

City of Mercer Special and Regular Minutes
For September 20, 2023

Interim Mayor Ken Thomsen called the Special Meeting to order with council members Joe Jerkovich, Randy Zinke and Tonya Wellington-Auditor all present. Gary Volochenko not present.

Ken Thomsen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special Annual Budget Meeting

Ken Thomsen reviewed the budget with the council. Randy Zinke made the motion to approve the Annual Budget and Joe Jerkovich seconded the motion. Joe Jerkovich and Randy Zinke voted Aye. Motion carried.

Randy Zinke made a motion to adjourn the Budget Meeting and Joe Jerkovich seconded.

Regular Meeting

Ken Thomsen read the minutes from August 10, 2023. Randy Zinke made the motion to approve the minutes with changes made and Joe Jerkovich seconded. Randy Zinke and Joe Jerkovich voted Aye. Motion carried.

Ken Thomsen read the minutes from the Special Meeting on August 15, 2023. Randy Zinke made the motion to approve the minutes and Joe Jerkovich seconded. Randy Zinke and Joe Jerkovich voted Aye.

Financials Report: Randy Zinke made the motion to approve the financial report. Joe Jerkovich voted no. Financials were not approved.

Bills: Joe Jerkovich made the motion to approve the bills for the month and Randy Zinke seconded. Joe Jerkovich and Randy Zinke voted Aye. Motion carried.

Water Bills: No letter to be sent at this time.

Park Minutes: Ken Thomsen read the minutes.

Old Business

Josh with Coal Country Electric, LLC: Tonya Wellington has talked to Josh. He needs to collaborate with Otter Tail to schedule the work at city hall.

Scott Liab: Tonya Wellington-Auditor has sent the estimate for the kitchen door at city hall to Turtle Lake American Legion for a donation to cover the cost. The Turtle Lake American Legion will have their meeting the second week in October.

Gravel for the City Streets: There has been gravel applied to the streets in town. If there is more needed the council will bring in another load.

Wilson Law Firm: Wilson Law Firm was asked if they would be the City Attorney for Mercer. The council was presented with a proposal document from Wilson Law Firm. The hourly rate is \$225.00 and a retainer of \$2,000.00. Travel time is at half of the hourly rate.

City Engineer: KLJ Engineering was asked if they would be our City Engineer. The council was presented with a draft contract from KLJ. Ken Thomsen will reach out to them and get a contract signed.

Fire Hydrant Flush: The council will work together to get fire hydrants flushed within the next couple of weeks.

Accessibility Plan Update: Tonya Wellington-Auditor has ordered the exit signs for doors and handicap parking sign for outside. Ken Thomsen and Tonya Wellington will work together to get the restroom updated to meet Handicap Compliance.

New Business

Otter Tail Electric: Tonya Wellington-Auditor has informed the council that we are paying late fees every month. The bill date cannot be changed. The council decided to have Tonya Wellington pay the bill as soon as it comes. Joe Jerkovich made the motion to pay the Otter Tail bill when it comes so the city will have no more late fees. Randy Zinke seconded. Joe Jerkovich and Randy Zinke voted Aye. Motion carried.

Jaren Murray 50/50 Raffle: Tonya Wellington-Auditor will print out a new 50/50 raffle permit for a benefit for Maren Stigle on Sept 30, 2023. Joe Jerkovich made a motion to approve the 50/50 raffle and Randy Zinke seconded. Joe Jerkovich and Randy Zinke voted Aye. Motion carried.

Cameras for MCC Dumpster- The dumpster at Mercer Community Center is for the use of residents of Mercer not for people living outside city limits. There was a discussion about putting on a lock on the Mercer Community Center dumpster and providing the proper people with a key.

Ken Thomsen read the First Reading of the New Water Ordinance. The Second Reading of the New Water Ordinance will be on October 12th, 2023, at 7pm.

Adjourn meeting: Randy Zinke made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Joe Jerkovich seconded. Randy Zinke and Joe Jerkovich voted aye. Motion carried.