

City of Mercer Minutes September 17, 2020

Mayor Ron Schatz called the meeting to order at 7 pm with Council members Gary Volochenko, Derek Fiedler, and Ken Thomsen. Also in attendance Ashley Fiedler, Auditor.

Councilmembers look over minutes. Derek Fiedler makes motion to approve minutes, Ken Thomsen seconded it. Motion carried.

Finances were reviewed. Gary Volochenko makes motion to approve finances, Fiedler seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills were reviewed by council. Bill from Scherbenkse for \$2,200 was reviewed by City Attorney, Walter Lipp. Mr. Lipp suggested we pay the bill for Scherbenske as they came to look for a leak and didn't find one. The Ulteig bill for \$3,052.50, is the last bill for the sewer project. Thomsen makes motion to pay bills excluding Scherbenske and Ulteig, Volochenko seconded it. Roll call vote: Fiedler –yes, Thomsen – yes, Volochenko – yes. Motion carried.

City of Mercer received \$5,000 from Washburn American Legion gaming money. This money will be put into the City equipment fund.

McLean County has adopted a Local Emergency Plan, and they would like all McLean County towns to adopt this plan. The purpose of the Local Emergency Operations plan is to provide strategic and operational guidance aimed at facilitating the delivery of all types of McLean County emergency to help reduce the consequences of disasters and emergencies. Fiedler makes motion to adopt Local Emergency Plan, Volochenko seconded it. Motion carried.

Council contacted city Attorney, Walter Lipp regarding Sherbenske bill, K & L bill – which was for digging in the water line for a property that was missed during the water project, also to see if we can stop McLean Sheridan Rural water using our main line for new water lines going in outside of town. Mr. Lipp wrote letters to the city regarding these issues. In the letters he stated the City is responsible for paying the bills. He stated that Scherbenske showed up to look for the leak and nothing was found. Mr. Lipp stated the city was not charged to put the line in that was missed, so we would be responsible to provide the line to the resident. Regarding the main line that McLean Sheridan would like to tie into for new water users south of town. Mr. Lipp stated according to the membership and water user agreement between McLean Sheridan Rural Water and the City of Mercer, upon completion and approval by the District of any such water service, the Member shall by this agreement relinquish control of the service line to the District. The District shall assume complete ownership and maintenance responsibility of the service line up to and including the curb stop, metering and control equipment. Council would like to get a second opinion from an attorney regarding these issues.

Mayor Schatz would like the council to get together to flush the fire hydrants and pump out the hydrants that are needed. The Mayor and council will work on the hydrants in beginning of October.

City needs to hold the final 2021 Budget Hearing. Council picks October 5, 2020 6 PM to hold Budget meeting.

Council agrees to have Russel bring in gravel and council will smooth it out, for the roads that are in need of it now.

Volochenko makes motion to adjourn meeting, Thomsen seconded it. Motion carried.

Bills to Pay

Ashley Fiedler - \$923.50

BHG (Park) - \$140

Derek Fiedler - \$69.26

Gary & Kathrin Volochenko Farm - \$300

Gary Volochenko - \$69.26

Hardware Hank (MCC) - \$45.46

Ken Thomsen - \$69.26

McLean Sheridan Water (billing) - \$226.95

ND Chemistry Lab - \$198.60

ND Department of Health - \$16

Otter Tail - \$709.72

Randy Zinke - \$69.26

Ron Schatz - \$138.52

Scherbenske - \$2,200

Ulteig \$3,052.50

Walter Lipp - \$525

Waste Management – (Clean up)-\$1,030.95
- \$1,260.85 = \$2,291.80

Westriver -\$177.14

Willa Murray (Park) - \$90

Wyatt Wagner - \$100