

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The Plankinton City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 2, 2020, at the Plankinton Senior Citizens' Center. Mayor John Staller called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Pam Vissia, Jim Hinckley, Jason Schurz, and Terry Schultz. Member absent was Brad Kehn. City Employees present: Eileen Sorsen, Darin Cranny, and Chance Boyd. Visitors were Gayle VanGenderen Studeny from SD Mail, Melissa and Carter Davis, David Locke, Clint Bultsma, and Skyler Kehn.

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Vissia asked to add a discussion on cat issues in town. Motion by Vissia to approve agenda with the addition. Seconded by Schuldt. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There were no public comments.

VISITORS:

First appointment at 6:32 p.m. was Skyler Kehn, Aurora County Emergency Manager. He came to discuss a storm shelter grant. It is a 75% / 25% share, and Plankinton's share is \$15,000 per shelter. Skyler didn't know if the city had ever agreed to get any. They look like an 8' x 40' shipping container, and are above ground (bolted down by concrete). The inside is reinforced to take an EF5 tornado, with 56 people capacity, and it was suggested by the former Emergency Mgr. that it be placed by the batting cage, or by the east Restricted Use Site. He said White Lake had just backed out due to the cost, and Skyler feels it won't be put to use, as the consensus is the town has enough shelters for those who want to go to one. Vissia asked if any other communities have these shelters. Skyler didn't know of any, and previous figures were lower. Council's view was "no thanks" for now. With cell phones and early warning, we will pass on the shelters. Skyler also said the burn ban took effect on 11/2/20. He said he is learning and will help whenever we need it. He left the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Second appointment at 6:40 p.m. was Landscape Engineer David Locke from Stockwell Engineers. He wanted to show the whole vision of the Pool Bathhouse Phase I, and upcoming Splash Pad in the future. The new bathhouse will be built north of the current one, so the old one can be used next year. He is focusing on getting it up and running, and it will be built with materials that stand the test of time. He said he likes to err on the side of caution with kids using it. It will have Masonry Block units, broom finish concrete or epoxy anti-slip floors, letters on front, and shingled roof. Mayor Staller asked how often they would check on the contractors, and David said it could be more than once a month. They will spread the word to other contractors in the area, and would buy local, if possible. Phase I cost of just getting the bathhouse done, construction, 15% contingency, and design and construction is over \$400,000. Vissia asked Melissa Davis how much money does the Pool Committee have saved? It is around \$250,000, so we are \$150,000 short. Hinckley is wondering how we are going to finance the shortfall. Mr. Locke said they can re-send the proposal, with just the design. That way, he estimated they would be around \$30,000, so when we are ready with the funds, we know exactly what we are going to do. Hinckley praised Melissa and the Pool Committee for all the fund raising they have done. Mayor Staller said we are underfunded right now, and will need a new proposal for the December 7 Council meeting, for just the design part. Mr. Locke said that is no problem. Mr. Locke and Melissa and Carter Davis left the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Third appointment at 7:23 p.m. was Clint Bultsma from Bultsma Insurance Agency. His presentation was for 2021 City employee health insurance. He said the Avera Health Plans policy that we currently are on will have a 2.2% increase if we don't make any changes. He feels it is a great plan. There are alternatives out there, but a lot more cost to the employees. Mayor Staller said if we go to more expensive plans, we will have to ask the employees to kick in. If the employees are happy with the current plan, then the Council is happy with it. Vissia made a motion to remain with the current plan. Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried. Clint left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2020, regular Council meeting. Vissia made a motion to approve the minutes (previously e-mailed to Council). Schuldt seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to pay the bills. Hinckley made a motion to pay the following bills. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

EFT BILL LIST- PD. IN OCTOBER, 2020

BI-WEEKLY PAY 20--\$7,406.33; BI-WEEKLY PAY 21--\$7,733.95; BI-WEEKLY PAY 22--\$7,831.97; FARMERS & MERCHANTS STATE BANK—Oct. Bank Fees--\$35.25; GREAT WESTERN BANK—Bucket Truck Pay 11--\$3,186.19; HEARTLAND CONS. POWER—Elec. Loan Pay #17--\$2,483.36; IRS—Pay 20 941 Tax Due--\$2,335.52; IRS—Pay 21 941 Tax Due--\$2,433.04; IRS—Pay 22 941 Tax Due--\$2,511.28; PAYPOSTALIA TDC—Postage for Meter--\$500.00; SDRS—Oct. Retirement due--\$3,409.90; SD DEPT OF REV—Sept Sales Tax Due--\$3,608.84; SDDL UNEMPL—3RD Quar. Unemployment--\$32.90; WEALTH MGMT TFM—Water/Sewer Loan Pay--\$19,009.17.

