

April 7th, 2025 Meeting Minutes of the Plankinton City Council

The Plankinton City Council met in a regular meeting on April 7th, 2025.

Members Present included Mayor Carl Bode and council members Magdalena Popek-Hurst, Jim Nielsen, Terry Schuldt, and DeEtte Bohr.

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

J.P. Studeny, representing the South Dakota Mail, Curt Nelsen, Clint Bultsma, Amy Bultsma, Chris Hill, Travis Olsen, and Jeff Briggs were among the visitors.

Mayor Bode called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Bode informed the council that the Towing Contract would be deleted because Mr. Taylor is waiting for the Ordinance of Junk Vehicles to pass. Nielsen would like to add a day of service recognition after Briggs's development. Nielsen made a motion to approve the agenda by deleting the towing contract and adding the day of service, with Popek-Hurst Seconding the motion. All voted aye, and the motion carried.

BILLS TO PAY

Nielsen moved to approve the bills to pay, and Bohr seconded it. All voted aye, and the motion passed.

AURORA BRULE WATER- WATER PURCHASE-\$6354.50; AVERA HEALTH PLAN- HEALTH INSURANCE- \$3360.84; BARNES AND NOBLE- BOOKS PURCHASED- \$103.95; BARNES AND NOBLE- BOOKS PURCHASED- \$ 23.19; BARRY GEIMAN-CELLPHONE STIPEND \$150.00; BELL BANK- MINI EXCAVATOR- \$919.42; BELL BANK- SKID LOADER LOAN-\$867.73; BONNIE JOHNSON, ELECTION OFFICAL- \$150.00; BORDER STATES- ELECTRICAL SUPPLY- \$33.65; BRAD KEHN- CELL PHONE STIPEND- \$50.00; CARL BODE- CELLPHONE STIPEND \$125.00; CARRIE BRINK-LIBRARY SUPPLES-\$74.22; CATHY ALBRECHT- ELECTION OFFICAL- \$150.00; CHANCE BOYD- CELLPHONE STIPEND- \$150.00; CINDY GEIMAN- CELLPHONE STIPEND-\$150.00, CORE & MAIN- FLEXIABLE CURB KEY- \$477.44; DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP- 100 FT COND OOV- \$220.24; DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP- ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES- \$636.43; DAN GEIMAN- CELLPHONE STIPEND- \$112.50; DARIN CRANNY- CELLPHONE STIPEND-\$150.00; DARIN CRANNY- SDWWA MEETING LUNCH- \$43.65; DELTA DENTAL- DENTAL INSURANCE- \$146.10; DGR ASSOCIATES- PROFESSIONAL FEES- \$3920.00; FARMERS AND MERCHANTS- PAYROLL FEES-\$7.50; FLEETPRICE- CLAMPS AND EXHAUST TAIL- \$113.65; GOLDENWEST- UTILITIES- \$498.07; HEARTLAND- LOAN #1- \$1241.68; HEARTLAND – LOAN #2- \$1241.68; HOMETOWN FAMILY HEALTH- DRUG TESTING- \$57.00; IRBY- FIRE RATE GLOVES- \$66.85; JAMES VALLEY NURSERY- WOODCHIPS- \$ 9959.40; JIM NIELSEN- CELLPHONE STIPEND- \$25.00; JOAN SWANSON- ELECTION OFFICAL- \$150.00; KYLEE URBAN-

