

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Members present were Mayor Brad Kehn, councilmembers Jason Schurz, Terry Schuldt, Carl Bode, Jim Nielsen and Magdalena Popek-Hurst. The city employee present was Kylee Urban. Visitors included Travis Weich, Todd Karst, and Gayle Van Genderen Studeny. Mayor Kehn called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

#### AGENDA APPROVAL

The Finance Officer added a couple of additions to the agenda including upcoming holidays Good Friday and Easter Monday, Todd Karst-Summer Rec and second grade community government letters. Mayor Kehn asked if there were any more additions or changes to the agenda. Mayor Kehn asked for a motion to approve the agenda with changes. Nielsen approved the agenda with changes made. Seconded by Bode. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### BILLS TO PAY

Schuldt made a motion to allow the finance officer to pay the bills. Seconded by Nielsen. All voted aye. Motion carried.

AMERICINN- CHANCES ROOM-\$319.92; DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY-POWER PURCHASE-\$20,761.00; HEARTLAND ENERGY-POWER PURCHASE-\$69,844.70; EAST RIVER ELECTRIC-WHEELING FEES-\$7,506.52; VERIZON WIRELESS-UTILITIES-\$79.12; ARMARK-RUG CONTRACT-\$52.66; DEMCO-LIBRARY SUPPLY-\$252.98; BARNES & NOBLE-BOOK PURCHASE-\$75.95; OVERWEG AUTO-REPAIRS-\$528.76; IRBY-ELECTRICAL SUPPLY-\$18,312.00; GUARDIAN-EMPLOYEE INSURANCE-\$267.85; DELTA DENTAL-EMPLOYEE DENTAL INS-\$366.10; AVERA HEALTH PLANS-EMPLOYEE INS.-\$6,937.24; CENTRAL ELECTRIC-RAMP LIGHTING/ WHEELING FEES-\$3,098.83; FASTENAL COMPANY-SUPPLIES-\$55.71; TOSHIBA- COPIER CONTRACT-\$172.90; SDDOT-FUEL PURCHASE-\$1,634.81; RONS MARKET-SUPPLIES-\$267.77; CORE & MAIN- SUPPLY-\$12.92; GWORKS-COMPUTER SOFTWARE-\$291.50; VISA-SUPPLIES-\$1,973.53; STOREY KENWORTHY-UTILITY BILLS-\$650.90; VSP-EMPLOYEE VISION-\$167.26; AFLAC-EMPLOYEE VOL. INS.- \$181.55; LARRYS I-90 SERVICE- PLOW BLADES-\$505.74; AURORA-BRULE WATER-WATER PURCHASE-\$6,697.90; WESCO-ELECTRICAL SUPPLY-\$2,902.50; L&L SANITATION-GARBAGE SERVICE-\$60.00; SPN-WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS-\$5,600.00; TITAN MACHINERY-EQUIPMENT-\$2,402.26; SCAVENGERS JOURNEY-ANNUAL PAYMENT-\$250.00; SD DEPT OF HEALTH-WATER TESTING-\$15.00; SUN FLOWERS ETC.-FLOWER ARRANGEMENT-\$26.63; DARIN CRANNY-MEAL REIMBURSEMENT-\$28.00; CHANCE BOYD-MEAL/FUEL REIMBURSEMENT-\$160.10; BARRY GEIMAN-MEAL REIMBURSEMENT-\$15.00; SD MAIL-ADVERTISING/PUBLISHING-\$559.54

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schurz made a motion to approve the minutes as they were sent out before the meeting. Seconded by Popek-Hurst. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Weich- Travis Weich brought in a building permit for a new grain bin that will be located west of their office. This will be a 78' in diameter bin. Summit Contracting will be doing the bin construction. Mayor Kehn and Building Inspector Jason Schurz will review the site and plans before approval.

Karst- Todd Karst came in to discuss some upcoming plans from the summer rec committee. The first thing he mentioned is that many kids are going out this year, meaning they may need another coach. The second thing he wanted to bring to the council's attention was the possibility of making turf fields. He told the council they hope to fundraise for this project but wondered what the city could give for their yearly funds. Todd explained that he would be back for next month's meeting with more details and finalizations on things but wanted to get in and just explain some things that were coming up.

#### HOLIDAYS

The council decided they would grant the city employees good Friday off and not Easter Monday, unless the county takes it off, then the city will as well.

#### SECOND GRADE LETTERS

The council read each second-grade letter to themselves with gratitude for the classes' input for bettering their community.

#### MURAL

Schurz made a motion to go with the final plan for the City Hall Mural as submitted by artist Zach DeBoer of Sioux Falls. Seconded by Bode. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### WATER RATE INCREASE.

Popek-Hurst suggested we put an article in the newspaper explaining the water rate raise better and make it clear to the city residents why it is needed. The Council will address the proposed rate increase at its April meeting.

#### APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

The new member was not able to make it. Tabled to next meeting.

