

## Meeting Minutes of the Plankinton City Council

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on February 3rd, 2025. Members present included Mayor Brad Kehn and Council Members Magdalena Popek-Hurst, Jim Nielsen, Terry Schuldt, and Carl Bode.

Deputy Finance Officer Cindy Geiman, Electrical Supt. Chance Boyd, and Maintenance Supt. Darin Cranny were among the city employees present.

The visitors were Howard Weischedel, Curt Nelson, Gayle Van Genderen, Vikki Van Genderen Eilts, and DeEtte Bohr.

Mayor Kehn called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

The pledge of allegiance was recited

### AGENDA APPROVAL

Nielsen proposed approving the agenda by adding an Executive Session under New Business and placing the Magdalena Flyers discussion after Meeting Recordings. Additionally, Popek-Hurst requested to include a discussion about Trees after the Lawn Mower topic. The motion was seconded by Popek-Hurst. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

### BILLS TO PAY

Bode made a motion to approve the bills to pay, which was seconded by Nielsen. All voted aye, and the motion carried.

A&B BUSINESS- EQUIPMENT LEASING-\$254.34; AFLAC- INSURANCE- \$181.55; AURORA CO SHERIFFS OFFICE- 2024 CONTRACT PAYMENT- \$21076.00; AUTO VALUE- PARTS- \$151.08; AVERA HEALTH PLANS- INSURANCE- \$5601.40; BARNES AND NOBLE- BOOKS- \$85.75; BELL BANK- SKID LOADER- \$867.73; BELL BANK MINI EXCAVATOR- \$919.42; CENTRAL ELECTRIC- WHEELING. RAMP LIGHTING- \$ 2825.18; DELTA DENTAL OF SD- GROUP INSURANCE- \$390.50; DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY- POWER PURCHASE- \$19556.62; DOLLAR GENERAL OFFICE SUPPLIES- \$150.96; EAST RIVER ELECTRIC- WHEELING FEES- \$6524.88; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS- SAVINGS SERVICE CHARGE- \$10.00; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS- PAY ROLL FEES #1-\$7.55; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS- PAYROLL FEE #2- \$7.55; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS-PAYROLL FEE #3- \$7.60; HEARTLAND LOAN #1- \$1241.68; HEARTLAND LOAN #2- \$1241.68; HEARTLAND POWER- POWER PURCHASE- \$53809.69; J HARLEN COMPANY- ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES- \$2415.14; MENARDS- KITCHELL REMODEL/MATERIAL- \$369.84; ON SIGHT LLC- CAMERA INSTALLATION- \$958.57; OVERWEG AUTO- SUPPLIES AND BATTERY- \$1940.93; OVERWEG AUTO- BATTERIES- \$379.58; PLANKINTON DEVELOPMENT BOARD- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT- \$15000.00; PLANKINTON LUMBER- SUPPLIES/MATERIALS-\$768.33; RESCO- TRANSFORMERS- \$20266.96; RON'S MARKET- SUPPLIES- \$57.91; SPN, WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENT- \$9747.06; SD DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH- WATER TESTING- \$15.00; SD DEPARTMENT OF REV.- DECEMBER SALES TAX- \$ 7568.84; SD DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION- FUEL PURCHASE- \$1097.95; SD ELECTRICAL COMMISION- ELECTRICAL PERMIT- \$388.00; SDMEA- ANNUAL DUES- \$837.00; SDWWA- ANNUAL SEMINAR REGISTRATION- \$120.00; SOUTH DAKOTA 811- MESSAGE FEES- \$4.20; SOUTH DKAOT MAIL- PUBLISHING- \$1413.68; SOUTH DAKOTA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE- FINANCE OFFICER MEMBERSHIP-

\$70.00; STEVE'S WELDING- MATERIALS- \$131.00; TOSHIBA FINANCIAL SERVICES- COPIER CONTRACT- \$178.79; VERIZON WIRELESS- TOWER INT, SURFACE PRO, HS- \$127.18; VISA- SUPPLIES- \$1794.54; VISION SERVICE PLAN- VISION INSURANCE- \$167.26; WEALTH MANAGEMENT- CLEAN WATER LOAN- \$11190.58; WEALTH MANAGEMENT- DRINKING WATER LOAN- \$7818.59.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

As a council, we need to read the minutes carefully and ensure that they are correct. At the last meeting, some minutes were not correct.