CELLPHONE STIPEND- \$100.00; L&L SANTIATION- GARBAGE SERVICES- \$60.00; MCLOEDS- ELECTION FORMS- \$29.00; NORTHWEST PIPE FITTING- WATER SUPPLIES-\$631.64; PLANKINTON LUMBER- SUPPLES- \$1229.35; ROADSIDE- FUEL PURCHASES- \$283.15- RON'S MARKET- WATER- \$41.92; SD RETIREMENT- MARCH 2025-\$ 2795.80; TOSHIBA- COPIER CONTRACT- \$ 199.61; UNEMPLOYMENT TAX- 2025 1st QUARTER- \$137.19; VESTIS- RUG CONTRACT- \$37.41; VISA- SUPPLIES- \$1085.23; SPN- ENGINEERING FEES- \$17419.56; SPN- ENGINEERING FEES- \$ 7450.00; DEMCO- LIBRARY SUPPLIES CREDIT- \$-214.23; CORE & MAIN- ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION CREDIT- \$-2048.88; MENARDS- KITCHEN REMODEL CREDIT- \$-621.37; MENARDS- ELECTIRCAL SUPPLIES- 94.93; SD MAIL – PUBLISHING- \$3470.27; DARRINGTON WATER- WATER-\$6.00; OVERWEG AUTO REPAIR- TIRE REPAIR- \$31.80; DEMCO- LIBRARY SUPPLIES- \$143.84; ABM- INSPECITONS- \$10.00.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Popek-Hurst made a motion to approve the minutes, and Schuldt seconded it. All voted aye, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

ELECTRICAL RATE STUDY

The council read RESOLUTION NO. 4-7-2025, stating the following.

RESOLUTION NO. 4-7-2025

A RESOLUTION REVISING THE ELECTRIC UTILITY RATE SCHEDULE IN THE CITY OF PLANKINTON, SOUTH DAKOTA.

BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Plankinton, South Dakota that the following rates, charges and regulations for municipal electrical service are hereby adopted and will be in effect until changed by further resolution of the City Council.

Table of Contents

1. Residential Service – Page 3
2. Small Commercial Service – Page 4
3. Large Commercial Service – Page 5
4. Outside City Limits Service – Page 7

Definitions & General Rules Applicable to All Classes of Service

1. FACILITY CHARGE: The monthly fee to partially cover the cost of bringing electricity to the customer's location. It is based on expenses the City incurs regardless of how much electricity is used and is a fee for accessing the City electric grid whether any energy is used or not. The facility charge continues so long as a meter is installed at any location.

2. ENERGY CHARGE: The energy is what the City charges a customer for electricity usage based on the energy consumed in terms of kilowatt-hours (kWh) in a given billing cycle and the rate for that energy. The charge is calculated by multiplying the number of kWh consumed during a billing cycle by the rate for energy in terms of cents per kWh.

3. ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT: The City may, at its discretion, implement an energy cost adjustment to compensate the City for variations in the cost of purchased power. At the time the adjustment is implemented, the calculation used to arrive at the adjustment will be developed, and the adjustment will be applied to all kWh billed by the City to its electric customers.

4. PROMPT PAYMENT PROVISIONS: All charges are net. If the bill is not paid or mailed and postmarked by the 20th day of the month following the billing date, a late payment charge of 10 percent of the balance due will apply. If the 20th of the month falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Holiday, the due date will be the next working day.

5. SALES TAX: Sales tax to be added to all electric bills so as to be in compliance with the provisions of the laws of the state of South Dakota.

6. CONNECTION FEE: A deposit made to the City to be held and retained by the City so long as the customer has a meter installed, whether energy is used or not. Upon either removal of the meter or transfer of the service at the customer's specific location to another customer, and payment by the transferor customer of all outstanding energy charges and payment by the transferee customer of an appropriate connection fee, the original customer's connection fee will be refunded to the original customer, without interest.

NOTE: Additional rate and charge definitions are applicable to Large Commercial Service and are set forth separately in the section relating to such customers.

