

LAKOTA CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

The Lakota City Council held its regular meeting on July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the City Hall. Mayor Brad Hooley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Council Members were present, Member Nelson attended via speaker phone. City Superintendent Josh Ulland, City Attorney Jayme Tenneson, City Engineer Barry Glienke and City Auditor Amie Vasichek were in attendance. Audience members were Randy Karas, Kelly Peters, and Gen Strand.

The council stood and conducted the pledge of allegiance.

Member Mattern made a motion to approve the June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, regular meeting, seconded by Member Solberg. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley recognized Chris Miller.

Mr. Miller's application to purchase a city lot in the Hulstrand Addition was included within the packet. Mr. Miller questioned if there will be a clean title included within the purchase and if there was any grace on the 18-month timeline to complete on a home. Mr. Miller's intent would be to start the construction in the summer of 2025, but would like to secure the lot now.

Member Vasichek stated the council has covenants in the Hulstrand Addition that would require to angle the structure at 45 degrees so as to not obstruct the viewpoint of the neighboring homeowner. Mr. Miller stated he is aware of the covenants and is ok with angling the structure but would ask if the degree of the angle could be reduced.

Member Fahey stated if the council waivers on the set covenant's it starts making the other lots less sellable. Member Mattern stated he thought the current homeowner to east has their angle at a hard angle and doesn't think it needs to be at such a sharp angle.

Member Vasichek the council could allow for the home to be straight to the street, but all the next ones down the line should be required to be straight and uniform with each other.

Mr. Miller stated he is willing to work with the council from the angle of the structure. Member Solberg stated he would like the council to review the lot firsthand and return back to the convenients issue.

The council stated they were in favor of allowing the 24-month grace to build.

Mr. Miller left the meeting at 6:18pm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Mayor Hooley questioned if the council would like to submit an application for TA funding to potentially improve the city sidewalks in 2026-2027. Engineer Glienke stated the last TA funding was approximately 80.93% federally funded and a new rule not requiring a cap to the funding.

Engineer Glienke provided the council with a list of projects that have been awarded in the past. Mayor Hooley questioned if a bike trail could be included within the project. Engineer Glienke stated usually acquisition of property would be required to complete a bike trail or an easement.

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Member Vasichек suggested having a committee formed to include members of the school for discussion. Auditor Vasichек questioned if there would be a preliminary estimate of engineering costs for a project like this as engineering is not covered under the grant. Engineer Glienke stated it all depends on the scope of the project.

Supt. Ulland stated he is waiting for a call back from the state to see if the city or the DOT can move the engine noise signage on Hwy 1.

Mayor Hooley questioned how the junk on property is going. Mayor Hooley and Supt Ulland were unable to meet to come up with a list to send letters to from Attorney Tenneson.

Supt. Ulland provided the council with a bid for chip sealing the entire town from Morris Sealcoat of \$378,755.56. Attorney Tenneson stated the estimated cost of the project is over the threshold of \$250,000 and would require a bid process.

Member Vasichек requested to get a bid for seal coating in town and allow the option to have it fall 2024 or spring/summer 2025.

Member Solberg requested Supt. Ulland to put chips down on the street patch work already completed this year.

Mayor Hooley stated there is no need for street striping this year until chip sealing can be completed.

Supt. Ulland stated the city may get a non-compliance letter in regard to burning the tree pile at the landfill as the burning permit was not provided by the state at the time of inspection.

Supt. Ulland provided the council with 3 different quotes for dozer rental to use at the city landfill. Mayor Hooley stated he would not know how long it is needed until he starts working in the area. Mayor Hooley stated he is unsure if the city should wait until Forest River Colony to take down the 2 buildings in town per the grant. Auditor Vasichек stated FRC anticipates demolition to begin in October 2024.

Member Solberg questioned if the city should clean up the landfill before or after the demolition. Mayor Hooley suggested cleaning it up prior as it will set a precedent on the condition of the landfill.

Member Vasichек made a motion to approve the rental of Crawler Tractor K Model D65EX for the clean up work at the Lakota landfill and Brad Hooley will volunteer his time, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley stated a citizen complaint has been received by the city and has been dealt with.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Auditor Vasichек read aloud the official election results.

Mayor Hooley stated he is declining to accept the mayor position after the election.

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Mayor Hooey thanked the council for their time and left the meeting at 6:46pm.

Members Vasichек and Member Solberg stood and conducted their oath of office.

President Solberg stated the council should decide what to do with the vacated mayor position. Auditor Vasichек will check with the County Auditor on having the position in the general election and cost estimates.

President Solberg stated he would like to appoint Josh Ulland as City Superintendent and Amie Vasichек as City Auditor.

Member Fahey made a motion to approve the appointments of Josh Ulland as City Superintendent and Amie Vasichек as City Auditor, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor, except Member Vasichек who abstained. Motion carried.

Member Vasichек made a motion to nominate Dennis Fahey for President of the council, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Member Vasichек made a motion to nominate Dan Ferguson for Vice President of the council, seconded by Member Nelson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Auditor Vasichек presented the preliminary budget to the council and stated it will need to be approved and provided to the county by August 10<sup>th</sup>. The city council elected to review the budget throughout the month and discuss at the next meeting.

