

LAKOTA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 8TH, 2024

The Lakota City Council held its regular meeting on January 8th, 2024, at the City Hall. Mayor Brad Hooley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Council Members were present, Member Fahey was in attendance via speaker phone. City Superintendent Josh Ulland, City Auditor Amie Vasichek and City Attorney Jayme Tenneson were in attendance. No audience members.

The council stood and conducted the pledge of allegiance.

Member Mattern made a motion to approve the December 4th, 2023, regular meeting, seconded by Member Nelson. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Supt. Ulland stated that Rysavy Plumbing will be providing an estimate for a heating and AC unit for city hall by the next meeting.

Auditor Vasichek provided a list of questions from Denise Sundeen on the new Public Nuisance ordinance before the 2nd reading. The council discussed each question, and no changes were made to the proposed ordinance.

Attorney Tenneson's stated primary thought for the ordinance is something for residents to follow. Attorney Tenneson stated there is a fine associated with the ordinance and state laws to assist with some of the questions presented.

Member Mattern made a motion to approve the second reading of Public Nuisance ordinances as written, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Table discussion on Community Center rental agreement revision.

NEW BUSINESS

Member Ferguson made a motion to approve the Lead service line inventory reporting grant application with the ND Department of Environmental Quality and designate Amie Vasichek to submit the application, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

The council reviewed the employee evaluations on file and COLA increase for 2024.

Member Fahey stated he believes employee wages should be increased a little more than COLA. Member Ferguson stated the city has good employees now and would like to keep them. Member Nelson suggested a 5% increase.

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Member Nelson made a motion to provide permanent employees a wage increase of 5%, seconded by Mmember Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor, except Member Vasichек who abstained. Motion carried.

Member Mattern made a motion to approve the WAPA.MRES contract No. 23-UGPR-196, seconded by Member Vasichек. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Auditor Vasichек stated she received a request for a donation of a golf course membership for an upcoming medical benefit. Attorney Tenneson stated government entities are not allowed to make donations. No action taken.

Auditor Vasichек stated Roger Wheeler would like to donate his property in Block 5 south addition to the city. Discussion was had by the council on what to do with the lots. It was suggested another private party might be interested in the lots. Member Solberg stated he will visit with Mr. Wheeler.

Member Nelson stated he will meet with the other golf course board members about a reduced golf membership rate if paid in advance.

Auditor Vasichек provided the council with a proposal for new workstations, server, and IT support from Computer Express. 2 Workstations, Server, Microsoft 365, and antivirus would be \$6,221.99 total. There are 2 options for monthly IT support: 1) unlimited remote support with 2 on-site visits for \$300/month or 2) only unlimited remote support \$200/month.

Member Solberg questioned if there were any other companies to compare prices. Auditor Vasichек stated she had spoken with Nelson-Griggs Public Health Unit, and they had completed the research of other companies for their computer system and Computer Express was the least expensive. Auditor Vasichек stated she would check with other companies for comparisons.

Member Vasichек suggested approving a dollar amount the council is comfortable with while the office searches for comparisons.

Member Vasichек made a motion to approve the purchase of computer equipment for the city hall with a budget up to \$6,300 including \$300/monthly IT support, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Supt. Ulland's provided the council with his written report and attached with the minutes.

ENGINEER REPORT

No report provided.

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SHERIFF'S REPORT

No additional report provided.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Member Vasichек gave an update on the community center.

Member Solberg asked Supt. Ulland to remove a tree branch at the library.

Member Mattern questioned the liability issue with the coffee crew at the city shop. It was decided to have Mayor Hooey request the coffee group to move their gathering to the community center.

ADVISORY REPORTS

No report provided.

MAYOR REPORT

Nothing to report.

AUDITOR REPORT

Auditor Vasichек's written report was provided and attached with minutes.

Auditor Vasichек gave an update on the CHDO board and initiative. Auditor Vasichек stated Lakota could have a chance to get a home built in 2024, but it has not been confirmed yet.

Auditor Vasichек stated she applied for a Rural Workforce Housing grant and should hear this month on the outcome.

Auditor Vasichек reminded the council to apply for the \$500 property tax credit for their primary homes and to also get the word to everyone. Auditor Vasichек stated she could assist anyone with the application, if needed.

The council reviewed the financial and utility reports provided.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Tenneson had nothing in addition to report.

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After reviewing the bills and vouchers, a motion was made by Member Mattern to pay all the bills presented for payment and those bills paid prior to the meeting. Member Vasichek seconded the motion. Motion carried, on roll call vote of 6-0.

Acme Equipment	\$	700.00
Advance Auto Parts	\$	48.37
Advanced Business Methods	\$	239.84
Aramark	\$	51.37
BCBS	\$	7,769.76
Border States	\$	2,365.63
Dept of Environmental	\$	161.48
Display Sales	\$	338.00
EFTPS	\$	2,146.81
EFTPS	\$	2,378.53
Elan	\$	7,190.58
Farmers Union Oil	\$	1,709.62
Ferguson Waterworks	\$	22,800.00
FLR Sanders	\$	58.00
GF Utility	\$	187.00
Hawkins	\$	954.75
Interstate Billing	\$	337.99
Job Service	\$	144.77
Lakeside Lock	\$	13.00
Lakota American	\$	177.75
Lakota Auto	\$	112.86
Lakota Cemetery	\$	2,007.78

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Lakota Farm Service	\$	14,269.99
Lakota Fire Dept	\$	8,000.00
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	450.00
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	573.27
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	8,567.55
Lakota Sanitation Service	\$	11,595.76
Mailfinance	\$	600.00
Mead & Hunt	\$	12,863.00
Menards	\$	1,634.76
MRES	\$	56,900.06
MMUA	\$	787.50
Nationwide	\$	580.00
NDPERS	\$	3,189.36
NC Sheriff	\$	3,415.00
NC Treasurer	\$	22,818.79
Nelson Electrical	\$	469.79
Nodak	\$	723.65
ND One Call	\$	11.70
ND Telephone	\$	49.23
North-Holt	\$	56,890.19
Northstar Aviation	\$	1,624.00
Office of State Tax	\$	367.17
Polar	\$	1,349.99
Powerplan	\$	4,054.51
Quill	\$	349.15
Renewed State	\$	2,046.66

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Rysavy Plumbing	\$ 1,143.00
Slotto, Laura	\$ 250.00
Swenson, Diane	\$ 75.00
United Lab	\$ 348.22
Verizon	\$ 180.09
Wenzel	\$ 2,160.97
Witzel	\$ 4,462.00
City Salaries	\$ 11,880.81
City Salaries	<u>\$ 13,548.31</u>
TOTAL	\$ 300,123.37

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 5th, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Member Mattern made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Nelson.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

SUBMITTED BY:

Brad Hooey, Mayor

Amie Vasichек, Auditor