Gayle Van Genderen stated that we cannot rewrite the minutes.

Popek-Hurst made a motion to approve the amended minutes with the following corrections:

We approved these changes to the minutes from what was published in the SD Mail on Jan 16.

To strike the following statement: "Mayor Kehn informed the Council that there was false information being spread by a council applicant."

We approved adding what was stated during the meeting on Jan 6, "Mayor Kehn stated that there was a lot of he said, she said going around. Due to not being able to verify what was said and not said, the council can't make a fair judgment to appoint for Ward 3."

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

#### NEW COUNCIL MEMBER OATH

Mayor Kehn administered the oath to DeEtte Bohr.

#### FLOOD ORDINANCE AWARENESS

Skyler Kehn has been named Aurora County Flood Plain Manager. The council must be careful when allowing projects or buildings to come in. If a wrong decision is made it could affect our ability to get grants. Darin is the city's go-to guy for the floodplain questions. Flood plains are a very complex thing to understand. Darin just completed a 4-hour training course on floodplain issues. Nielsen asks if they have redone the floodplain yet. Darin said it was just done in 2017. They were supposed to be done but the organization hasn't gotten to it yet.

#### TRUCK ROUTE ORDINANCE-2ND READING.

#### ORDINANCE

NO. 2024-3-1

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING TRUCK ROUTES WITH THE  
CITY OF PLANKINTON, AURORA COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, SDCL 9-31-2 provides that every municipality shall have the power by ordinance or resolution to designate routes of travel on the public streets and highways within and through the municipality for commercial motor carriers, trucks, and buses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Plankinton previously adopted §71.23 of the City Code of the City of Plankinton establishing certain truck routes within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Plankinton now finds it necessary and expedient to repeal the aforesaid §71.23 and adopt new truck route regulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Plankinton, Aurora County, South Dakota, the following

Section 1. Designated Truck Route. The following streets are designated Truck Route Streets:

- (a) 3rd Street from the east city limits to the west city limits;
- (b) Davenport Street a/k/a Highway 16 from the east city limits to the west city limits;
- (c) Campbell Street from the south city limits to the north city limits;
- (d) Main Street from the south city limits to the north side of Commerce Street;
- (e) Commerce Street from the east side of Sanborn Street to the west side of Iowa Street;
- (f) Iowa Street from the south side of Commerce Street to the north side of 3rd Street;
- (g) Sanborn Street from the south side of Commerce Street to the north side of 3rd Street;
- (h) Lawler Street from the south side of Commerce Street to the north side of 5th Street;
- (i) Kimball Street from the south side of Commerce Street to a point 150' north of the north side of Commerce Street;
- (j) Kimball Street from the south side of 3rd Street to the north side of 5th Street;
- (k) 4th Street from the east side of Lawler Street to the west side of Kimball Street;

- (l) 5th Street from the west side of Kimball Street to the east side of Lawler Street.
- (m) 2nd Street from the east side of the alley between Main Street and Lawler Street to the west side of Lawler Street;
- (n) 1st Street from the east side of the alley between Main Street and Lawler Street to the west side of Lawler Street;
- (o) the alley between Main Street and Lawler Street from the south side of 1st Street to the north side of 3rd Street; and
- (p) Madison Street from a point 500' west of the east side of Campbell Street to the East side of Campbell Street.