BILLS PAID AFTER OCTOBER 5 MEETING AUTHORIZATION

AFLAC—Oct. Empl. Vol. Ins.--\$181.55; AVERA HEALTH—Nov. Empl. Health Ins.--\$5,364.30; CENTRAL ELECTRIC—Sept Wheeling & Ramp Lighting--\$1,229.69; DELTA DENTAL—Empl. Dental Ins.--\$211.00; DEPT. OF ENERGY—Sept. Power Purchase--\$11,967.87; EAST RIVER—Sept. Wheeling--\$2,421.30; GUARDIAN-Employee Life, Std., and Ltd Ins.--\$308.26; -HEARTLAND CONS. POWER—Sept. Power Purchase--\$6,341.92; VERIZON WIRELESS—Sept-Oct. Tower Internet--\$45.08.

BILLS TO PAY AFTER NOV. 2 MEETING

A & B BUSINESS—Copier Contract--\$141.11; AMERIPRIDE—Rug Contract--\$39.79; AURORA-BRULE RURAL WATER—October Water & Debt Ret.--\$9,385.00; BARNES & NOBLE—Library Books--\$497.02; ALAN BIRMEIER-Refund Bal. of Meter Dep #00-220-04-2--\$153.02; BORDER STATES—Elec. Supplies--\$4,870.31; BULTSMA INSURANCE—Add Westside Park Playset--\$119.00; CITY OF PLANKINTON—Meter Dep. #00-220-04-2 appl. to bill--\$96.98; CITY OF PLANKINTON—D. Martinez M. Dep. Appl. to #00-233-08-0--\$250.00; GOLDEN WEST COMM.—Oct. Utilities--\$398.12; GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY—Shovel--\$15.96; LOCATORS & SUPPLIES--Locate flags--\$396.82; MIKE'S CONSTR.—Garbage Service--\$60.00; MINN. MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOC.—Quar. 7 Line-worker Course--\$1,750.00; NW PIPE FITTINGS—Water Supp./Mat.--\$2,242.79; PLANKINTON DEVELOPMENT CORP.—2020 Funding Request--\$15,000.00; PLANKINTON FIRE DEPT.—2020 Fire Protection Services--\$10,000.00; PLANKINTON LUMBER—Sept./Oct. Supplies--\$164.91; RAMAKER—CIMS Cemetery Fees 25% pay.--\$1,067.50; RESCO—Elec. Cap. Outlay--\$1,389.90; RON'S MARKET—Supplies--\$93.84; RUNNINGS—Elec. Tools--\$591.81; S. DAK. 811—Sept. Message Fees- \$34.65; SD DEPT OF HEALTH—Water Testing--\$196.00; SD DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION—Aug. Diesel--\$259.46; SD MAIL—Oct. Publishing--\$569.66; STOCKWELL ENGINEERS, INC.—Pool Bathhouse Proj. Pay 2--\$5,960.00; TMA—Payload Rep/Maint.--\$100.16; TECH SOLUTIONS—IT Contract 11/2-11/30/20--\$690.00; VISA—Misc. Equip. & Supplies--\$899.56; WHEELCO—Payload Rep/Maint--\$346.37.

OLD BUSINESS:

ELEVATOR LAND PURCHASE:

Mayor Staller has talked to Mr. Page, and feels that he will eventually buy the small tract of city property for the elevator. Mr. Page found some property to store grain on, so he will not be renting the race track property from the city.

NUISANCE PROPERTIES:

Mayor Staller is still working on getting a few properties in town to take care of their issues. The old Ponderosa was torn down in late October, and the Bucher law office will be torn down sometime in November.

BUILDING HAIL DAMAGE REPORT:

Eileen contacted Mr. VanLaecken to see what his report was on roof & siding hail damage to city buildings. He will be re-inspecting the City Hall roof this week with ARS Tecta America. He has more work to do with the insurance on the windows before moving forward with those. He will ask the Plankinton Lumber Company for a formal estimate on Fire Station garage doors, on their letterhead, to submit to the insurance company. Eileen will keep in contact for more up-to-date reports from Chad.

