow but she was unable to attend. They would like all three of the current Mercer Community Center board to come to a meeting involving the new building project. The current board members for the Mercer Community Center are Megan Sparrow,

Becky Makeff and Laura Fiedler. Next meeting is not scheduled at this time.

Mayor Lori Stute stated that this is what we are working on at this time and there will be more discussion and more information as things progress. The residents can come to any of the committee members and ask questions or concerns.

Mayor Lori Stute asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erika Lorenz made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko, Erika Lorenz and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.