

COOPERSTOWN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting April 3, 2023

The Cooperstown City Council met Monday, April 3, at 7:00 pm in the city council room. Present: Paul Paintner, Deb Eslinger, Steve Perry, Larry Olson, Seth Hanson, Charles Dehoff, and Allen Gruman. Others present: Public Works David Ludwig and Tucker Eli, Auditor Christine Olson, Deputy Auditor Naomi Trostad, and Taylor Ellefson. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Olson to approve March 6, 2023, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Dehoff, seconded by Perry to approve March 9, 2023, special meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Taylor Ellefson provided the council with information regarding water flow and the concrete spillway next to his property in the cul-de-sac near his home located at 707 Cherokee Court. The council will revisit the issue when the snow is gone.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Hanson to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing regarding the USDA grant application. Motion carried. No written comments were received, and there were no comments from anyone present.

Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Olson to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting. Motion carried.

David Ludwig provided a public works report. Water meter tops that were no longer cell phone compatible have been replaced. The Water Treatment Plant filter has been drained down and saturated, to help regenerate the filter to be more effective. An issue with the alarm communications at the Water Treatment Plant has been addressed and is working properly. A Source Water Protection Plan prepared by ND Rural Water Systems Association was shared. There are several things that can be done to protect our source water, and we are doing what is required. The chlorine injector at the Water Treatment Plant has been repaired. EPA has set new procedures for PFAS testing which will be implemented, and includes more frequent testing and lower acceptable levels being implemented. Manhole on 4th St and Roberts Ave has been checked and there have been no issues.

Christine Olson provided the auditors report. A suggestion to hold citywide Clean Up from May 15-20 was made, with the possibility of also holding a fall clean up week. Broken payload window was turned into NDIRF and payment was made. National Public Works week is May 15-21, and local daycares and school were notified to see if any students would like to take a tour of public works equipment. Chris and Naomi attended the NDLC Spring Conference March 21-22. The Griggs County Library contacted the city to inquire about blocking off Main Street for a program to kick off their summer reading program and promote literacy on June 7 from 3 pm to 6 pm. They will be inviting the city, fire dept, ambulance, police to have some equipment displayed for people to tour. All information for the USDA Community Facilities Grant has been submitted to Isaac Yturralde. He has informed me they have a new program director, so they might have to submit everything through the national office. One thing he did suggest is that we look at putting in place a Capital Improvement Plan to explain any excessive funds we may have. Chris will look into what would be involved in putting a plan in place. Chris has reached out to Farrah Saxberg to see if she would do our Tax Equalization meeting. She has not gotten back to us yet. Perry suggested we set April 25 as the date for our Tax Equalization meeting, getting the values from Farrah and finding someone to sign off on them. Chris has checked, and the cost to become a Class 2 Assessor will be about \$700-\$1000. Motion by Perry, seconded by Eslinger to allow Chris to start classes to get certified as a Class 2 Assessor. Motion carried. The landfill permit renewal was submitted, but a letter was received back requesting some additional information. Andrew Aakre from Moore Engineering has been contacted to see if they could provide any of the map information.

Motion by Eslinger, seconded by Olson to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried. A suggestion was made to begin looking at external auditors; Chris will check to see if anyone would be available and what the cost will be.

The list of bills was presented. Motion by Olson, seconded by Perry to approve payment of the bills presented. Roll call vote with all voting aye, motion passed unanimously.

We have received an application for a public works employee. Eslinger asked the other council members if they felt we need to hire a 3rd person, or if the necessary work could be done with 2 people. It was agreed we should interview him, and that we should have 3 public works employees.

Discussion regarding wages to attract employees was held. Motion by Perry, seconded by Hanson to increase Tucker Eli wage to \$18.50 per hour effective immediately, and begin new full-time employees at \$18.50 per hour. Motion carried.

The council needs to appoint a special assessment committee consisting of 3 people who are not members of the council or employees of the city. Council members were asked to provide names of people who could be asked to be members.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Eslinger to approve a building permit for a manufactured home submitted by Gary Nelson. Motion carried.

