

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Board members present were Mayor Joe Staller, Brad Kehn, Carl Bode, Jim Nielsen, Skyler Kehn and Terry Schuldt. City workers present were Darrin Cranny, Chance Boyd and Cindy Geiman. Visitors were Gail Van Genderen, Lori Jones, Roman Briggs, Zach DeBoer and Ron Berens. Mayor Staller called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Conference room layout and the mural artist. B. Kehn made a motion to approve the agenda with additions. Seconded by Nielsen. All voted aye. Motion carried.

**BILLS TO PAY**

S. Kehn made a motion to allow the finance officer to pay the bills. Seconded by Nielsen. All voted aye. Motion carried.

<b>BILLS TO PAY AFTER SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2022 MEETING</b>		
ARAMARK	RUG CONTRACT	\$26.33
AURORA BRULE WATER	WATER PURCHASE	\$10,780.90
BORDER STATES	ELECTRICAL SUPPLY	\$2,117.19
BULTSMA AGENCY	CITY INSURANCE	\$24,929.00
CARRIE BRINK	LIBRARY SUPPLIES	\$270.51
CITY OF PLANKINTON	METER DEP TO BILL 00-002-10-9	\$143.56
CITY OF PLANKINTON	METER DEP. TO BILL 00-056-10-8	\$148.93
CNA SURETY	DEPUTY F.O. BOND TRANSFER	\$20.00
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP	POOL REPAIR SUPPLY PVC	\$37.74
DARRINGTON WATER	WATER REFILL	\$65.85
KATIA AVILIA PORTO	METER DEP REIMB	\$101.07
KROHMER AGENCY	FIRE DEPT INS	\$3,479.00
MARILYN STERN	METER DEP REIMB	\$106.44
MCLEODS	CITY ENVELOPES	\$89.90
PLANKINTON LUMBER	SUPPLIES	\$376.46
ROADSIDE	FUEL PURCHASES	\$422.26
RONS MARKET	SUPPLIES	\$234.09
SD DEPT OF HEALTH	WATER TESTING	\$15.00
SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION	FUEL PURCHASES	\$566.81
SOUTH DAKOTA 811	MESSAGE FEES	\$38.85
SOUTH DAKOTA MAIL	PUBLICATIONS	\$1,286.29
SOUTH DAKOTA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE	SDML CONFERENCE FEE	\$300.00
SPN	LIFT STATION&SEWER PROJECT	\$64,400.00
TOSHIBA FINANCIAL SERVICES	COPIER CONTRACT	\$168.34
WESCO	ELECTRICAL SUPPLY	\$930.00

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bode made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Schuldt. All voted aye. Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lori Jones came in to speak about a few things including the cemetery and the tennis court. She suggested turning the tennis court into a pickleball court.

### **MURAL ARTIST**

The artist Zach DeBoer doing the city mural came to the city council meeting to go over the mural plan. The council did not agree on what was drawn up so far and would like to see something else. The mayor suggested doing the mural in phases. Zach will get back with some more suggestions for murals. Zach asked for a 40 cent/mile reimbursement for driving as well. Mayor Staller made a motion to pay Zach 40 cents/mile for his travels. B. Kehn made a motion to approve. Nielsen seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT**

Sherriff Roman Briggs came in to speak to the council about the law enforcement contract pay amount. Briggs explained to the council that they have all the deputy spots filled and are working on getting them to the academy and training. Briggs also explained that if the positions were not filled all year and they lose somebody that there is a contract owe back if this would happen.

### **GRAIN DUST CONTROL AGREEMENT**

Mayor Staller explained to council that in talks with Mr. Page, an agreement was reached that the elevator would do the calcium chloride up to twice a year for 2 blocks of commerce from Sanborn to Lawler for 5 years. The council agreed with the proposal.

### **2023 BUDGET**

Brad made a motion to approve and adopt the 2023 budget. Seconded by Nielsen. All voted aye. Motion carried.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Skyler made a motion to approve the first reading of the supplemental budget ordinance. Seconded by Schuldt. All voted aye. Motion carried.