#### NUISANCE PROPERTIES

Mayor Kehn explained he would like the finance officer to put together a list of what the council will be watching for and get it printed in the newspaper and hopefully issues will resolve themselves. He also mentioned there is one new property he wants to act on.

#### CEMETERY WORK

Darin Cranny, Maintenance Supt., received a quote from Plankinton Lumber to fix up the cemetery shed. Mayor Kehn told the council he would like to get this figured out and fixed so he would like the council to think about this as well.

#### GOLDEN WEST CONTRACT

Golden West sent over a prior contract and is asking for our approval of a renewal. Mayor Kehn asked the finance officer to send this over to our attorney and this will be resolved at our next month's meeting.

#### BUILDING PERMITS

Jason Schurz, Building Inspector, informed the council we had two building permits, Plankinton Elevator for a new grain bin, as discussed in public comments. Schurz said he would like to go look there to be sure, but there should not be any issues with it. Lloyd Jones was the other permit for a Poll Barn Shed. Schurz said he would also like to look over there first and review the site before approval.

#### MAINTENANCE SUPT REPORT

I installed some new LED lights on the front of the maintainer this month. I had a meeting with the company doing the mapping of our lines in town. I had a few things for her to correct. I took Magdalena around town one day and showed her most of the city properties and what we are all responsible for. I was able to spend some more time in the office this month catching up on some things. Spent the good part of a day cleaning storm drains before it was supposed to rain the next day. We all attended MSHA in Mitchell this month. Barry and I went the first day, Chance and Anna went the next day. As always, we spent some time preparing for the last snowstorm and had a few days of snow removal and hauling. A little bit more preparation and we will be ready for more snow this week if we get some. I had to get another new set of plow blades for the pickup. I had Anna (training her) weld some pieces on these to hopefully make them last longer. We are probably done hauling snow to the jail pond. We have quite a bit over there, and the ground is getting soft now. I have a couple of other thoughts on where we can haul if we need to. I have included the cemetery building estimate with your packet. The labor is listed as a crew doing it, if we had the lumberyard workers do it it would be cheaper. I for sure plan to do the fence ourselves. That is just a 6-foot high, 6-foot-long piece of fence going north and south on the back corners of the building. That is to help cover the dirt piled behind. I think we can do the roofing also. I know we can, it is just if time allows us to do so.

#### ELECTRICAL SUPT. REPORT

Our meter at the Fire station was not reading correctly. We rewired it last week and it seems to be working properly now. When we shut power down to the fire station, the generator would not start up. It would turn over 2-3 times and stop. It was a little low on oil, added some and after about an hour it started. I sent an email over to Skyler to get contact info for who does the maintenance on theirs. The fire station generator is the same brand as theirs and would be beneficial for it to be looked at once a year. I talked with Travis about the elevator bin last week as well. We should not have any upgrades over there for this project. I spent a little time looking over some other electrical rates of other cities with their increases and we are about in the middle of some of them that I looked over. We are comparable with Central Electric too. I am still working on getting quotes for bucket truck inspections. Hopefully, we can get them done in the next month or so. I did get quite a bit of material ordered for this year and some of it has showed up already. Some of them are out 6+ months. We have enough on hand to get started on some things once the weather gets nicer out. I will be working on getting some grant money from Heartland energy for a couple different things. I will work on getting some money for LED streetlights and fire station LED light upgrade. I will also work on trying to get some for the development. The LED upgrade they will give us up to \$5000 and the development one I think is the same. We had quite a bit of snow haul the last couple weeks. We were limited with the nice weather and not wanting to tear up many places with the loader. It was mostly done in the mornings while the ground was a little frozen. We did start clearing a couple alley ways to start trimming trees. We only got a couple of hours into it but will continue as the weather cooperates.

#### FIRE HALL ROOF

It was the Council's continued consensus to have Plankinton Lumber perform the work for the replacement of the Fire Hall roof with a new 26 Gauge R-Loc Steele roof at a quote of \$35,286.54, with Option 1 of tearing out and removing all blanket insulation and replace it with new R-19 blankets at a cost of \$18,946.04 and Option 2 of adding new gutters and down spouts at a cost of \$3,742.21.

#### MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Kehn mentioned that we want to start looking into timeclocks, as the city employees just write down their hours now and he believes it would be beneficial. He wanted to congratulate the boys' basketball team on making it to state. Mayor Kehn mentioned there will be a district 4 meeting in Geddes on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, for anybody who wants to attend. Mayor Kehn also mentioned he wanted the finance officer to look into the pricing of iPad's for council members to save on paper costs.

Bode wanted to let the council know he did a meet and greet with town residents. There were some suggestions brought up including having groups paint houses for people who are unable or can't afford to, planting trees around town, hosting a Welcome to Plankinton gathering for new residents and involving the Hispanic community more.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

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Brad Kehn, Mayor

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Kylee Urban, Finance Officer