

Regular Meeting of
Lake Preston City Council
Monday December 9th, 2024

A regular meeting of the Lake Preston City Council was held at the City Hall on December 9th, 2024 at 7pm. Present were: Mayor Donna Bumann, John McMasters, Joe Schnell, Jodi Hope, Joel Gerleman, Austin Strande, Rick Olson. Also, present Brenda Klug, Brian Zeeck, Doug Bumann, Ute Hardesty, David Fields from the Kingsbury Journal, Cedric Hay from Banner Associates.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bumann at 7:00 pm.

Motion by Schnell, seconded by Olson to approve the agenda with 1 addition- school shed project.

Council discussed the school park shed being placed in the city park, council determined it is a win win for both parties-the city can take on the monthly electrical expense. Motion by Schnell, seconded by Strande to approve the school park shed being placed in the city park, with city support. All in favor, motion carried.

Klug explained the new rate increases. \$3 on water city maintenance, \$5.86 on water phase 2B, \$3 on sewer city maintenance, and \$25.60 on sewer phase 2B. Ute Hardesty inquired about the loans- are they 30 years. Klug read through all the grant, loan and principal forgiveness totals that were given out by the state.

Hay added that Lake Preston has been very proactive--- where the rates are at is where we are finishing- while other communities are having to jump all the way up as they are just starting.

Motion by Gerleman, seconded by Hope to approve change order #6. Olson abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

Hay explained that pay request #11 has the extra work on 4th and 5th Ave. S, as well as the new addition road work. Ute Hardesty inquired if Manor Ave. S by the 8 plex will ever be fixed. After some discussion Hay plans to reach out to Northwestern to fix what they dug out in 2023. Motion by McMasters, seconded by Strande to approve pay request #11 from Rounds Construction for \$460,808.99. Olson abstained. All in favor, motion carried.

Hay explained the funding amounts leftover from Phase 2A, some on water and sewer- in which they have asked the state to add water line from 4th St. to the water tower on Park Ave S. and now able to do a water main loop on Walters Ave. Phase 2B project was discussed, hoping to bid the project out in February/March. Instead of it being a 1-year project it will be a 2 year. Leftover water funds from Phase 1 can be used on the water tower. Tap grant progress was briefly discussed.

Hay stated that Banner has finished the lagoon study for the city on behalf of Gevo, the plan is to have Dennis Rebelein come to the Dec. 30th meeting to give a briefing on the findings. They plan to give the info to Gevo to review and meeting with them on the 19th. Discussed the progress of Gevo coming and building.

Hay explained which streets would need to be chip sealed in 2025, hoping to be on a 3-year cycle in the beginning. When you do a fog coat the life span is 5 to 7 years. Banner has a multi-community chip seal project, where several cities get together and bid it out. With larger quantities of sealing the lower the bids come in. Motion Schnell, seconded by Hope to approve the chip sealing project agreement. All in favor, motion carried.

5th Street north running through prairie ags bins contain water and sewer lines—a utility easement is needed. Also, the storm sewer that runs from Minden Ave N to the west needs an easement. Both are areas within the phase 1 project. A drainage easement is needed for North of 7th Ave N by the hayfield, and Spring Ave S going out in to a field to the South. Banner engineers have been at the courthouse searching for documentation- several easements are not documented. Motion by McMasters, seconded by Hope to approve the work of the utility easements and the drainage easement. All in favor, motion carried.

No public comments.

Motion by Strande, seconded by Gerleman to approve the minutes from the November 12th regular meeting. All in favor, motion carried.

Water & sewer committee had met to review the tree removal quotes, after reviewing 2 out of the 5 had everything that was asked for. Was awarded to Bode Construction, in which he is close to being finished. The same committee also discussed the rates of empty lots/vacant lots in town-Klug is working with the state on a few ideas. Klug discussed that all late bills will be getting late charges, and all late charged accounts will be getting doorhangers- there is no threshold anymore. The dates of the billing will remain the same, due the 15th of every month.

Gerleman from the streets committee stated that the skid steer brush needed to be replaced, it was approved by the committee. \$7,900 brush from Huron.

Motion by Schnell, seconded by Olson to approve the newly edited contract law agreement for 2025, 15 hours a week @ \$32 per hour. All in favor, motion carried.

Zeeck stated that the tree removal had been done besides 2, 7 more were added to the project. Come spring all the stumps and roots would be taken care of. Got the new flag poles up in the park, been were working on the street sweeper again, and started cleaning out the back of city hall from the roof damage.