Section 2. Vehicles Required to Utilize Truck Routes. All vehicles meeting the definitions of “road tractor,” “semi-trailer,” or “truck trailer,” as contained in §70.02 of the City Code of the City of Plankinton must use the designated truck routes and it shall be unlawful for any said vehicle to be driven or parked upon any other public street or alleyway within the City limits of Plankinton other than those designated as part of the truck routes established herein. School buses are exempt from this ordinance.

Section 3. Penalties. Violations of this ordinance shall be subject to the penalty provisions of §71.99, and incorporated by §10.99, all of the City Code of the City of Plankinton, being a penalty for each violation of this ordinance of a fine not to exceed \$500.00 or by imprisonment not exceeding 30 days or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the referendum, this Ordinance shall be in force effective twenty one (21) days following publication.

Section 5. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances, whether standing alone or codified to the Plankinton City Code, which are in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Adopted this day, February 3 , 2025

1st Reading: January 6th, 2025

2nd Reading: February 3rd, 2025

Date Adopted: February 3rd, 2025

Date Published: February 13th, 2025

Effective Date: March 6th, 2025

Brad Kehn, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cindy Geiman,

Deputy Finance Office

City Finance Officer

Nielsen made a motion to accept the truck route as stated. Schuldt seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.

#### RATE STUDY

Electrical Superintendent Chance Boyd reported to the Council regarding the electric rate study: “I have spent considerable time reviewing different rates, comparing our situation with that of other cities and companies. After evaluating factors such as population, I realize that direct comparisons aren’t entirely valid. We have many customers using electric heat, while Wessington Springs, which is similar in size to us, primarily uses propane heat. This makes it challenging to compare our circumstances directly.

“I initially aimed to establish a plan for our loop system. However, after considering various scenarios, I don’t believe it is feasible for our customers at this time. Many people are currently struggling, and I do not want to place any additional burdens on them. Therefore, I will be removing Task Order 5 from our agenda for now.

“We will continue working on converting what we can. Currently, we have a loan through Heartland from when we converted Main Street, which will be paid off in 2029. At that time, we can reevaluate and consider our options.

“For the upcoming meeting, we need to sign Task Order 4. This order costs \$8,500 and will allow them to review our financials to assess our current position and future needs. They will compile all the necessary information and present it at a subsequent meeting. At that point, the council will have the option to approve the next phase of the “Rate Study Phase 1-7,” which will include various rate options. The total cost for this next phase, if approved, is approximately \$23000, including the initial \$8,500. This will help address current increases and prepare for future ones by establishing a five-year plan.

“Since I started here, WAPA and East River have been the only two entities to increase their rates. Heartland’s rates have remained consistent, and our wheeling fees to Central Electric have also stayed the same. However, this does not mean we won’t face increases from any of these providers in the future. It is certain that WAPA will implement another rate increase next year. If the second phase of the rate study is approved, I would like to propose adding another Rate Schedule for the city meters. Previously, we covered these costs within the budgets of each department, but this practice changed in 2022 when the bills were no longer charged out. As a result, the electric

department has been absorbing the electric bills for the past two years, which I only discovered a few weeks ago. This situation has led to an estimated loss of revenue between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

“With the new rate schedule, city meters will be billed at a lower rate than our standard rates. We will set these rates close to our purchase cost, ensuring there is no profit or loss, allowing us to break even. We have approximately 15 meters that qualify as “Large Commercial” under our rate schedule. This adjustment should have been made back in 2018 when the new rate schedule was approved. These businesses average 5,000 kWh per month. With this rate study, we will ensure that these accounts are assigned to the correct rate schedule. They will be billed at a lower rate but will also be charged based on their usage demand. The impact on these businesses will vary. Some frequently start and stop motors throughout the day, while others maintain a more consistent load due to their equipment. Businesses with constant loads that do not frequently cycle on and off will not see as significant an impact. As a result, some bills may decrease slightly, while others may increase significantly.

“Since we are billed based on demand, higher demand leads to higher costs. This adjustment should help cover the additional demand these businesses place on our system. Ultimately, this situation currently requires residential customers to help subsidize these costs when we increase rates.