NEW BUSINESS:

FIRST READING OF SUPPLEMENTAL 2020 BUDGET ORDINANCE #2020-10:

Mayor Staller entertained a motion to approve the First Reading. Schuldt made a motion to approve, and it was seconded by Hinckley. All voted aye. Motion carried. Second Reading and Adoption will be held at December 7, 2020 Council meeting

RESOLUTION No. 11-2-20:

Due to a previous error on Water/Sewer Resolution No. 10-7-19, a new Resolution No. 11-2-20 has been written. It adds the forgotten paragraph that the Landlord is responsible for delinquent utility account balances of their renter. Motion by Vissia to approve Resolution No. 11-2-20. Seconded by Schurz. All voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2-20

A RESOLUTION REVISING THE WATER & SEWER RATE SCHEDULE

CITY OF PLANKINTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, Title XI, *Sewer & Sewage Code*, and Title XIII, *Water Code*, of the Ordinances of the City of Plankinton authorize the setting of sewer and water rates by resolution of the City Council; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF PLANKINTON, AURORA COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, that effective December 1st, 2020, and thereafter until further resolution of the City Council, water and sewer usage rates and water and sewer tap rates are hereby fixed and shall be collected as follows:

WATER RATES – INSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$30.08 a month which includes 0 to 5000 gallons
5,001 – 10,000 gallons = an additional \$7.50 per 1,000 gallons
10,001- 19,000 gallons= an additional \$6.40 per 1,000 gallons
19,001 – 99,999,999 gallons= an additional \$5.63 per 1,000 gallons

WATER RATES – OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$46.58 a month which includes 0 to 5000 gallons
5,001 – 10,000 gallons = an additional \$10.53 per 1,000 gallons
10,001 – 19,000 gallons = an additional \$8.88 per 1,000 gallons
19,000 – 99,999,999 gallons = an additional \$7.72 per 1,000 gallons

SEWER RATES – INSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$19.90 a month which includes 0 to 5000 gallons
5,001 – 10,000 gallons = an additional \$3.65 per 1,000 gallons
10,001 – 99,999,999 gallons = an additional \$2.00 per 1,000 gallons

SEWER RATES – OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$30.90 a month which includes 0 to 5000 gallons
5,001 – 10,000 gallons = an additional \$4.75 per 1,000 gallons
10,001 – 99,999,999 gallons = an additional \$2.28 per 1,000 gallons

WATER SURCHARGES- IN TOWN & OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$16.82 a month whether or not any water is used, as previously established by resolution of the City Council as part of the financing for water system improvements. Such monthly surcharge will continue until repealed by separate action of the City Council.

SEWER SURCHARGES- IN TOWN & OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

\$12.10 a month whether or not any water discharged into the sewer, as previously established by resolution of the City Council as part of the financing for water system improvements. Such monthly surcharge will continue until repealed by separate action of the City Council.

OTHER SEWER & WATER RATES & CHARGES

Meter & Replacement Materials/Fittings

[if the meter is damaged by user negligence] = \$125.00

Labor Charges for Meter Replacement

[if the meter is damaged by user negligence] = Employee’s Rate per Hour for time actually expended in replacing the meter

BULK WATER RATES

\$7.50 per 1,000 gallons

WATER & SEWER TAP RATES

1. Single Family Residential Water Tap - \$150.00
2. Multiple Family Residential Water Tap - \$200.00
3. Commercial/Business Water Tap - \$200.00
4. Single Family Residential Sewer Tap - \$150.00
5. Multiple Family Residential Sewer Tap - \$200.00
6. Commercial/Business Sewer Tap - \$200.00

CONTINUING NATURE OF ALL WATER & SEWER RATES & SURCHARGES

All water and sewer rates and surcharges are continuous so long as a customer is metered and billed for connection to the City water and sewer system. If a customer wishes to disconnect in order to incur no charges for water and sewer service, reinstatement of service at any time to the same service location will require payment of the appropriate water and sewer tap rates plus metered and billed services from and after the date of payment of the tap rate. "Tap rates" include both the fee for a new physical tap into a water or sewer main and the charge to reinstate metered and billed water and sewer service at any location which previously was connected or "tapped into" the City water and sewer system.