1. Residential Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Residential customers for all domestic uses in single-family dwellings and individually metered apartments within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility, including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

CONNECTION FEE:

\$250.00 for all services.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) \$21.00 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 600 kWh @ 13.125¢

Next 600 kWh @ 9.975¢

Over 1200 kWh @ 8.295¢

2. Small Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period does not exceed 5,000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

\$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter; or three-phase, 60 hertz, 240/120V, 208Y/120V, or 480Y/277V, 4-wire, single meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) \$28.88 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 500 kWh @ 14.175¢

Next 3500 kWh @ 10.395¢

Over 4000 kWh @ 9.870¢

3. Large Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the City of Plankinton Electric Utility service territory, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period exceeds 5,000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

\$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

60 hertz, three-phase, 240/120 V, 208 Y/120 V, or 480 Y/277 V, 4-wire, or standard primary voltage available at point of delivery. Special voltages may be provided at the discretion of the utility. Utility furnishes only one transformer bank and/or one meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge \$52.50 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

All kWh @ 4.725¢

Plus

Demand Charge

All kW @ \$14.70

METERED DEMAND:

The metered demand for any month shall be the maximum kilowatt demand established by the consumer for any thirty-minute interval during the month as indicated or recorded by a demand meter.

POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT:

If the customer's average monthly power factor falls below 90%, leading or lagging, the utility may adjust the metered demand by the ratio of 90% to the measured average monthly power factor in percent. Example:

Metered Demand = 739 kW

Ave. Mo. Power Factor = 73.0%

Ratio = $90/73 = 1.2329$

Adjusted Demand = $(739) \times (1.2329) = 911$ kW

ADJUSTED DEMAND:

The adjusted demand consists of the metered demand adjusted for power factor, if applicable.

BILLING DEMAND:

The billing demand shall be the maximum measured thirty-minute integrated demand in the billing month, but not less than fifty percent (50%) of the maximum thirty-minute demand established in any of the twelve preceding months.

PRIMARY METERING:

The utility will furnish and install primary metering when service is taken by the consumer and metered at primary voltage. The consumer owns and installs all necessary primary and transformers beyond point of service. A 2% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for losses and investment return.

If service is taken at primary voltage (that is, customer owns primary and transformers) and metered at secondary voltage, a 1% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for investment return.

MEASUREMENT OF DEMAND AND ENERGY:

When there are two or more demand and energy metering installations on the customer's premises, the metered quantities shall be determined by adding together the separate meter readings before application of the rate, unless special provisions are agreed to by the utility. At the customer's request, and at the customer's expense, and at the Utility's discretion, the Utility may install special metering that will allow coincident demand billing.

4. Outside City Limits Service

APPLICABLE TO:

Residential, commercial, or farm customers within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility and outside of the City limits of Plankinton, including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity, where the average monthly energy usage in any twelve-month period is less than 5000 kWh.

CONNECTION FEE:

\$250.00 for all services.

SERVICE AVAILABLE:

Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

MONTHLY RATE:

Facility Charge (No kWh) \$26.25 per meter

Plus

Energy Charge

First 600 kWh @ 16.275¢

Next 600 kWh @ 11.865¢

Over 1200 kWh @ 9.765¢

5. Property Owner's [Landlord's or Lessor's] Responsibility for Renter's [Lessee's or Tenant's] Unpaid Electrical Charges

The owner of any real estate connected to the City electrical system is responsible for payment of all electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments upon read out and final billing to a tenant who is vacating such property. The owner will remain responsible for such electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments until such time as a new tenant applies for service at such property and pays the required deposit in full. Upon read out and final billing on rental property which is actually known to the Municipal Finance Officer to be rental property, the Finance Officer will, within a reasonable time not to exceed ten (10) business days, notify the owner of such property that read out and final billing to the tenant has occurred and that the owner is responsible for payment for continued electrical service to the property. Such notice may be by telephone, email, or by first class mail as determined by the Finance Officer. It is the duty and obligation of the owner of such property to properly notify the City and authorize a complete disconnection if the owner does not wish to remain responsible for continued electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments to the property.

Adopted this 7 day of April, 2025.

Mayor

Attest:

Cindy Geiman

Finance Officer

Popek-Hurst motioned to approve the written resolution, with Nielsen seconding. A roll call vote was taken Bohr- aye, Popek-Hurst- aye, Nielsen- aye, Schuldt- aye. The motion passed.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES/JUNK VEHICLE ORDINANCES

Mr. Taylor wrote an ordinance amending our current one.