“I have reviewed most of the large commercial accounts and tracked how much their bills will change. When we are ready to implement these changes, I will visit each business and explain the situation as needed.

Mayor Kehn explained that we implement rate increases in a tiered manner to avoid placing a large financial burden on residents all at once. Chance noted that the electrical project was completed in 2019, during which we took out two loans of \$300,000 each. Additionally, Mayor Kehn mentioned that residents should be aware of the condition of Main Street, which has several significant cracks due to ongoing projects. He believes that in 2 to 3 years, we will need to consider removing 2 inches of asphalt and replacing the surface. Nielsen expressed concern that we must ensure progress does not stall as it did in 2019, emphasizing the importance of completing these tasks.

Bode proposed approval of Task Order 4 for \$8,500.00. Nielsen seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

#### NUISANCE PROPERTIES

Popek-Hurst explained to the council that if the ordinance violation pertains to cars, then only the specific ordinance regarding cars should be mentioned in the letter.

She spoke with Alan at L&L Sanitation, and he expressed a willingness to assist in cleaning up the city. They plan to obtain two containers from Alan and organize a community cleanup event one Saturday in April. During this event, residents can bring, for example, general garbage to one container and tires to the other. The mayor suggested enlisting the help of the Boy Scouts to assist individuals who cannot transport their items to the dumpster. Additionally, two employees will be present at the drop-off point to inform residents about which items can and cannot be disposed of in the containers.

The event will take place over a single day, lasting approximately five hours in the morning. The overall cost may vary, depending on the weight of the containers. For comparison, a project at White Lakes costs around \$1,000 on average.

She spoke with Keith from Overweg Auto, Glass, & Fuel about creating a contract for towing nuisance cars. It is best to have a lawyer draft the contract to specify who is responsible for contacting him regarding the towing, as well as who he should report to once the towing is complete. She plans for the sheriff, the mayor, and two council members to oversee contacting him about vehicles that need to be towed.

Her plans for the next month include focusing on cars that are not tagged and have not been moved. In April, she will concentrate on properties that need cleaning up. If there hasn't been significant progress by May, she will consider hiring an outside individual for assistance.

Nielsen drove around his ward and noticed some improvements had been made.

Mayor Kehn reminded the council that they should treat everyone equally; what is done for one person should be done for all. If they are not going to follow the ordinances, then they should be discarded. Let's put this on the agenda for the meeting on March 3rd and select a day to schedule it. This will replace the spring clean-up days. In this way, we can post announcements in the newspaper and have time to see if a church group or the Boy Scouts would like to volunteer.

Bode suggested having a primary date and a backup date as a precaution in case of bad weather.

Everyone received an email regarding a resident in town that received a nuisance letter. The property has been on the list for several years. Mayor Kehn instructed the attorney to proceed with legal action.

#### CHIP SEAL BIDS

We got two bids, the first bid from Midwest Coating Company for 56961.51 and the second one from The Road Guy Construction Company for 55375.07. A motion was made to accept the Road Guy construction for 55375.07 by Nielsen seconded by Bode. All voted aye, motion carried.

#### LAWNMOWER

All mowers Darin got quotes for are 60-inch zero-turn mowers. He has \$16000.00 in the budget this year for a new mower.

1. I received 3 quotes from John Deere for mowers. These all have different options, motor size, etc. The lowest price was \$18,288 and the highest price was \$19,888. The John Deere we had some years ago was a good mower, but this is a little more than I wanted to spend.

2. The quote I received for a Bobcat mower is \$14,494.15. The last mower we bought was a bobcat. It's a good mower, but I don't like it as much as the one we bought previously and still have. The dealer for this is also about 100 miles away, so parts and service would not be handy.