### **CINDY APPROVAL OF SIGNITURE CARDS**

B. Kehn made a motion to approve Cindy to sign for the bank. Nielsen seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

### **SIDEWALK REMOVAL**

Mayor Staller reported that some residents are asking if it would be okay for them to remove parts of damaged sidewalks. The council found there was nothing in the ordinance book against but would like to revisit the decision.

### **LIFT STATION BID**

Mayor Staller went over the bids received for the lift station project that were opened on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. H&W Contracting brought in a bid for 528,072.0. Mennings Excavating sent in a bid of 552,069.50. Scott Construction sent in a bid of 255,238.90. Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve Scotts Constructions bid for the lift station of 255,238.90. Nielsen made a motion to approve the bid. Schuldt seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried to approve awarding Bid Schedules A and B to Scott Construction in the amount of \$255,338.90, contingent upon funding agency review.

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL**

Councilmember Nielsen brought up the problem of stray cats. He suggested a TINR (trap neuter & release) program. The council agreed people have been feeding them, but the city cannot force residents to spay or neuter. No action was taken.

#### **LEASED EQUIPMENT**

Darin let the council know the lease for skid loader and mini excavator is up in October. Darin got quotes from four different companies on the equipment pricing. Case gave the best offer for leasing again and the council decided to go with Case on a five-year lease. B.Kehn made a motion to accept. Seconded by S. Kehn. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **WATER RATE INCREASE**

Mayor Staller reported that we have received a water rate increase from Aurora-Brule water and suggested we may need a water rate increase of \$2.50. The council will revisit this next month.

#### **FALL CLEANUP DAYS**

The council decided that Fall Cleanup days would be October 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **CONFERENCE ROOM LAYOUT**

Councilmember Bode suggested the council room has a new layout. He came up with a design he would like to try and said he would supply the tables. Brad Kehn said he would be willing to switch seats with him so he can see the visitors better. This will be revisited next month.

#### **BUILDING PERMITS**

JAKE EVERITT- 310 E 5<sup>th</sup> St.- Backyard fence-APPROVED; JOHN & SUSAN STEELE- 404 S MAIN ST- DRIVEWAY FOR LAW OFFICE-APPROVED

#### **ELEC SUPT REPORT**

We had someone back into the transformer behind the Senior Citizens/Blessings. This was during last month's meeting. When I got there, there wasn't anyone around and the transformer was on the back still energized with all the bussing exposed. Barry and I have been working together most of the summer doing electrical work. We have from the water tower over to Jordan Highelks done and energized. We have 3 houses and a shed left to cut over on that stretch. I will be buying some poles from Central Electric for some streetlights in these developments as well. I have been shopping around trying to get quotes for new pad mount transformers. Right now, they won't even quote me prices for anything. the factories are limiting who they quote to, and the bigger customers are coming first. One has some MAYBE coming end of this year but aren't sure when they will show up. These prices have gone up over double of what they were last year. I have attached an email from Kelly with Heartland regarding our rates. They are doing this as a free service to us. We are looking into this as WAPA has increased their rates. If we go through DGR they gave me two options back in March. Option one to go through

everything is \$18k-20k, just to do the financial update its \$5k-\$7k. Big Blue (digger truck) has a leaking lift cylinder. We are going to use it this week, and then get it into the shop to get the cylinder off and take it to the welding shop to get fixed. Sat in on a FEMA meeting this last month. I have a little bit of stuff to do for that from the storm in May. Cody with MMUA showed up this month. (I missed the email that said he was coming) it was a little bit of a surprise, but we got a few things done. We dug in new service pipes to Horizon and did get a few services switched over from the overhead to underground. I will be attending Overhead school next week Sept.13-16<sup>th</sup> in Marshall. I have also completed book 3 a month or two ago and received book 4. I have one test done out of there so far and will continue as time allows. SDMEA is having an event with a bunch of vendors and other Municipals on the 21<sup>st</sup> that I plan on attending as well.