For purposes of defining the term “motor vehicle” under §92.35 of the City Code of the City of Plankinton

(a) Subsection (1) thereof is amended by inserting “or towable” at the end thereof;

(b) Subsection (2) thereof is amended by inserting “or towable” following the word “driveable”; and

(c) the section thereof entitled **MOTOR VEHICLES** is amended by striking the period at the end of such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

“and any camp or camper trailer or travel trailer designed for camping and travel and offering facilities used, or intended, for sleeping, cooking, shelter, or other dwelling use and designed or modified to be towed behind, or carried upon, a vehicle designed to be propelled by power other than muscle power.”

The council instructed Cindy to have Mr. Taylor change “camp” to “camper.” Besides that, Popek-Hurst made a motion to entertain the ordinance revision, with Nielsen seconding. The motion carried.

WELLS

Nielsen wanted to thank the city guys for getting well tested. Nielsen talked to Eddy Hoffman with Letcher Well Service that he would be available to help pull the well.

Chance presented the council with a spreadsheet detailing various quotes for the cost of getting only the electrical components operational. The three quotes are \$26,630.95, \$9,852.16. and a minimum of \$5,521.31, including installing a VFD (Variable Frequency Drive), which would convert single-phase power to three-phase. This would enable the well to become operational; however, it would only produce about 10-15 gallons per minute and would take approximately 2 hours to fill their small water truck. Therefore, a storage tank would likely be necessary to collect the water, after which it would need to be pumped out with another pump not included in the quote and then refilled. This was the previous setup. Nielsen turned to Plankinton Fire Chief Jeff Briggs and inquired what would happen if they ran out of water. Jeff explained that on the fire department's side, in case of an emergency, they have sufficient pumps to drop one into the Jail Pond and pump water directly from there. The dry hydrant had been utilized in the early 2000s when they faced a water shortage following the school fire. Jeff remarked that due to prevailing sentiments, they would draw water directly from the jail pond, avoiding using the dry hydrant. They are also seeking an additional \$ 500.00 piping to get it to the jail pond. Darin informed the council that he previously had permission to demolish that billing, necessitating the construction of something to cover the well itself. Eddy Hoffman stated that for \$ 2,700.00, he would remove the well, but they would still need to pay for the pump and the control box. Bohr asked whether the discussion was solely about filling the jail pond, noting that it was not included in the budget and the team would not have the time until later this summer. She believes this matter should be postponed until next year's budget. Nielsen expressed concern that they could run out of water if the drought continues. Darin reminded the council that the two 20-foot holes in the jail pond contain ample water. The council made the decision to table this subject until it is time for next year's budget.

DELINQUENT BILLS

Mr. Taylor drew up an ordinance amending Chapter 50 regarding delinquent bills. The council was directed to review the ordinance and decide if they would like to pursue this as written. It includes the changes the council made at the last meeting. The changes are adding a 9:00 time limit on the 7th day, reconnect and disconnect, and after-hours fees. Nielsen made a motion to go ahead with the ordinance, and Magdalena seconded it. The motion passed.

PAST DUE BILLS

There are still quite a few past-due accounts. One thing I noticed is that the payments are getting bigger and more frequent. Shut-offs will happen tomorrow. Two accounts haven't made payment since February. Cindy was directed to contact those two people and see what the situation is.

NEW BUSINESS

SUMMER REC PROGRAM

Chris Hill and Travis Olsen representing the Summer Rec Committee. They only had one position but two applicants for 10U softball. So, they held interviews last week and decided. They recommended hiring 8U softball Andy Tipton, 10U Maggie Overbay, and 12U Rachel Pata. For baseball, they only had one application for 8U; Jace Connor will be their recommendation for that. 12U will be Kyle Bruinsma. They had no applicants for 10U but had a high school student express interest. They went and asked the parents of all the 10U players about having Keagan Hill coach, and all the parents supported having him be the baseball coach. Because none of the parents expressed interest in coaching the 10U baseball, some of the parents did, however, express interest in helping at games. Also recommending Chris Hill for teener baseball coach.