3. I received a quote from a company out of Huron for 2 different mowers. First was a grasshopper at the price of \$18,965. That mower is 60 inches, but that style is too big for us anyway, so I'm not interested. They also sent me a quote for a Ferris ISX 2200. The price was \$11,000. These are

mowers they have in stock. This is a nice mower, but it's not built up to specs like the rest of them. The ISX 3300 would be more comparable which they didn't quote me (maybe because they didn't have in stock, I'm not sure), but the prices online are in the same area as Bobcat and Hustler. From what I've read, Ferris is the nicest riding mower, but it doesn't cut as well as the others. Sometimes you sacrifice one thing for another.

4. The last quote I received was from Doug's Custom for a Hustler out of Mitchell. They quoted me a hyperdrive mower at the cost of \$15,049. This mower is a brand new one still unassembled in the crate, but a year old, so they gave a 500-dollar discount. 2-year warranty with 5 years limited warranty.

After some discussion, Bode made a motion to buy the Hustler from Doug's Custom. For 15,049. Seconded by Schult. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### CEMETERY BIDS

The first bid was from J&D Contracting LLC based in Plankinton, with a price of \$1,500 per mowing.

The second bid came from Kase Brouwer out of Armour, SD, at \$1,400 for the first ten guaranteed mowings.

Nielsen made a motion to accept the J&D Contract at \$1,500, and Bode seconded the motion. Aye - Bode, Bohr, Schuldt, and Nielsen; Nay- Popek-Hurst. Ayes have it, motion carried.

#### GRASSLAND BIDS

Only one bid for \$1259.61 by Eileen Hohn. Motion to accept the current bid was made by Bode, Seconded by Popek-Hurst. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

#### TREE GRANT

When Staff Forester John Hartland from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture, and his crew arrived in town, they reported that we have 21 dead trees and 65 healthy trees. Popek-Hurst spoke with Jody Hauge from the Aurora County Conservation Office regarding our grant application, which we had submitted last year, but postponed until this year. This is our final opportunity; if we don't secure the grant this year, we will lose it.

Jody has identified the specific trees that meet the state's height requirements for planting.

This grant is a matching grant of \$2,500.00, which will allow us to purchase approximately 30 trees, including water bags and fabric for each tree. Popek-Hurst would like to set aside a couple of hundred dollars for any unexpected issues that may arise.

Darin is interested in planting about 15 trees in the spring and another 15 trees in the fall. This will require one employee to work about half a day, two to three times a week just to water them.

Mayor Kehn suggested getting volunteers, possibly from 4-H, to assist with this project. We are aiming for the first week in May to begin the planting.

Popek-Hurst will come back in March with more information regarding which trees the council should plant.



## PAST DUE BILLS

Mayor Kehn asked if they are keeping up with their current bill which they are but not on the past due part. If they are not keeping up, why are they still on? It's time to shut people off. Bohr has the experience and what they do is someone is behind if it is a genuine problem then they give verbal extensions if they have never been delinquent before. If they don't follow through, then that's it they shut them off. They start paying and they know it's the end of the line. Get a deposit that is 2x the average billing of the resident. For new houses, they charge a minimum fee. However, if you have been delinquent for a significant amount of time or have not paid your bill, it will be double the average bill. This amount includes the past due balance, current charges, 2x average bill, and fees for disconnection and reconnection. The written contract serves primarily as a memory aid because verbal communications were often misinterpreted.

Bohr asked whether our system allows for prepayment. With our program, clients can pay as many times as they wish and, in any amount, at any time.

The council has decided to shut off services on February 7th if payment is not made in full, regardless of the circumstances. The council must support the girls publicly, as there is likely to be backlash from some individuals. With the availability of audio and video recordings, it is important to be transparent about what occurs.

## NEW BUSINESS

### EXECUTIVE SESSION- LEGAL SDCL 1-25-2(3)

Nielsen made a motion to enter Executive Session for legal reasons under SDCL 1-25-2 (3), with Schuldt seconding the motion. The motion carried, and they went into executive session at 8:13.

Mayor Kehn declared the council out of executive session at 8:31 pm with no action taken.