Klug stated that she had spoke to Rebecca Lolling about the water fund and she believes our audit for 2024 will not be as high as the 2023 due to less federal dollars. Klug stated that Corrie Walters had written an article covering our project. Klug plans to be gone the 13th to the 20th, due to going to New York City- Marla Bertsch will be in the office during that time.

Motion by McMasters, seconded by Hope to approve the following claims as presented: All in favor, motion carried.

A & B Business \$73.00, printer contract; Avera Health Plan \$667.09, health ins.; Avid Hawk LLC \$49.00, website; Brookings Health System \$68.00, amb.; CCP Industries \$125.54, paper towels; CLIA Lab. Program \$248.00, amb.; Dacotah Bank \$6,845.46, TIF- 2 payments; Cooks Wastepaper \$53,286.57, city dumpster/city trash; DANR \$550.00, facility fees due; DOR \$274.98, taxes; Farmers Implement \$120.00, snow removal; FNB \$8,000.00, amb. building pymt 2024; Foley & Foley \$150.00, Jan.; Henery Schein \$23.44, amb.; Kingbrook Rural Water \$6,360.75, purchased water; Kingsbury Co. \$2,080.00, contract law; Kingsbury Journal \$971.81, publishing; Kramer Mechanical \$430.08, checking all units; Lowes \$191.63, park repairs, LP Dev. \$5,000.00, 2024 yearly amount; Lyle Signs \$86.00, no parking signs; M&T Fire \$11,179.76, FD/city-light bar; Maynards \$19.25, FO supplies; McMasters Gravel \$438.38, gravel; Northwestern Energy \$309.71, natural gas; Office Peeps \$76.04, office supplies; Ottetail \$2,259.13, electric; Prairie Ag Partners \$3,251.49, city/amb./FD; Premier Equipment LLC \$7,900.00, skid steer brush; Public Health Lab \$15.00, water testing; Runnings \$305.92, park; Tailored Structures \$244.90, park flags; Team Lab \$1,386.00, lift station; Vallery Fibercom \$224.88, phones/internet; Halme \$122,360.09, PR #20; Amazon \$417.42, lib.; Collaborative Summer reading \$12.82, Lib.; Deb Miller \$171.54, lib. supplies; Adobe \$23.96, baseball signs; Amazon \$222.87, American flags; Execubanc \$60.00, bank fees; F&M Coop oil \$2,516.00, amb. repair; Google Play \$19.11, extra email space; Hyvee \$60.53, Joes flowers; US Bank \$24,030.32, W & WW Phase 1 loan pymt; USPS \$219.00, 3 rolls of stamps; Voiceshot \$20.00, voicemail/texting service.

Motion by Schnell, seconded by Gerleman to approve the November financial report. All in favor, motion carried.

No building permits.

No new nuisance property information.

Motion by Gerleman, seconded by Schnell to approve resolution 112-24. Roll call. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Gerleman, seconded by McMasters to approve the contingency transfer authority. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Gerleman, seconded by McMasters to approve the first reading of the supplemental appropriation ordinance 467-24. Roll call. All in favor, motion carried.

Employee reviews and Christmas bonuses were to be discussed in executive session.

McMasters inquired if its legal to put live traps out for cats. Zeeck plans to reach out to the GFP. Strande inquired about the upcoming city election, rules etc. since changing to at large. Klug needs to reach out to the state to get the guidelines. Olson inquired about 2 places where the street lights were out.

December special meeting will be December 30th at 6pm.

Klug stated that the Fire Department is asking to rollover funds to the 2025 budget due to buying a boat. And we plan on rolling over funds from the street paving to 2025 and doing a transfer authority to the water fund.

January council meeting will be January 6th.

Motion by Schnell, seconded by Strande to go into executive at 8:39 pm for personnel.

Council came out of executive session at 9:01 pm.

Motion by Schnell, seconded by Olson to approve \$500 Christmas Bonuses to each Bumann, Zeeck, and Klug; approve \$150 Christmas Bonuses to Rodney Olson and Deb Miller. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by McMasters, seconded by Strande to approve a \$1.10 raise to the 3 full-time employees- Bumann, Zeeck, and Klug starting in 2025. All in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Donna Bumann declared the meeting adjourned at 9:32 pm.

Brenda Klug, Finance Officer

Donna Bumann, Mayor

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