Supt. Ulland requested to table discussion on the City Crew vehicle.

Member Solberg opened one bid for the floor scrubber. \$1,000 from Donna Rickford.

Member Vasichек made a motion to approve the bid of \$1,000 from Donna Rickford for the floor scrubber, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Supt. Ulland requested to table the insulator estimate until the next meeting.

Auditor Vasichек presented the council with 2 additional applications to purchase city property.

Jodie Schindele offered \$20,000 for Lot 4 in the Hulstrand addition; offer includes purchase of lot and paying special assessments in full.

More discussion on the requirements to angle the homes in this addition had. The council decided to meet with the 2 potential new property owners at the addition to review the requirements.

Member Vasichек made a motion to approve the purchase property applications as presented; Lot 1 of the Hulstrand Addition to Jodie Schindele and Lot 4 in the Hulstrand Addition to Chris Miller, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

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Auditor Vasichек provided the application from Mark Huso to buy back his lot once the old city shop building is demolished. Supt. Ulland suggested that now the substation is decommissioned, to include that section to Mr. Huso also.

Member Vasichек made a motion approving the purchase property application as presented from Mark Huso for 120 A Ave West and to offer the section of the decommission substation, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Auditor Vasichек stated she is waiting on a cost estimate for an advertising sign for the Hulstrand Addition lots for sale and hopes to have it by next meeting.

Supt. Ulland stated he would like MRES to conduct a system analysis of the electrical system. Auditor Vasichек will meet with MRES for an estimate.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

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

**ENGINEER REPORT**

No report provided.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**

No additional report provided.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Member Ferguson stated the pump at the landfill will be starting soon and expenses will be brought in shared with the Township.

Member Solberg stated there are residents blowing grass clippings into streets and more advertising needs to be done to remedy the issue.

Member Vasichек stated the resealing of the gym floor at the community center will take place this week and the committee will soon meet to discuss potential HVAC options.

**ADVISORY REPORTS**

No report provided.

**MAYOR REPORT**

President Solberg stated the mowing into the streets has been happening all the time and an advertisement in the newspaper and newsletter needs to be submitted. Auditor Vasichек stated a reminder was in the July 1<sup>st</sup> newsletter.

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**AUDITOR REPORT**

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

The council reviewed the financial and utility reports provided.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

No additional report provided.

After reviewing the bills and vouchers, a motion was made by Member Fahey to pay all the bills presented for payment and those bills paid prior to the meeting. Member Ferguson seconded the motion. Motion carried, on roll call vote of 5-0.

Advanced Business Methods	\$	239.84
Associated Pool Builders	\$	7,800.00
BCBS	\$	7,878.56
Border States	\$	12,614.97
Catalis	\$	664.62
Champion Media	\$	400.00
CHS-Lakota	\$	1,343.90
Computer Express	\$	300.00
Dept of Environmental	\$	119.14
DLL Finance	\$	785.28
EFTPS	\$	4,210.32
EFTPS	\$	3,979.03
Elan	\$	2,115.35
Fargo Country Club	\$	300.00
Farmers Union Lumber	\$	9,605.20
Farmers Union Oil	\$	4,344.69
Ferguson Waterworks	\$	84.46

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Ferry, Mark	\$	300.00
GF Utility	\$	378.00
Hawkins	\$	3,909.76
Karl's TV	\$	1,574.97
Kotaco Fuel	\$	10,964.27
Kuchar, Katelyn	\$	100.00
Lakes Area Turf	\$	4,404.00
Lakota American	\$	768.51
Lakota Feed	\$	137.50
Lakota Hardware	\$	2,179.19
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	150.00
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	432.47
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	7,360.18
Lakota Sanitation Service	\$	12,145.89
Langdon Fire Equipment	\$	1,202.00
Linde Gas	\$	153.15
Locators & Supplies	\$	405.60
Matejcek, Stephanie	\$	50.00
Menards	\$	2,807.58
MARC	\$	4,089.90
MRES	\$	31,350.12
Nationwide	\$	145.00
NDLC	\$	997.00
Nelson Electrical	\$	11,659.55
Nodak	\$	1,119.97
ND E-Waste	\$	2,200.00

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ND One Call	\$	30.85
ND Telephone	\$	98.22
Polar	\$	1,297.70
Quill	\$	338.23
ReNewed State	\$	1,300.00
Rock Creek Clubhouse	\$	2,467.14
Rysavy Plumbing	\$	13,850.80
Schmidt, Kathy	\$	1,107.69
Skip's Petroleum	\$	71.82
USABluebook	\$	117.30
Van Diest	\$	1,916.35
Verizon	\$	180.05
Wells Fargo	\$	1,442.28
City Salaries	\$	21,437.10
City Salaries	\$	<u>21,695.63</u>
TOTAL	\$	225,121.13

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Member Vasichек made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Member Ferguson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

APPROVED BY:

SUBMITTED BY:

Bill Solberg, Mayor

Amie Vasichек, Auditor