## ABATEMENT

The county sent over an abatement for a demolished property after the assessment date. Total valuation was \$44920 total taxes on the property were \$790.42 and the amount abated was \$330.25. So, they asked since the building is gone that the taxes be lower to \$330.25 for 2025 tax year payable.

Popek-Hurst made a motion to accept the lower abatement of \$330.25. Schuldt seconded the motion. All voted Aye, motion carried.

## 2024 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ORDINANCE

### 1ST READING

Darin ran through the supplement budget for 2024.

A motion was made to approve the first reading of the supplemental budget by Nielsen. Seconded by Popek-Hurst. All voted Aye, motion carried.

#### MEETING RECORDINGS

Mayor Kehn has authorized Finance Officer Kylee Urban to install audio and video equipment in the front office. Currently, there is a video available, but no audio in the conference room.

Mayor Kehn turned to Bohr to discuss the possibility of installing both audio and video in the conference room, except during executive sessions. The community needs to be able to both watch and hear the content of the council meetings.

Bohr informed the council that during initial discussions, it was suggested to have only audio instead of video. However, she disagrees with this approach, stating that it would be beneficial to see who is speaking to avoid miscommunication about who is addressing the council.

She suggested that we look at broadcasting on YouTube Live would be even better.

Mayor Kehn is enthusiastic about the idea of creating a YouTube channel where residents can listen to past council meetings and watch them live.

Nielsen expressed that having this option would be a valuable resource for reviewing what was discussed.

Mayor Kehn requested that the council approve the initiative, allowing the team to set up audio and video equipment in the council room and establish a live stream. He assigned Bohr to assist the team and provide updates on the progress during council meetings.

Nielsen informed the council that he had a conversation with Kylee regarding the challenges faced by our Spanish-speaking patrons due to language barriers. After some research, he discovered that a translator device is available for \$89.00, either at Walmart or Amazon, which could help address this issue. He suggested that the front office consider purchasing this device to better meet our needs. It was the consensus of the council to purchase it.

#### MAGDALENA FLYERS

Mayor Kehn suggested that any flyers created should be approved by the council. Primarily, the flyer serves as a reminder of ordinances, nuisances, and dog license fees. It is well-designed.

#### MAINTANCE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT.

We got all the equipment serviced this month except the skidloader and mini. We are waiting on filters and oil for those.

I've done some more work with the sewer project plan on the line to be done on State Street and Lawler Street. I also mentioned the line in an email to you on 9th that needs to be done. They did not get that done yet as the ground was too frozen and he did not have a tooth bucket for the excavator here. That's ok, we're running water down it some to make sure it stays open for now.

I spent quite a bit of time with the lawn mower bids this month. Comparing mower specs and prices, reading reviews, etc. I also spent a decent amount of time getting in contact with companies for the chip seal bids. I thought we were getting 4 but I guess we only got 2.

I did start on the jail pond with the excavator getting more sludge out of the north end. However, it was too slippery for now and it kept trying to slide in so I quit. Once it warms up if I can I will do some more.

There was a good pile of left over chip seal rock at the west state yard left over from last year. I talked with the county and state to make sure it wasn't theirs. I was unsure if it was ours or the companies that did it last year. Now knowing that company quit their business, I hauled it all out of there and put it at our west RU site. It had to be either ours or theirs, it's ours for sure now.

We had a couple of frozen water meters to replace this month.

I did move snow one morning. We got a half inch or so, there were no cars on Main Street, so I ran up and down the curbs. Now I can say I moved snow this winter.

The motel had a big water leak this month. This line is on its own 4-inch main. We turned it off 3 times and back on twice in one day. The last time I was there was after hours with Chance so he could turn the electricity back on as it got turned off when the fire department had to come from the smell of burning electrical. They wanted the water back on again, but I did not do it. Nobody is living or staying there, and they are not dripping any water to prevent freezing lines. The fire department thinks there are broken lines on the second floor dripping down and I wasn't going to turn on the water on a Friday early evening.