PROPERTY OWNER'S [LANDLORD'S OR LESSOR'S] RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENTER'S [LESSEE'S OR TENANT'S] UNPAID WATER & SEWER CHARGES

The owner of any real estate connected to the City water and sewer system is responsible for payment of all water and sewer service rates, charges, and surcharges upon read out and final billing to a tenant who is vacating such property. The owner will remain responsible for such water and sewer service rates, charges, and surcharges until such time as a new tenant applies for service at such property and pays the required deposit in full. Upon read out and final billing on rental property which is actually known to the Municipal Finance Officer to be rental property, the Finance Officer will, within a reasonable time not to exceed ten (10) business days, notify the owner of such property that read out and final billing to the tenant has occurred and that the owner is responsible for payment for continued water and sewer service to the property. Such notice may be by telephone, email, or by first class mail as determined by the Finance Officer. It is the duty and obligation of the owner of such property to properly notify the City and authorize a complete disconnection if the owner does not wish to remain responsible for continued water and sewer service rates, charges, and surcharges to the property.

John J. Staller
Mayor

Adopted this 2nd day of November, 2020

Attest: Eileen Sorsen _____
Finance Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2-20-1:

Due to a previous error on Electric Resolution No. 5-7-18-1, a new Resolution No. 11-2-20-1 has been written. It adds the forgotten paragraph that the Landlord is responsible for delinquent utility account balances of their renter, and a prompt payment provision was added. Hinckley made a motion to approve the new Resolution No. 11-2-20-1. Schuldt seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

MONTHLY RATE: Facility Charge (NO kWh)	\$20.00 per Meter
PLUS	
Energy Charge	
First 600 kWh @	12.0¢
Next 600 kWh @	9.0¢
Over 1200 kWh @	7.4¢

2.) Small Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO: Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric Utility, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period does not exceed 5,000 kWh.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter; or three-phase, 60 hertz, 240/120 volt, 208Y/120V, or 480Y/277V, 4-wire, single meter.

CONNECTION FEE: Regular Service	\$100.00
All Electric Service	\$250.00

MONTHLY RATE: Facility Charge (NO kWh)	\$27.50 per Meter
PLUS	
Energy Charge	
First 500 kWh @	13.0¢
Next 3500 kWh @	9.4¢
Over 4000 kWh @	8.9¢

3.) Large Commercial Service

APPLICABLE TO: Any commercial, industrial, city, or farm load within the City of Plankinton Electric Utility service territory, for all purposes, where the average monthly energy usage in a consecutive twelve-month period exceeds 5,000 kWh.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: 60 hertz, three phase 240/120V, 208Y/120V, or 480Y/277V, 4-wire, or standard primary voltage available at point of delivery. Special voltages may be provided at the discretion of the utility. Utility furnishes only one transformer bank and/or one meter.

CONNECTION FEE: Regular Service	\$100.00
All Electric Service	\$250.00

MONTHLY RATE: Facility Charge	\$50.00 per Meter
PLUS	
Energy Charge	
All kWh	4.0¢
PLUS	
Demand Charge	\$14.00

METERED DEMAND: The metered demand for any month shall be the maximum kilowatt demand established by the consumer for any thirty-minute interval during the month as indicated or recorded by a demand meter.

POWER FACTOR ADJUSTMENT: If the customer's average monthly power factor falls below 90%, leading or lagging, the utility may adjust the metered demand by the ratio of 90% to the measured average monthly power factor in percent. Example:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Metered Demand} &= 739 \text{ kW} \\
 \text{Ave Monthly Power Factor} &= 73\% \\
 \text{Ratio} &= 90 \div 73 = 1.2329 \\
 \text{Adjusted Demand} &= (739) * (1.2329) = 911 \text{ kW}
 \end{aligned}$$

ADJUSTED DEMAND: The adjusted demand consists of the metered demand adjusted for power factor, if applicable.

BILLING DEMAND: The billing demand shall be the maximum measured thirty-minute integrated demand in the billing month, but not less than fifty percent (50%) of the maximum thirty-minutes demand established in any of the twelve preceding months.

PRIMARY METERING: The utility will furnish and install primary metering when service is taken by the consumer and metered at primary voltage. The consumer owns and installs all necessary primary and transformers beyond point of service. A 2% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for losses and investment return.

If service is taken at primary voltage (that is, customer owns primary and transformers) and metered at secondary voltage, a 1% discount will apply to demand and energy charges to allow for investment return.

MEASUREMENT OF DEMAND AND ENERGY: When there are two or more demand and energy metering installations on the customer's premises, the metered quantities shall be determined by adding together the separate meter readings before application of the rate, unless special provisions are agreed to by the utility. At the customer's request, and at the customer's expense, and at the Utility's discretion, the Utility may install special metering that will allow coincidental demand billing.