### **UTL SUPT REPORT**

I'm going to have 2 months of my report means I was gone with covid when the last meeting was held. I did not feel well enough to get a report done beforehand. I'm still not fully recovered either. We had a pool filter blow up the first of July. We were able to basically bypass it and just use 3 for the rest of the year. I did find one new one to have on hand just in case we needed to put it in. We lost one afternoon of swimming because of this, but no swimming lessons were interrupted. These filters are all the same age, so if 1 blew, the others are not a long way behind meaning the shape they are in. I have a quote from MC&R Pools for 3 more filters, sand, and valves included in your paperwork. The total is \$11,130.00. I spent a lot of days doing locates for SPN for the upcoming sewer project. I think it was 52 blocks. They wanted us to locate all we could for mapping out for contractors to know where things were. Anna and I put in a new re-located culvert between the elevator bins and Krell Trucking. The water tower is scheduled to be torn down the last week of this month. The day will be decided as we get closer, depends on the weather. I've only pushed the west RU pit in twice in the last 2 months. It needs it again now, but it's a lot less busy means we only open it once a day and a lot of people have been asked not to come back. I mowed the creek and cleaned up the soccer field at the end of July. I plan on getting to the soccer field later this month or the first of next month. I spent some time at the lagoon moving water around. I had the wetlands dry all year, and slowly let water out of cell 3 to them late July. I was able to lower the level in cell 3 over 2 feet. I then transferred water over to 3. I did a little bit of street work this last month, but more of that will be happening this month. We got some gravel and asphalt around the curb and gutter area at the bank last week. Our monthly water charge from A/B rural water is going up from 1465 to 2200 per month. That's almost 9,000 per year. I know it's hard to raise rates when we are raising the sewer quite a bit and the electrical will probably have to be raised soon too. It will have to be done sooner than later though; the council just needs to decide when. I also think we should consider a cost-of-living increase yearly. It doesn't need to be a lot. 1 ½ percent on the water would be around 70 cents the first year. This would help with always raising expenses, and probably stop us from having to raise prices 5,6,7,8 dollars at a time every so many years. We could always not implement the cost-of-living increase if we thought we didn't need to on certain years. I've mentioned we have a problem keeping air in the tires in the big loader. I have an estimate for foam filling them (that would include 2 new ones as they are not in real good shape), and an estimate for solids included in your paperwork. Neither is cheap, but we need to do something. I can't rely on the tires holding air long enough to use it much. I also had to get new back tires for the 570. It's down now with a flat at the RU site. I am going to a lead/copper training and safe water drinking act conference in Sioux Falls on October 20. I spent quite a bit of time working with the engineers and others on the Briggs lift station getting things ready for bids. I'm also working with our lawyer getting temporary construction and

permanent easements drawn up for the lift station itself and the force main. I also spent quite a bit of time working on getting bids for our equipment leasing. We've had a couple of FEMA meetings on our last disaster.

**FINANCE OFFICER REPORT**

Finance Officer was not present to report

**MAYORS REPORT**

Mayor Staller reported to the council that Darin and Kylee have been doing more work with FEMA. He also reported that Kylee has been looking at putting money into CDs at the bank. Right now, we are collecting about .3 but the bank is offering a 13-month special at 2%. Mayor Staller also let the council know that Darin received notice of Mr. Jones' resignation effective immediately. Anna has volunteered to open the site when she can. He also urges the community to watch Facebook for possible closures, as this is the quickest way, we can get this out to the public on short notice. Also, a reminder to the residents, the West side rubble site will only be opened by appt at 12:30pm if you call prior to 11:00pm. Mayor Staller also added that Cindy Geiman had joined out team on August 29<sup>th</sup> and has been receiving training. We are glad to have her, Staller stated.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION, LEGAL, AS PER SDCL 1-25-2(3)**

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to enter executive session. B Kehn made a motion to enter executive session. Nielsen seconded. All voted aye. The council entered executive session at 9:38pm. The mayor declared the council out of executive session at 9:45pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.

Signed:

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John J. Staller, Mayor

Attest:

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Kylee Urban, Finance Officer