

LAKOTA CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023

The Lakota City Council held its regular meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, at the City Hall. Mayor Brad Hooey called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All Council Members were present. City Superintendent Josh Ulland, City Auditor Amie Vasichек and City Attorney Jayme Tenneson were in attendance. Denise Sundeen, Malia Young, Casey Freidig and Kelly Peters were in the audience.

The council stood and conducted the pledge of allegiance.

Member Mattern made a motion to approve the September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023, regular meeting minutes and September 25<sup>th</sup> Special meeting, seconded by Member Nelson. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooey recognized Casey Freidig.

Mr. Freidig stated in the past he has placed a pop-up disc golf course in the grass/tree area to the north of the community center and would like to make it more permanent.

Mr. Freidig stated his league would volunteer to install the baskets but would seek financial assistance from the city to purchase the equipment. Mr. Freidig presented options for baskets ranging from \$399.99 - \$474.99 a basket.

Member Vasichек suggested at the next pop-up event to spread the information more with the city to gauge the interest and then come back to the council to present proposal. Mr. Freidig left materials with Auditor Vasichек on other basket options.

Mayor Hooey recognized Malia Young.

Mrs. Young stated she is in attendance to seek financial assistance for damage to her sprinkler system during the water/sewer installation at Hulstrand addition.

Mayor Hooey stated he has contacted Witzel Construction, and they will reimburse the city to repair the damage. Malia Young stated she will contact Monster Lawn to request the repair be completed hopefully this year.

Mrs. Young left the meeting at 6:11 pm.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Member Vasichек gave an update of the community center improvement project. Mayor Hooey stated MRES reps came to review the building and suggested a Mechanical Engineer to assess the building for further guidance.

Member Vasichек stated the city needs to get the humidity in the CC tracked. Supt. Ulland stated he will order the devices.

Auditor Vasichек stated she received a request to install a sign as to what is allowed/not allowed inside the gym. Mr. Peters stated the patrons would need to be responsible for eating/drinking in the gym and

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did not think a sign was needed. Member Vasichек suggested putting up a sign to restrict outdoor shoes on the basketball court.

Member Nelson requested to table discussion on the mini split to the next meeting and golf course pond until spring.

Mayor Hooley stated the city needs to decide on the property/junk ordinance in yards.

Attorney Tenneson stated he could review the ordinance and supply the council with something by the next meeting. Member Vasichек suggested keeping the ordinance as specific as possible.

Mrs. Sundeen stated the yard ordinances are already in place and should be enforced or removed as an ordinance.

Auditor Vasichек was instructed to send a copy out to the council of the current ordinances.

Mr. Freidig left the meeting at 6:26pm.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Auditor Vasichек went over the 2024 Budget; no changes have been made to the preliminary budget approved in August.

Member Fahey made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget of \$163,010, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley stated the golf course needs gravel on the entry road. There was also a discussion on the need for gravel at the community center parking lot.

Member Vasichек made a motion to purchase 6 loads of gravel to put at various spots in Lakota and the golf course road, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Member Nelson made a motion to approve special events permits for the Till House at the community center on October 21<sup>st</sup> and November 11<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Member Mattern. Motion carried.

Auditor Vasichек stated in 2021-2022 the city had intentions of applying for COVID funds to pay for the touchless equipment installed at the community center, however there were no grant funds available at the time. Auditor Vasichек stated after looking into the US Treasury Final ruling on the allowed uses of ARPA funds, COVID-19 mitigation and prevention would be an eligible expense. Auditor Vasichек suggested transferring \$27,218.23 from the ARPA savings account into the general checking for this past project.

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Member Fahey made a motion to approve a transfer from ARPA funds to cover the cost of the touchless equipment installed at the community center in 2022, seconded by Member Ferguson. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley stated he would like to install more cameras on the inside of the community center. Member Vasichuk stated he did not believe the committee would have an issue with adding cameras. Auditor Vasichuk stated she will also get Kelly Peters access to the cameras.

Mayor Hooley stated he would like to appoint Wes Brooks, Rod Mattern and Jeff Russo to the assessment committee. Attorney Tenneson suggested adding terms to the appointments of 2, 4 and 6 years.

Mayor Hooley suggested: Wes Brooks – 2 years, Rod Mattern- 4 years, and Jeff Russo – 6 years.

Member Nelson made a motion to accept Mayor Hooley's appointments to the special assessment committee of Wes Brooks – 2 years, Rod Mattern – 4 years and Jeff Russo – 6 years, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley stated he was approached by the school about matching funds to plant trees along the berms. Mayor Hooley would like to commit \$3,000 towards the planting project.

Member Nelson made a motion to approve \$3,000 in funds for a tree planting project with the Lakota FFA group, seconded by Member Solberg. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

Mayor Hooley reviewed applications for janitorial work at the community center and city hall. Member Fahey was asked to interview the candidates with current janitor Gary McLean.

Mayor Hooley stated work needs to be done to the payloader. Member Mattern suggested getting the equipment to RDO soon before winter.