For the concession stand, they had Jeanson and Rachel Pata with Pata BBQ and Wings reached out. They would like the council's permission to run a few friers in there. The stand does have a vent for stuff like that.

Then, Chris helped out last year by mowing at the field with Travis. Travis took a different job, so he won't be able to help; however, Kyle Bruinsma has applied to help with the fields this year.

The changes are going on. Zach poured concrete this year, and they are now going to turf that, and the batting cage will be set next week. Also, the west field dugout they want approval to reconstruct it. If they get approval they would like to start next week possibly. And be done by the 3rd spring softball game. They should be done before the youth softball game on May 14th and 15th. They have a total of 30 games out there this summer.

Nielsen made a motion to take the recommendation of the summer rec committee on hiring the coaches at 1200.00 per team, Pata's taking the concession stand, and the approval of the west side dugouts. Popek-Hurst seconded the motion. All voted aye, and the motion passed.

FIRE/AMBULANCE

Amy, Clint, and Jeff asked to be on the agenda because the fire station is complete. And they are asking for a long-term lease of the building. They just want to protect the money they have invested. The city is required by law to have fire protection for the city. They still want to have something on paper stating that the building has a long-term lease. They were considering doing something like we did at the senior citizen center for 20 years for \$1.00. They utilized the office part by training 7 new firefighters this year.

Nielsen would like to make a motion to entertain the long-term lease for the fire department for \$.05 cents a year. Popek- Hurst seconded the motion. All voted aye.

JEFF AND NATALIE BRIGGS- BRIGGS DEVELOPMENT

Briggs Development on the north end of town. It is looking to finalize some of the grant process from the state. Take over the infrastructure as it is completed. Darin asked if Jeff would lift the manholes, as they had discussed. Discussion was had about the manholes. We need to label the streets and take infrastructure over for those streets. Jeff will contact the state to see if he can get samples of the infrastructure paperwork.

DAY OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

The US commander of the VFW. They would like the city to make a proclamation for the day of service on May 5th, 2025. There's a template that we can use at the next meeting. This is for Post 5564. They are ranked 7th best post in the state.

SEWER PROJECT UPDATE, STATUS OF STREET REPAIRS

They are done digging the main sewer lines in. Unless something comes up on the camera from the lining crew, no more complete sewer lines will be dug up. The lining crew will come and clean the lines and then camera the lines before they put the liner in. They brought a skid loader and will start on the ditches in the next few days. The roads might not get fixed until the end of April when they fire up the Asphalt Plant. The guys have spent some time and will spend more now that it is nice out going around and filling holes with gravel until the road crew can get here. Councilperson Schuldt brought up if the road crews are fixing the roads they are driving on, and cuts in the asphalts are about two inches deep. You sure can see the cuts in the road where they were driving the excavator around. The only road Darin was thinking about not doing was Kimball Street. Basically, all of Lawler Street is going to get torn up and redone. And State Street was going to be done to Kimball Street. Mayor Bode suggested that Schuldt and Darin get together and look at the roads that Schuldt is talking about.

BUILDING PERMITS

CURTIS & KATHLEEN GUIDON-205 E COMMERCE ST- POUR CONCRETE- APPROVED; ZACH SCOTT- 604 N KIMBALL- 7FT ADDITION- APPROVED; RAY AND TERESA DELUDE- 404 W DAVENPORT STREET- HOT TUB ENCLOSURE- APPROVED; LONNIE AND FARRAH MAHRT- 209 N VINE STREET- ADDITION- APPROVED; PAT AND LOLA MAE CRANNY- 101 N KIMBALL STREET- APPROVED; BRAD KEHN- 107 E PENNINGTON STREET- ENCLOSED LEAN-TO- APPROVED.

