

City of Mercer Minutes

December 18, 2024

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

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

Lori Stute went through the minutes from November 18, 2024. Barb Stute made the motion to approve the minutes with change made and Gary Volochenko seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Financials

Gary Volochenko made the motion to approve the financial report and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko, and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Bills

Barb Stute made the motion to approve the bills and Gary Volochenko seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Water Bills

Tonya Wellington-Auditor sent out letters to accounts 28 and 51 for 30 days past due. Gary Volochenko made the motion to receive bids for the replacement of the pump at the city pumphouse and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Old Business

Lori Stute stated that at our November meeting the regular garbage rate was set at \$25.00. In the new contract the Mercer Community Center, Mercer Cemetery and the Mercer City Park will not be charged for garbage pickup. Randy Zinke made the motion to leave the price as is for the 2- and 4-yard dumpsters and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

New Business

Lori Stute stated that the Mercer City Hall's sewer piping system needs to be vented out of the metal roof to ventilate properly. Barb Stute made the motion to have the sewer piping system fixed properly and Randy Zinke seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Lori Stute stated that she would like to invest in a new accounting program that will work better with our city finances. Gary Volochenko made the motion to get pricing for another program and Randy Zinke seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Lori Stute stated that she has been looking into getting a new office deck and conference table for City Hall. Randy Zinke made the motion to approve the purchase of an office desk and conference table up to \$1,000.00, and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Lori Stute stated that the current mowing rates that the city is charging are not covering the gas expenses, maintenance and the time of the person doing the mowing. The current rate for the small mower per hour is \$40.00 and for the rough-cut tractor per hour is \$100.00. Barb Stute made the motion to have the small mower for \$100.00 per hour and \$300.00 per hour for the rough-cut tractor for mowing and Randy Zinke seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Lori Stute stated that the city does not have a Hay Ordinance which means we need to decide whether or not to have the city allowing residents to hay or whether they must obey the Mowing Ordinance. Gary Volochenko made the motion to have hay cut by August 31, 2025, and bails removed by September 1, 2025, and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute and Gary Volochenko voted Aye. Randy Zinke voted no. Majority voted Aye. Motion carried.

Lori Stute stated that she would like to get approval to apply for any grants available for the city. Barb Stute made the motion and Gary Volochenko seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye. Motion carried.

Gary Volochenko made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Barb Stute seconded. Barb Stute, Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke all voted Aye.