I signed up for a company to come and measure the sludge in ponds 1&2 at the lagoon. It's 1200 dollars, which is a good price. It will be nice to know what kind of shape they are in and what we can do to take care of any problem areas.

I did a little bit of street work (hole filling) on one of the nicer days.

I helped Chance a couple of days as he cut trees in some alleys and along Duff Street.

Today I took another online floodplain management training course for 4 hours.

#### ELECTRICAL SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

No outages this month. However the guys had an outage today due to picking up some trees.

I've been working off and on with the rate study

We did maintenance on the bucket trucks and vac. Barry and I took the pressure pump off on the vac and replaced all the inside parts. We had to replace the pump clutch also as the wire that runs it broke off flush and there is no way to splice onto it. That is up and running, seemed to be working fine with the little bit we ran it in the shop. The Altec bucket truck needs some work, the block heater for it kept tripping the GFCI in the shop, so we tested it, and for sure is bad. Traced it out and it's a really tight area to get to. Where it plugs into the motor, it is also leaking oil and possibly some coolant. I set up an appointment with Overwegs to have them fix it, as we don't have the proper

tools to fix it, and they may have to pull the cab to even work on it. I don't know how much it will cost.

I had both bucket trucks inspected, this is something that is done yearly. They go through the whole boom and look at all the cylinders for any leaks or bad hoses. They also do an electric test on it to make sure the booms are still insulated good. The Versalift has 0 issues, this is the newer truck, the Altec had a leaky cylinder that he said should be fixed as if it blows it will take the bucket out of level and wouldn't be good. We took that off and took it to Stickney to have fixed. That has been reinstalled as of Monday. Everything else was good.

Fire station is all wrapped up, inspector did a final on it middle of January.

I have safety training on February 14th in Miller. We will be able to get our hot sticks and grounds tested and will be good for another year if they pass.

We have been trimming trees with the nicer weather. We have been mostly focusing North on Duff Street and the alleyways that come off of it. With that, there are some bad spots in the overhead that feeds them, I have ordered an insulated "jumper" that will allow us to keep the lines energized while I fix the bad spots. When this comes in it we will get the spots replaced.

We replaced the rope on the flag pole at the Senior Citizens. Dan has been working on getting a new door built for the basement there as well. The current one is falling apart and the hinges are rotted out.

Started to get some measurements to get some panel stands made for the Jail Pond as well as West Side Park. Barry has made a couple of them for me, and they would look like the ones at the ballfields we did for the West field. Just trying to figure out what could be there for the future, so we size them right.

Heartland has changed some of their rebates for residents and businesses looking to upgrade water heaters and heat pumps. They have some rebates only for businesses looking to upgrade to LED lighting and refrigeration equipment as well. We can print some applications off at City Hall or people can visit the Heartland website at [Heartlandenergy.com](http://Heartlandenergy.com) and fill out online then print off and drop off to us.

#### FINANCE OFFICERS REPORT

This past month has been our regular bill payment, sending out utility bills, daily checking accounts, posting payments, bank reconciliations, and reports.

Kylee has been working on the kitchen in any free time she has, but it has not been much. We have tried to put away old past files in the safe as well and clean them up the best we can.

Kylee has been gone quite a bit this past couple of weeks because of her and the kids being sick with multiple different things.

Kylee is not here tonight due to the same issue. If you have any questions, feel free to email her or stop when she is back.

## MAYORS REPORT

With deepest regret, Mayor Kehn is resigning effective immediately as Mayor on February 3rd, 2025. He has dedicated many years to serving the community, including 20 years on the city council. He will be placing a notice in the newspaper regarding his resignation.

The entire council expresses gratitude for his service and wishes him good luck in his future endeavors.

## ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

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Brad Kehn,

Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cindy Geiman

Deputy Finance

Officer

(Published February 13, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$425.25, and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com).)