PROJECT BOUNDARY FENCE

Dakota State University conducted a penetration test on the city infrastructure back in December. The ball was somewhat dropped on the report, so Carl and Cindy met with Aaron Baker, Hunter Wade, and Landan Hand. In the 74-page report, there were two critical issues, four high-priority items, eleven medium concerns, and one informational note finding. In 2024, Senate Bill 187 allocated \$7 million to establish cybersecurity services for counties and municipalities. Cindy was assigned the task of sending this report to A&B to obtain a quote on the cost of fixing the problems. Carl and Cindy will also follow up on the procedures for applying for the funding.

EMAIL SECURITY UPGRADE

We received a phishing email through our firewall at the city. The email claimed that one of our council members requested their payroll payment via ACH instead of a check. This email security upgrade includes advanced email threat protection, backup and restore services, and email continuity service. Essentially, it enhances our email filtering security. The cost to the city is minimal, at \$ 4.15 per email address, totaling \$ 33.20 monthly. Schuldt made a motion to approve

the cost of the email filtering system, and Nielsen seconded it. All voted aye, and the motion passed.

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

Nielsen made a motion to enter executive session with Popek-Hurst seconded, motion carried. Mayor Bode declared them in executive session at 8:09 p.m.

Mayor Bode declared the out of executive session at 8:39. With no action taken.

FINANCE OFFICER APPLICATIONS

Finance Officer Applications:

There were about three applications, and none of them met the qualifications that they had listed in the ad with experience in financing or accounting. We will send those applicants a letter to thank them for applying. Nielsen will make a motion to hire Cindy Geiman as Finance Officer at \$25.00/hour, starting immediately with a 90-day probation period. Considering the work she has done as an interim finance officer. Magdalena would like to second the motion. All voted aye motion passed.

HIRING LIFEGUARDS/TICKET TAKERS

We have applications for lifeguards and will be able to hire five lifeguards tonight. Some are new, and some are experienced. However, two of the seven won't be interviewed until April 17th. We are shooting for May 19th for training with Katheryn. Pending scheduling it with her. Popek-Hurst would recommend hiring Macayla Gerlach as lead lifeguard at \$17.00/hour, Madison Mueller at \$14.00/hour, Teagan Bush at \$14.00/hour, Mickayla Kavanagh at \$14.00/hour and Memphis Baker at \$15.00/hour. Nielsen made a motion to hire these 5 lifeguards at the salary. Bohr seconded the motion. All voted aye, motion carried.

Ticket Takers

We have seen increased interest in ticket-takers this year. However, it is concerning that some of the interviewees are not as available as we would like. For instance, they may not be able to work at night, on weekends, or during holidays. Popek-Hurst recommends hiring returning ticket taker Avery Faulhaber at \$14.00 per hour. Bohr made a motion to hire Avery, which Nielsen seconded. All voted Aye; the motion carried.

Darin Cranny, the Maintenance Superintendent, gave his report.

Barry and I put in the kitchen floor last month.

The Briggs lift station is finished now. We were there helping with a test that needed to be done for the engineers.

We changed 3 more curb stop risers on Lawler Street when the sewer crew was over there.

We all attended an 811 meeting last month in Mitchell.

We had R.U. site inspections last month. There's always a couple of things they notice, but all in all that went well.

I spent some time with the sewer crew while they were finishing their last area of line replacement. They are done unless something comes up when the lines get a camera down them that are set to be lined. Just a matter of getting all the clean-up and roads done in town now.

I spent a day fixing some miscellaneous things on the truck.

I spent a lot of time at the jail pond last month. Mayclin's donated rock for us to use, so I had Barry haul in 4 truck loads for me. Chance also had some and brought in a dump trailer load to use. I put it on the sides of the land bridge, other various areas, and on the east side where we had the dike to hold water built. I also built an area for someone in a wheelchair to be able to get closer to do some fishing. I put rock around that also.