Mayor Hooley went over drainage by Varnson's and would like to improve that area.

**SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

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

Supt. Ulland went over the culvert installed by Lakota Feed.

Supt. Ulland stated he would like to have the green picnic tables refurbished by the school shop class with a price of \$324/table. No action taken.

Member Mattern questioned the concrete work needed. Supt. Ulland stated his contact has not gotten back to him. Member Mattern suggested calling all the Devils Lake contractors to get on their list for next year.

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Mayor Hooley stated he received a variance request from At Home Properties to build a commercial building on residential property location at N 11' of Lot 15 and all of Lots 16-18, Block 6. Attorney Tenneson stated in the meantime he would like to bring in shipping containers for people to use. Member Mattern stated he has concerns with these containers placed in town permanently and suggested if allowed; to impose a deadline for removal.

Member Fahey stated he has no problem with a variance for the building Mr. Tenneson is planning to build.

Member Mattern made a motion to accept a variance application from At Home Properties for and to issue a publication for review of the next meeting, seconded by Member Fahey. On a roll call vote, all members voting in favor. Motion carried.

**ENGINEER REPORT**

No report provided.

**SHERIFF'S REPORT**

No additional report provided.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Member Vasichek suggested providing covenants on the Hulstrand development to require the angle of the homes a certain way. Attorney Tenneson stated he will work on covenants to present to the council.

Member Nelson stated the floor heat at the community center can start anytime. Member Nelson stated Nelson Electric needs to get power to the message sign outside the building and new covers for the outlets on the floor.

**ADVISORY REPORTS**

No report provided.

**MAYOR REPORT**

Mayor Hooley stated damage was done to the alley behind the grocery store building.

Mayor Hooley stated the city will need to plan to fix the sidewalks in town but would like to find a way to not assess property owners. Member Vasichek suggested utilizing the ARPA funds to match the cost with property owners for different projects around town whether it is sidewalks, trees, etc.

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**AUDITOR REPORT**

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

Auditor Vasichek stated she was contacted by a developer on putting a carwash on Lots 5-7 Block 15 in South addition. Member Fahey suggested a different lot in town and will visit with Auditor Vasichek and the developer on it.

The council reviewed the financial and utility reports provided.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Tenneson stated he will look at extraterritorial zoning for next month.

Attorney Tenneson stated the city could clean up extraterritorial property but would not be able to assess the cost to the property owner.

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

Advanced Business Methods	\$	239.84
Agcom	\$	145.30
Aramark	\$	51.37
Associated Pool Builders	\$	54,000.00
Benson Excavating	\$	1,818.00
BCBS	\$	7,987.36
Border States	\$	4,793.60
Capital One Trade	\$	79.99
Dakota Implement	\$	336.93
Deere Credit	\$	5,500.00
Dept of Environmental	\$	423.69
East Dakota Steam	\$	960.48
EFTPS	\$	3,072.76
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Elan	\$	1,610.83
Elaine's House of Dreams	\$	40.00
Ferguson Waterworks	\$	2,977.56
Gaffaney's	\$	447.95
GF Utility	\$	44.00
Interstate Billing	\$	2,005.52
Johnson Excavating	\$	6,977.00
Lakes Area Turf	\$	7,574.79
Lakota American	\$	285.44
Lakota Auto Truck	\$	159.95
Lakota Bucks	\$	100.00
Lakota Feed	\$	58.40
Lakota Hardware	\$	982.70
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	450.00
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	386.39
Lakota Municipal Utilities	\$	3,846.94
Lakota School	\$	3,000.00
Lakota Sanitation Service	\$	11,828.86
Menards	\$	675.30
MARC	\$	4,843.91
MRES	\$	37,317.08
Miranda, Oscar	\$	99.98
NDPERS	\$	3,416.16
NC Recorder	\$	20.00
NC Sheriff	\$	2,318.40
Nelson Electrical	\$	13,734.83

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Neonlink	\$ 68.00
Nodak	\$ 1,167.89
ND One Call	\$ 15.60
ND Telephone	\$ 48.54
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North-Holt	\$ 2,439.31
Polar	\$ 1,216.39
QTPOD	\$ 480.00
Quill	\$ 95.57
Rysavy Plumbing	\$ 1,081.10
Schmidt, Breanne	\$ 50.00
Solberg, William	\$ 25.00
Sunflower Inc.	\$ 216.00
Tri-County Water	\$ 6,223.28
Two Rivers Printing	\$ 335.57
US Dept of Energy	\$ 5,000.00
United Lab	\$ 80.84
Verizon	\$ 179.95
Wells Fargo	\$ 1,442.28
Witzel Construction	\$ 114,477.00
City Salaries	\$ 16,354.77
City Salaries	<u>\$ 17,931.31</u>
TOTAL	\$ 356,708.34

Next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:00pm.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

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APPROVED BY:

SUBMITTED BY:

Brad Hooey, Mayor

Amie Vasichek, Auditor