Motion by Perry, seconded by Dehoff to approve a property tax abatement. Motion carried.

Motion by Hanson, seconded by Eslinger to approve a local permit for a 50/50 raffle submitted by GCC Archery. Motion carried.

Perry informed the council the Cooperstown Fire Department has approached him about adding garage space onto the existing building. The discussion is that we have all outgrown our current space. A suggestion was made that the fire dept, ambulance, and city sit down to discuss what the options are and work together on a plan. Christine will check to see if there are any grants for emergency responder buildings that can be applied for.

Correspondence included was from Swanson & Warcup, the firm representing the city in the lawsuit; a letter from North Country Trail; and a Lead Service Line Survey. The city has applied for a grant from the state to assist in completing the survey. Also, the Annual Drinking Water report has been completed.

Paul has been approached by Bob Brooks on behalf of the Senior Citizens center again about purchasing some of the lots next to their building. Chris suggested that a letter be sent to them to present an offer and plan to the city before anyone tells them anything as they have approached several people on the council at different times.

Perry reminded everyone, council and employees, to not argue with residents about snow issues, but to listen and tell them we will look into the issue and get back to them.

Motion by Dehoff, seconded by Hanson to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Christine Olson, Auditor

Paul Paintner, Mayor

1130 Citizens State

110696e	BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	4/4/2023	\$8,305.73	BLUE CROSS
110697e	ZIONS BANK	4/17/2023	\$402,403.75	Series 2021A principal
110698e	ND STATE TAX DEPT	4/4/2023	\$531.06	Quarterly state payroll taxes
110699e	VERIZON WIRELESS	4/26/2023	\$120.03	MIFI INTERNET
110701e	VISA	4/14/2023	\$296.99	Microsoft Office
110703e	EFTPS	5/1/2023	\$3,653.55	Payroll taxes
110704e	NDPERS	5/1/2023	\$1,659.54	Retirement
113626	COOPERSTOWN MUN AIRPORT	4/3/2023	\$4,845.98	AIRPORT PROPERTY TAX
113627	ARAMARK	4/3/2023	\$267.28	Towels, mops, mats
113628	ASAP EELECTRIC	4/3/2023	\$90.00	Fixed handicap door opener
113629	BRAGER DISPOSAL SERVICE	4/3/2023	\$6,800.00	CITY HALL DUMPSTER
113630	CHRISTINE OLSON	4/3/2023	\$264.92	CELLPHONE
113631	CITY OF FARGO, NORTH DAKOT	4/3/2023	\$14.00	WATER SAMPLES
113632	COOPERSTOWN DRUG	4/3/2023	\$15.56	Ambulance meds
113633	COOPERSTOWN HARDWARE	4/3/2023	\$300.82	Ambulance 1/2 toilet in mtg room
113634	DAVID LUDWIG	4/3/2023	\$486.96	CELLPHONE
113635	DEBRA ESLINGER	4/3/2023	\$45.00	Retirement cake-Blaine L
113636	DIRT PRO	4/3/2023	\$600.00	March snow removal - 6 hours
113637	EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUC	4/3/2023	\$674.76	Metal wall cabinet with alarm
113638	FOSTER COUNTY MEDICAL CEN	4/3/2023	\$100.00	DOT Physical - David Ludwig
113639	GENERAL EQUIPMENT & SUPPLI	4/3/2023	\$1,726.76	Payloader glass, hydraulic oil
113640	GILBERTSONS	4/3/2023	\$39.35	Top kick hub cap
113641	GRIGGS COUNTY TELEPHONE	4/3/2023	\$620.51	AUDITOR
113642	HAWKINS INC	4/3/2023	\$507.44	Azone
113643	HOMETOWN SERVICE CENTER	4/3/2023	\$840.95	'98 Dodge idle motor/distributor cap/spark plug
113644	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	4/3/2023	\$442.09	Rear view mirrors for JD tractor
113645	GRIGGS COUNTY LIBRARY	4/3/2023	\$6,702.51	LIBRARY PROPERTY TAX
113646	LVC SYSTEMS	4/3/2023	\$65.00	WTP printer issues
113647	MEGAN KRAMER	4/3/2023	\$120.00	EMS conference registration
113648	MILLERS FRESH FOODS	4/3/2023	\$83.95	City hall janitorial supplies
113649	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	4/3/2023	\$5,800.00	Bidding services 21275B Street Improvements
113650	NAOMI TROSTAD	4/3/2023	\$62.64	Cell phone
113651	ND LEAGUE OF CITIES	4/3/2023	\$400.00	Spring Workshop registation-Chris O/Naomi T
113652	NDDEQ	4/3/2023	\$37.08	Water samples
113653	NEW CENTURY PRESS	4/3/2023	\$627.93	Minutes 3/6, 3/9
113654	OTTER TAIL POWER CO	4/3/2023	\$4,734.87	CITY HALL
113655	COOPERSTOWN PARK BOARD	4/3/2023	\$17,459.81	PARK BOARD PROPERTY TX
113656	PENGUIN MANAGEMENT, INC.	4/3/2023	\$1,206.00	Ambulance E-Dispatch
113657	RADISSON HOTEL BISMARCK	4/3/2023	\$433.80	Spring Conference lodging-Chris O/Naomi T
113658	SWEENEY CONTROLS CO.	4/3/2023	\$322.00	Water tower lag pump labor
113659	TUCKER ELI	4/3/2023	\$35.00	Cell phone
113660	Zoll Medical Corporation GPO	4/3/2023	\$734.08	Lithium ion battery
113661	ND ONE CALL, INC	4/4/2023	\$5.20	March tickets x 2
113662	GovOffice LLC	4/4/2023	\$52.50	Email service 03/2023-03/2024
113663	TOWN & COUNTRY CO-OP	4/6/2023	\$695.52	City shop propane
113664	H E EVERSON	4/6/2023	\$177.38	Shop towels
113665	REITEN, INC	4/6/2023	\$1,127.53	Snow plow repairs
113666	TOWN & COUNTRY CO-OP	4/10/2023	\$1,205.29	Ambulance fuel
113667	EMERGENCY MEDICAL PRODUC	4/10/2023	\$14.11	Catheters
113668	MARCO TECHNOLOGIES	4/10/2023	\$114.73	COPIER LEASE
113669	HIGH PLAINS WATER	4/10/2023	\$10.00	1 Bottled Water
113670	NDDEQ	4/10/2023	\$31.78	Water samples
113671	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	4/10/2023	\$3,521.57	City fuel

