

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton city council met in regular session Monday, April 3rd, 2023. Members present were Mayor Brad Kehn, councilmembers Jason Schurz, Carl Bode, Jim Nielsen, Terry Schuldt and Magdalena Popek-Hurst. City employees present were Chance Boyd, Darin Cranny and Kylee Urban. Visitors were Alan Birmeier, JP Studeny and Melissa Davis. Mayor Kehn called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Kehn asked for a motion to approve the agenda with additions of executive session-personnel, lifeguard applications, building permit and Melissa Staller for Pool Committee. Nielsen made a motion to approve the agenda with changes. Seconded by Popek-Hurst. All voted aye. Motion carried.

BILLS TO PAY

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

BARRY GEIMAN-CELL PHONE SUBSIDY-\$150.00; DARIN CRANNY-CELL PHONE SUBSIDY-\$150.00; CHANCE BOYD- CELL PHONE SUBSIDY-\$150.00; JASON SCHURZ-CELL PHONE SUBSIDY-\$75.00; ZACH DEBOER-FIRST HALF MURAL-\$2500.00; DELTA DENTAL-EMPLOYEE DENTAL INS.-\$366.10; CENTRAL ELECTRIC-RAMP LIGHTING/WHEELING FEES-\$2742.14; HEARTLAND ENERGY-POWER PURCHASE-\$60196.44; EAST RIVER ELEC- WHEELING FEES-\$7123.34; AVERA HEALTH PLANS-EMPLOYEE HEALTH INS-\$5376.36; SD DEPT OF HEALTH-WATER TESTING-\$30.00; TOSHIBA FINANCIAL SERVICES-COPIER CONTRACT-\$172.90; OVERWEG AUTO-SUPPLY-\$1145.38; L & L SANITATION-GARBAGE SERVICES-\$60.00; BORDER STATES ELEC-ELECTRICAL SUPPLY-\$1219.85; SPN & ASSOC-WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS-\$1400.00; GUARDIAN-EMPLOYEE STD, LTD & LIFE-\$267.85; BARNES & NOBLE-BOOK PURCHASES-\$94.35; POSTALIA-POSTAGE METER LEASE-\$89.95; VISA- SUPPLIES-\$262.44; SDML WORKMENS COMPENSATION- WORKMENS COMP AUDIT-\$886.00; SOUTH DAKOTA MAIL-PUBLISHING/ADVERTISING-\$879.01; MC & R POOLS-POOL SCHOOLING FOR 2-\$730.00

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Schurz made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20th, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Popek-Hurst. All voted aye. Motion carried.

POOL COMMITTEE

Melissa Davis of the Plankinton Pool Improvement committee came in to discuss the plans for some funds they received. Melissa told the Council the pool committee has \$90,000 for improvements plus what the City has budgeted for this year. They discussed whether the existing baby pool could be put back into operation or possibly install a splash pad. They also talked about fencing to provide access from the main pool area to the baby pool. If the Council has any suggestions, to please bring it to their attention.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-None

BUILDING PERMIT

Mayor Kehn let the council know they have approved the elevators building permit for a new grain bin at Lot R-3, Block Railroad, of the First Addition to the City of Plankinton.

GARBAGE ORDINANCE

The council went over the garbage ordinance and looked at making some changes, the finance officer will go over these changes with the attorney and a new ordinance will be made up to be adopted.

WATER RATE INCREASE

The finance officer is waiting on the attorney to get back to her with a resolution to put in place and this will be brought to the council at a later meeting.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES

Mayor Kehn informed the council that an ad will be put in the paper about nuisances and he hopes that many of them resolve themselves so we won't have to take action.

LIFEGUARD APPLICATIONS

Mayor Kehn passed around the applications and let the pool committee know we need to get interviews set up.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

New member was not present. Tabled until next meeting.