4.) Outside City Limits Service

APPLICABLE TO: Residential, commercial, or farm customers within the service territory of the City of Plankinton Electric utility and outside of the city limits of Plankinton, including use of motors of not more than 5 horsepower individual capacity, where the average monthly energy usage in any twelve-month period is less than 5000 kWh.

SERVICE AVAILABLE: Single-phase, 60 hertz, 120/240 volt, 400 amp max., 3-wire, single meter.

CONNECTION FEE:	Regular Service	\$100.00
	All Electric Service	\$250.00
MONTHLY RATE:	Facility Charge (NO kWh)	\$30.00 per Meter
	PLUS	
	Energy Charge	
	First 600 kWh @	18.0¢
	Next 600 kWh @	13.5¢
	Over 1200 kWh @	11.0¢

5.) PROPERTY OWNER'S [LANDLORD'S OR LESSOR'S] RESPONSIBILITY FOR RENTER'S [LESSEE'S OR TENANT'S] UNPAID ELECTRICAL CHARGES

The owner of any real estate connected to the City electrical system is responsible for payment of all electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments upon read out and final billing to a tenant who is vacating such property. The owner will remain responsible for such electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments until such time as a new tenant applies for service at such property and pays the required deposit in full. Upon read out and final billing on rental property which is actually known to the Municipal Finance Officer to be rental property, the Finance Officer will, within a reasonable time not to exceed ten (10) business days, notify the owner of such property that read out and final billing to the tenant has occurred and that the owner is responsible for payment for continued electrical service to the property. Such notice may be by telephone, email, or by first class mail as determined by the Finance Officer. It is the duty and obligation of the owner of such property to properly notify the City and authorize a complete disconnection if the owner does not wish to remain responsible for continued electrical service rates, charges, and energy cost adjustments to the property.

John J. Staller
Mayor

Adopted this 2nd day of November, 2020

Attest: Eileen Sorsen _____
Finance Officer

CAPS (Community Area Projects program):

Mayor Staller asked the Council if they want to endorse the CAPS program to South Dakota Municipal League. It will help small towns find funds for street repair and other flooding damage. Vissia feels the Municipal League wouldn't get us into a bad deal. Hinckley said it would be nice to get some help. Council approved endorsing the program.

LIQUOR LICENSE HEARING:

The following 2021 liquor licenses were voted on:

Commerce Street Grille, LLC for Retail (on-off sale) Wine & Cider (\$500 re-issuance fee), and Retail (on-sale) Liquor licenses (\$1,400 re-issuance fee). Received a motion to approve by Schuldt. Seconded by Schurz. Vissia abstained from voting. Hinckley, Schurz & Schuldt all voted aye. Motion carried.

Plank Inn, for Package (off-sale) Liquor (\$400 re-issuance fee), and Retail (on-sale) Liquor License (\$1,400 re-issuance fee). Received a motion from Hinckley to approve. Seconded by Schurz. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Ron's Market, for Package Off-sale Liquor License (\$400 re-issuance fee). Received a motion from Vissia to approve. Seconded by Schuldt. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dollar General Store #18575, for Retail (on-off sale) Wine & Cider License (\$500 re-issuance fee). Their \$500 check has not arrived as of November 2, so Mayor Staller entertained for a motion with the caveat that approval is not final until check arrives. Hinckley made a motion to approve the license, with the caveat that the check arrives before approval. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Roadhouse Pub, for Retail (on-sale) Liquor License (\$1,400 re-issuance fee). Vissia made a motion to approve the license. Schurz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

1-YEAR AUDIT:

Finance Officer, Eileen Sorsen, checked with Schoenfish Auditors to see what it would cost to have a 1 year audit done, as there have been so many different issues this year with FEMA money, flooding costs from 2019 using up this year's budget, and Covid Cares Funds. She thought it might be a good idea to have a one year audit done. In checking for a price, \$8,000 was quoted. Since it costs \$10,000 for a 2 year audit, she and the Mayor and Council decided to wait another year.

USDA WATER/WASTEWATER GRANT/LOAN:

Mayor Staller stated that he, Eileen, Darin & Chance met with Jeff McCormick, from SPN, and Eric Ambroson, from Planning District III regarding the Briggs Development. Two funding possibilities were discussed, one being Rural Development, and the other a South Dakota Housing Loan. All agreed we need an amount required before we could apply, which SPN is currently working on. Mr. Ambroson said a SD Housing Loan is a good source, and guarantees payment of 85% of the loan. However, a local bank, or any bank, must make the loan. He followed up with an e-mail stating SD Housing would be willing to approve. Mayor Staller informed the Council that the developer usually chips in money on this. However, this is how major cities do this. Cost is passed on to purchasers. Mayor Staller felt this would most likely make lots in Plankinton too expensive for a small town. He will keep the Council updated as cost estimates become available.