113672	CASH	4/10/2023	\$122.40	Water sample postage
113673	NODAK ELECTRIC COOPERATIV	4/14/2023	\$297.31	Power to main lift
113674	MEDICA	4/17/2023	\$878.54	Insuamce overpayment
113675	METRO-BILLING SERVICES	4/17/2023	\$432.00	Ambulance claims x 18
113676	POSTMASTER	4/24/2023	\$234.46	Utility bills - water
113677	PGBA LLC	4/21/2023	\$1,194.70	Reimburse claim overpayment
113678	Baron, Ryan	4/30/2023	\$283.06	
113679	Briss, Craig	4/30/2023	\$184.70	
113680	Eli, Tucker	4/30/2023	\$745.86	
113681	Ellefson, Brent	4/30/2023	\$144.53	
113682	Eslinger, Michael	4/30/2023	\$230.87	
113683	Flatt, Matthew	4/30/2023	\$382.33	
113684	Flatt, Terrah	4/30/2023	\$247.49	
113685	Keller, Julie M	4/30/2023	\$1,067.79	
113686	Ludwig, David O	4/30/2023	\$4,855.52	
113687	Martin, Amanda R	4/30/2023	\$218.74	
113688	Monson, Dennis	4/30/2023	\$170.16	
113689	Olson, Christine L	4/30/2023	\$2,813.99	
113690	Paintner, Nancy	4/30/2023	\$911.50	
113691	Paintner, Paul	4/30/2023	\$381.81	
113692	Urness, Mark	4/30/2023	\$681.54	
502906e	Monthly ACH	4/30/2023	\$6,324.69	
	Total Checks		\$504,237.30	