MAINT SUPT. REPORT

Most of the equipment has been serviced, have a little more to do. We will be getting our new mini excavator soon. The tree pile is almost all cleaned up at the east RU site. There's a little more to do, but not much. We do need to get a new hole dug out there, and a new hole at the west site. I'll look into getting that done soon. If it warms up like I've heard it is going to next week, it should dry some things out and we will probably open the east RU site on Saturday the 15th. I've gotten some more office work done this month. I'm working on a plan to get some things done before the sewer project starts. Our drinking water report will be in next week's paper. There was a little snow removal this last month. We are going to have a lot of cleanups and some repairs to do once the weather turns and piles melt. We are going to try and do some street patching as soon as the weather turns. Maybe next week. I got a call from A/B rural water a couple of Friday's ago at 7:30pm. Our water tower was low. I was able to get that taken care of. The Vine St. lift station alarm was acting up last week. Seems everything is working over there yet, but that gave me some concerns. That is scheduled to all be rebuilt this spring. Brad and I had a meeting at the courthouse on the hydrology study done by the county. The main hold up for the water to flow through town is the culvert east of Sherry Staller's house under the railroad tracks. The county is taking the lead on this and are working on getting an 85% grant to replace that. The remaining 15% would be split amongst the county, city, and railroad. That could be in the \$40,000 range for each entity. According to the study, the flood we had in 2019 was not a 100-year flood. If we had an "actual" 100-year flood, the water would have been over Pennington St (by Bobby Miller and Sherry Staller) and would have gone over the railroad tracks on Campbell St. That would cause many homes in town to be flooded if it did happen, so if we can get this grant, we really need to put up our share of the extra cost and get that installed.

ELEC. SUPT. REPORT

No outages this month, I did have a couple reports of blinking lights with the ice and wind Friday night. We have had a couple sections of streetlights quit working over the last couple weeks. One set was on Main Street in front of Horizon to the RR tracks. The other section was from the campground to the welcome sign. Both were easy fixes and had to use the vac on the 2nd one, I'm guessing it got nicked by the fiber crew and took that long to short out. They moved the governors house in across from the fire station and we did get trenched in for that and energized. There was about 1"-1.5" of frost through most of it. one low spot had about 6". I am guessing it's all out by now. I had Kylee order some contacts for the little field ballfield lights. This will make things simpler and easier for coaches to turn lights on and off out there. I have them started but haven't finished them yet. I have also began looking into some LED lights for the little field lights. Last month I said I was looking into a grant through Heartland for LED streetlights, but now looking into some lights for out there instead. I haven't yet applied for the grant as I will have to have lighting pricing beforehand. We had to pull the meter off on the east meadow townhomes so they could put siding on. we got that fastened back on and later in the day got the west townhome meter installed and worked with Kenny on that. I do have to level out the transformer for the North townhomes before we energize as that has settled, nothing too serious.

Barry and I came in yesterday to get the new service for Horizon energized. We had to shut down the transformer to move some things around and make room for it. we still need to swap the transformer out but won't do that until the existing service is eliminated out of there. this transformer also feeds city hall. This took us about 2 hours. I went to Volga on Wednesday for safety training, and I was going to go to the SDML electrical conference tomorrow but that got moved to later in the month because of the weather coming. The starter in the payloader went out a couple weeks ago and we were able to get a new one and installed in there. I've been taking some oversize and putting it down along the elevator road as it's been getting a lot of use and started to get bad with ruts. Hoping to get a base in some of the spots to hold. Also did some work on the North side of the USDA building as there has been some low wet spots in there for a while now. packed some oversize in there with some smaller stuff to hopefully get it to hold. Planning on getting out to the ballfields to fix the fence that the bleachers went through during the storm last May. Will check scoreboards and lights out when we go out there to make sure everything works.

FINANCE OFFICER REPORT

The finance officer wanted to inform the council that we just received our annual report back and will need to set a special meeting to go over this and get it approved so we can get it sent in. The council agreed to set the date for April 17th.

REFORESTATION OF PLANKINTON

Magdalena Popek-Hurst wanted to report to the council that she has been researching different programs to help bring more trees into the town. The council agrees this is a very good idea, and would like to start by planting some themselves on April 17th before the meeting and there was a lot of helpful information presented and covered.

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Kehn reported that the finance officer and the deputy finance officer have been looking into timeclock systems, as we have decided we need to implement one. He also reported that himself, the finance officer Kylee Urban, Deputy Finance Officer Cindy Geiman and Councilmember Magdalena Popek-Hurst attended the district 4 meeting in Geddes, SD on Thursday, March 29th. He reported that he learned quite a bit and there was a lot of stuff gone over. There was a lot of good information.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-PERSONNEL AS PER SDCL 1-25-2(1)

Mayor Kehn entertained a motion to enter executive session at 7:59. Nielsen made a motion to enter executive session. Seconded by Schurz.

Mayor Kehn declared the council out of executive session at 8:10pm. No action taken.

Mayor Kehn entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Schurz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20pm. Seconded by Popek-Hurst.

Next meeting is April 17th starting at 5:30 at the Westside Park and continuing at city hall.

Brad Kehn, Mayor

Attest: _____

Kylee Urban, Finance Officer