We will no longer be getting grant money for mosquito spraying since the state cut their budget. We were getting +-\$2,000 per year. We have enough spray for the fogger on hand for this year but that is something else we need to budget for.

I talked to rural water; they aren't too concerned about the drought as far as supplying us with the water we need. If it does get really bad, like I said, we would get as much notice as they could give us on any restrictions, but they don't see anything like that happening. They did say they expect water prices to keep rising. We are scheduled to raise one more time in 2026 right now. I've been saying for years we need to raise rates yearly. If it's 3%, that's only a little over a dollar a month per customer. That can always be stopped or put on hold if we set it up as so in a resolution.

We've had some issues with our skidloader breaking steel hydraulic lines. One line has been replaced 4 times. We've usually been having them send a new one out and change it here. Last time they sent a guy out to do it and it lasted a couple of hours of use, then it leaked again. They hauled it back and fixed it there this time. I've been after the salesman to take this back and get us a new one at the same lease price. He's working on that now; we'll see how that goes.

We spent quite a bit of time filling in the bad spots on the gravel construction areas. We'll have more to do tomorrow.

The wood chips are here for the playgrounds. We will be starting on the pool projects real soon as we have quite a few of them.

I also got quite a bit of office work done this last month.

Chance Boyd Electrical Superintendent

We had one primary outage on the South circuit caused by a pine tree. This has since been trimmed back. We also had a meter socket go bad on the West side of town. We were able to just replace the lugs inside to get it back up and going. This style of meter socket is about the only one we ever have issues with. When we do our underground, we do replace most of the meter sockets as most of

them are 40-60 years old. I do save some parts out of the ones we replace so when we have after-hours calls like this we can swap out the insides a lot quicker than replacing the whole socket.

We trimmed quite a few more trees over the month again. Will probably be close to finished with that for awhile unless something major happens.

We were able to get our panel stand set and energized for the Jail pond this last month. We set this by the land bridge on the West side. Once they have everything else done with the gazebo, we will go back and get a couple of outlets added to it.

I have locates called in for West side park panel stand and for a crossing on 5th street I need to do before the road crew comes back.

Replaced a couple of streetlights

We had a 3 phase meter quit reading back to the system. It was still reading on the meter but I replaced it. I have a box of 4 meters that have quite reading that is being sent in today to see if they can fix them. There is no guarantee they will be able to or not but with how long it takes to get them and how expensive they are, we are going to try.

We went through and repaired quite a few bad spots in some overhead primary. We were able to repair all of these without shutting any power off.

I got the street sweeper out on Friday and got Main street swept up.

We will start to do some work at the ballfields and at the pool in the coming weeks. We built some rebar cages for the boxes Dan made awhile back for the canopy for the pool that the pool committee bought last summer.

Did some road work with patching holes in some of the gravel areas

We were able to get some rock and border put around the lift station at the Briggs Development. This will make it easier to maintain it and make it look a lot nicer.

We were able to test the well pump with our generator. We didn't run it real long as we don't have the correct voltage. We were able to pump water with it, but it is slow. I worked on getting a price list for a couple different scenarios. We got most of the building cleaned out last week, and hoping to finish it up today.

A reminder, my wife is due this month with our second child. I plan to take at least a week off once that happens as I did with our first.

Finance Officers Report

I have been keeping busy with everyday tasks. I submitted tickets to GWorks/SimpleCity regarding changes to the delinquent notices. Additionally, some items required adjustment in the settings.

While going through the billing, I noticed that a landlord in town wasn't being charged for utilities for a rental they had from November 2024 to the present. Chance contacted the landlord on my behalf

and said he would pay the amount. This presented the opportunity to review the remaining accounts, which revealed nine other accounts that need addressing.

Every Wednesday this last month, I have had election training webinars. Much of it deals with school elections, but municipal items are also included. These are free webinars. I have been keeping in touch with SD Mail and Susan Urban regarding the steps and items I will need for the election. We had election training on April 4th with the precinct workers and Susan Urban. I have the election coming up tomorrow so that I will be extremely busy with that for the next couple of days.