TECH CONTRACT:

The Finance Officer and Deputy F.O. have been talking to Tech Solutions about changing the IT Contract, which is due for renewal next May. By being in the Cloud, our Banyon software has quite a few problems. They said it is costly to have our contract that way, and without “the Cloud” our software would all work much better, and our security would be just as good. One of their former employees had written the contract, along with the former Finance Officer. The Mayor and Council agreed that if it works better for us, and is secure, the Finance Office can change the contract now. Also, a Surface Pro tablet was acquired to help with mapping the utilities in town, working on the cemetery software mapping, and other misc. tasks. It will be checked out by whatever department is using it for the day. Vissia made a motion to allow the contract change right now. Hinckley seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS:

Eileen spoke to the Mayor and Council about the fundraising for new Christmas lights for Main Street. We have had generous donations received since the Pie Social fundraiser. As of November 2, we have \$9,457.62 collected. Mayor Staller was very thankful for all the generosity for this project. On October 23, we placed an order to Northern Lights Display from Becker, MN, for eleven 5' pole mount Snowflake LED lights, and a 40' x 52" “Seasons Greetings” Skyline at a cost of \$8,062.35. Other ground displays will be priced out, and ordered soon.

HOLIDAYS:

Mayor Staller and Council discussed allowing the city employees November 26 and 27 off for Thanksgiving holiday, and, to allow December 24 and 25 off for Christmas holiday. Council agreed to follow the State’s policy this year, and grant these days off.

SHERIFF’S REPORT:

No Sheriff’s Report was received this month.

CAT ISSUE:

Vissia stated people are complaining about feral cats in town, and told them they should contact the Sheriff’s Department. Schurz said they need live traps, and transfer them to a farm. He thinks the fiber-optic install has them moving around.

BUILDING PERMITS:

Brad Kehn, Building Supt., will sign off on the following permits: Demo. Permit #102720 Bucher Law Office @ Demo. Bldg. @ 101 N Main St.; Demo. Permit #102620; Howard Weischedel—Demo. Vacant House @ 310 E State St.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Staller stated that he hasn’t taken any nuisance properties to the Sheriff yet. The Bucher Law building on Main Street, and a house on State Street are slated to be torn down in November. He is hoping houses on South Main and on East Fifth Street will be torn down in spring, if not earlier. He will send the East Fifth house owner a letter to have it torn down by an April 30, 2021 deadline. Kehn is currently working on one on North Main. Mayor Staller contacted Sheriff Fink for removal of turkey, ducks, and chickens at a city residence. The animals have been removed.

He said there are currently over 200 active Covid-19 cases in Aurora County. He was asked when the Library could open, and he and Council agreed it would be fine, since school is re-opened. Also, he would like to hold a special Council meeting on December 28 for end of year bill paying, or other EOY business. The Employee Appreciation Supper will be planned for January.

UTILITY SUPT. REPORT:

Darin had 13 days of locates for the Golden West fiber optic project in October. The boring crew has hit 3 private lines, which the city crew had to fix. The snow equipment is ready. The State DENR inspections at the dump sites went well, with just a couple minor infractions. Darin was told that we used to be "red flagged", but the inspector was happy with what he saw. Grace Street was opened back up, as the creek area has now dried up. He has helped the Elec. Supt. with some electrical work at Overweg Auto, the new elevator bin, and a broken pole on North Duff. Also, the crew got the lagoon wetlands gate working properly. Jeff Briggs is supposed to be getting all the final plans for his development to Darin, so the city can give them to SPN.

ELECTRIC SUPT. REPORT:

Chance has been working at Overweg Auto in October. He set a new meter, and is waiting for a new transformer. It is on temporary power for now, and he is waiting for the electrician to indicate he is ready to switch over. He is working on a couple new services, and replaced some streetlights that were out. Also, took down some old wire, a couple old poles, and replaced a broken pole on North Duff Street. The fiber-optic crew has hit a couple of secondary lines, which were located correctly, so Chance is keeping track of repair costs. The transformer for the new elevator bin should be here in a couple weeks for him to change out.

Mayor Staller adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Signed: John J. Staller, Mayor _____

Attest: Eileen Sorsen, Finance Officer _____