

City of Mercer Minutes

August 10, 2022

Meeting was called to order by Jim Privratsky at 7pm. Board Members present was Joe Jerkovich, Gary Volochenko, Kenny Thomsen, Randy Zinke and Tonya Wellington (Auditor).

Old minutes for July 13th, 2022 meeting was read by Tonya Wellington. Erica Lorenz asked for changes to minutes. Kenny Thomsen made motion with corrections made and Randy Zinke second the motion. Motion approved.

Monthly financial was presented to board. Garbage amount was discussed because after running a report for garbage. We're not bringing in enough revenue for the last 3 years. Park account was discussed for bills that were paid out on the city account to pay bills for the park. Also, discussed were which funds should go to the project fund or maintenance fund. Maintenance fund was in negative balance back in June. We're going to have Brian Day look into the negative balance in the park maintenance account before next meeting. Look into a least the last 6 months and maybe further if needed. Erica Lorenz asked to have the \$35,000 to Dakota Playground be sent out right away to not get late charges.

Bills to be paid this month for the month of Aug 2022. Were presented to the board. Questions were asked about Otter tail bill if that was for all buildings. Total was for all 7 buildings. Board would like a breakdown of each building for Otter Tail bill next month. Also, Cenex bill for \$75.00 for resetting propane tank. They just reset that tank and the board feels we shouldn't have to pay this bill. Tonya Wellington will contact Cenex in Wilton. Kenny Thomsen made motion with changes made and Gary Volochenko second the motion. Motion Approved.

Natelle from Public Health in Minot. Has sent out a signed and certified letter to John & Sara Brewster. For Parcel Numbers 77-1501-00073-000 & 77-1501-00074-000. Letter was sent on Monday Aug. 8, 2022. Jennifer from Solem Law Firm also mailed a letter to John & Sara Brewster for Parcel Numbers above. Sent on Aug. 23, 2022. Dated for Aug. 8, 2022.

Annual Budget for the City of Mercer was presented to the board. Property Taxes section was looked at because property taxes are the same as last yr. And the budget was set at \$8,000.00 higher. Board asked when Annual Budget report needs to be turned in. Tonya Wellington will be emailing them into the county office after city meeting tonight. Next city meeting was set for Sept. 14, 2022.

Motion was made by Gary Volochenko and Kenny Thomsen seconds the motion. Motion Approved.

Discussion on Bravera Bank card to get to 2 cards or just stay with 1 sense card is ready to expire. Kenny Thomsen made a motion to stay with 1 card and Gary Volochenko second the motion. Motion Approved.

Maps for all gate valves, curb stops and turn offs can be done by Brian Day. He can take pictures on how far your turn off would be from your home or shop. And when finished they would be in our records with photos and measurements. No cost to the city. Randy Zinke has started putting in the post already. Kenny Thomsen made the motion and Gary Volochenko second the motion. Motion Approved.

The American Legion presented Mercer Fire Dept. with a check of \$2,000.00, Mercer Golden 50's \$1,000.00, City of Mercer \$5,000.00 and City of Mercer (lawn mower) \$3,000.00.

William Raywalt purchased the old Vossler place. He has been doing construction on home and has brought down the old building. Jim has talked to owner and new owner agreed to clean up lot. Tonya Wellington was asked to send letter and ordinance to William Raywalt for Parcel Number 77-1501-00077-000.

Fall cleanup for the city. It's \$1500.00 in costs. Board decided to not have a fall cleanup this year.

Changes to the city water ordinance were discussed to change them from \$50.00 for 1st time shut off to \$100.00. Adding a Courtesy fee-\$10.00 for residents that need it off during travels or just don't live here all year so if their heat goes out their pipes won't break. Also, to add a fee to after hours. No decision was made on water ordinance and will be discussed next city meeting.

Discussion to pay water bills online through Bravera Banks website or the City of Mercer website can be done. Jacob Barth with Bravera said he can take care of this for us if we decide to pursuer. Tonya Wellington was asked to contact Jacob Barth and find out what costs would be for the city. Will present at next meeting.

Motion to close the meeting was made by Gary Volochenko and Randy Zinke second it. Motion Approved.