I have been processing monthly incoming bills on a weekly basis rather than all at once. This approach helps keep things efficient and organized. Depending on my workload, I make weekly deposits on Mondays and Thursdays or Fridays. I completed the payroll and sent out the bills on March 28th. Later this month, I will prepare the quarterly reports and submit them.

I have been working on gathering all the pool information and making copies so that when the time comes, it is ready to go. I sat in on the interviews of the lifeguards and ticket takers this month.

On March 24th, around 2:00 p.m., I received an email that appeared to be from Councilmember Nielsen, requesting a change from a check to an ACH payment for his payroll. This was a scam. They proceeded to send the paperwork to change to ACH. Luckily, I had already processed payroll and told "Jim" he was too late for this quarter. No private or financial information was shared, and I didn't even enter it into our computer program.

Mayors Report

Cindy and I followed up with Aaron Baker, Hunter Wade and Landan Hand on the results of the Project Boundary Fence penetration testing performed by Dakota State back in December. They shared their 74 page report with us last week which included two critical, four high, eleven medium and 1 informational vulnerabilities. Senate Bill 187 in 2024 made a \$7 million appropriation to establish a cybersecurity services initiative for counties and municipalities throughout the state. The Office of the Attorney General approves the vouchers and the state auditor draws warrants to pay expenditures authorized by this Act. Cindy and I will follow up to obtain the funding to help the city resolve these vulnerabilities.

The city experienced an email phishing attack a couple weeks ago along with several other businesses in town. Cindy has looked into an email security upgrade offered by A&B.

I coordinated with Cindy to ensure all of the election activities the city is responsible for is ready so we have a successful election conducted on Tuesday. Cindy has been doing a great job getting everything all ready. I spent some time writing up my entry for the candidate's forum included in last week's SD Mail.

Helped Cindy with dispositioning various delinquent utility bills and helping one customer understand their current balance based upon the budget billing that had been set up for him.

Carrie Brink sent me a copy of her library report required to be sent to the state every year. I had several questions which Carrie kindly replied back to me.

Roman sent us a report of an issue with animals at large on the west side of town. Incidents occurred three times in the past month. The property is just outside city limits, but livestock were running around within the city. Roman informed us he intended to summon the owner to court. I just had a call this morning about the same livestock out again.

The city is still looking for summer help with the mowing. Chris Hill has kindly applied to mow the ball fields.

The Dept of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) conducted a sanitary survey of our water system on Feb 28. There were no violations or significant deficiencies. There were four requirements and seven recommendations that were noted in the report that the city will address as best we can.

The RU sites were inspected on March 12. Overall we had a Satisfactory or Good compliance with a couple minor compliance issues to address.

We've had a few applications for the Finance Officer position available. We've had a few applications locally, but none with any finance education or experience. We've run a state-wide ad for two weeks with no results so far.

Looking ahead, things to focus on include: election, Clean Up Day, and evaluating our wells, finishing the sewer project and getting the torn up streets back in order soon. I've signed up to attend the Energize Conference in Platte on May 6-7 at no cost to the city for ideas on how to revitalize our rural communities. I look forward to ideas that will be shared at the conference and will report back what I have learned.

ROUND TABLE

Bohr wants to say good luck to all the candidates for tomorrow's election and give a shout out to Cindy for all the hard work she has been doing. Help with the Delinquent notices and getting back to her in a timely manner.

Popek-Hurst wants to say that the trees are in. We can plant them anything. Shooting for April 21 or April 28th. Maybe put on a special meeting to set a date to plant trees. She will get a hold of Mrs. Victor to gather some kids to help

Nielsen again wanted to thank the guys for looking at the wells. VFW post was named 7th in the state. Thanks, SD Mail, for the interviews and great articles they post.

Schuldt looking forward to tomorrow.

Adjourn at 9:20

Carl Bode

Mayor

ATTEST:

_____:

Cindy Geiman,

Finance Officer