City of Leola Council Meeting

March 1, 2021

The Leola City Council met on March 1st. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Royce Erdmann. Present council members: Jackie Leibel, Michael Yost, Tim Collins, Trisha Erdmann and Jackie Rau. Richard Reis was present via speaker phone. City personnel present: Jeff Tschappat and Sondra Waltman.

Rau moved with a second from Yost to approve the February minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

Yost moved with a second from Leibel to approve the treasurer’s report. All in favor, motion carried.

Reis moved with a second from Rau to approve the bills along with the project bills from Helms and Associates and final bill from Premier Contracting. All in favor, motion carried. Bills are as follows:

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| **Bills to be Considered for March 2021** |
|   |   |   |
| Agtegra | Supplies |  $ 4.38  |
| Aramark | Office Services/Supplies |  $ 85.76  |
| CorTrust Visa | Postage/Payroll Fees |  $ 31.08  |
| Curt's Repair | Repairs/maintenance |  $ 1,194.37  |
| Dependable Sanitation | Garbage Collection |  $ 60.00  |
| DMI | Telehandler |  $ 1,713.60  |
| Dakota Pump | Repairs/maintenance |  $ 928.57  |
| Gene's Oil Company | Gas & Diesel |  $ 249.39  |
| Beck Law Office | Prof. Services |  $ 30.00  |
| Leola Library | Books |  $ 167.50  |
| McPherson Co. Herald | Ads/Proceedings |  $ 86.17  |
| Montana Dakota Utilities | Utilities |  $ 2,799.64  |
| James Hoffman | Mileage/Meals |  $ 203.80  |
| Pam Walz | Books |  $ 239.77  |
| Pam Walz | Mileage |  $ 33.60  |
| ReadiTech | Tech Support |  $ 58.45  |
| Rural Development | 107th Payment for Sewer |  $ 4,021.00  |
| Corporate Trust/US Bank | 1st Quarterly Pmt - Water Project |  $ 2,364.23  |
| Westside Heating & AC | Propane - Shop |  $ 642.20  |
| Valley | Telephone, Fax, Internet |  $ 388.40  |
| WEB Water | Water for February |  $ 7,981.95  |
| Payroll | Finance Office |  $ 3,737.92  |
| Payroll | Sewer |  $ 2,916.66  |
| Payroll | Street |  $ 2,500.00  |
| Payroll | Library |  $ 857.58  |
| Payroll | Government Buildings |  $ 869.25  |
| Payroll | Mayor/Council |  $ -  |
| Payroll | SD Health Pool - March |  $ 1,475.84  |
| Payroll | SS, Med, W/H, SDRS with Matches |  $ 1,377.20  |
|   | Total |  $ 37,018.31  |
|   |   |   |
| **Bills for Water Project** |   |   |
| Helm's & Associates | PROJECT CONTINGENCY FUNDS |  $ 2,420.00  |
| Premier | Final bill |  $ 24,220.78  |
| City | Misc parts/supplies |  $ -  |
|   | Total |  $ 26,640.78  |

Terry Hoffman joined the council meeting at 7:18 pm to discuss barking dogs and some tree branches. He had spoken to the property owner regarding the concerns, and they agreed to make some changes and clean up the branches. Hoffman wanted to publicly inform the council.

McPherson County Deputy Sheriff Allie Hilgemann joined the meeting at 7:32 pm to deliver the monthly county law report. She had questions about noise ordinance and golf carts. Waltman will check the ordinances and present necessary updates/changes at the next meeting.

Both Hoffman and Hilgemann departed the meeting at 7:42 pm.

Old Business:

J. Tschappat discussed a quote from Troy Tschappat to update/replace 12 light fixtures in the Citizen’s Building. The city will provide the LED bulbs (24) at roughly $6.87 each from DSG. The quote was for $12 per light. Total project costs will be approximately $308.88. Collins moved with a second from Yost to accept the quote and replace 12 light fixtures at the stated costs. Roll call vote: Rau, aye; Erdmann, aye; Leibel, aye; Yost, aye; Collins, aye; Reis, aye. Motion carried.

Personnel manual wording updates were reviewed and discussed. After receiving council input, formal changes will be made and adopted at the next meeting.

The city election will be held on April 13th. Petitions were validated for the following: Ward One Council Position (two-year term), Jackie Leibel; Ward Two Council Position (two-year term), Brett Schaible; Ward Three Council Position (two-year term), Alan Wimer and Trisha Erdmann; and Mayor Position (one-year term) Royce Erdmann. An election will be held for the Ward Three Council Position. Waltman will find three workers for the election board. Rau moved with a second from Erdmann to set the election pay at $200 per day, which includes meals and training. All in favor, motion carried.

Waltman followed up with Leola School Business Manager Kayla Casey regarding donations for the football field lights. Casey said that the overall project was projected to be $30,000. Of that, $10,000 in donations were already secured for the lights and was asking the city’s help for the additional wire and labor expenses. Rau made a motion to donate $5,000 from the budgeted Economic Development Director fund to the Leola School to help defer the expenses. Reis seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

An ad was reviewed for a pool manager, lifeguards and a swimming lesson instructor. An ad will be put in the newspaper and asked to be included in the school announcements. Prior to the liner project, Dan Dumas with My Aquatic Services inspected the existing conditions and formally condemned the baby pool due to a lack of water circulation. Ideas were discussed as to what to do with the area.

A reminder that the oversized dumpster will be available tentatively from April 22 through May 10.

New Business:

The following donations were requested from the city: Rhubarb Committee, $500; Leola Fireworks Association, $500; Leola Fire Department, $500; Leola Golf Association, $6,000; Leola Alumni Association, $100; and Leola Development Corporation, $500. Reis moved with a second from Collins to grant the requests for donations. All in favor, motion carried.

The Leola Country Club had their annual meeting and discussed membership dues ($125 for family, including kids 21 and younger; $100 for individual; $25 for students), renaming the clubhouse in memory of Mike Waltman, the potential for year-round virtual golf and renting out the club house for special events for $100 per day, which includes green fees. Contact the finance office for inquires.

The 2020 Drinking Water Report was distributed to the council as well as through the monthly water invoices. Additional copies can be requested at the city finance office.

An Equalization Meeting will be held March 15th at 7:00 pm at the municipal building.

A Peddler’s License was inquired about. Waltman will check with surrounding communities on fees, licenses, and ordinances.

Committee Reports:

Street/Alley/RUS – A streetlight is out at the corner of Williams and Mason. Waltman will contact MDU.

Water/Sewer – Late accounts and disconnects were discussed. Tschappat inquired if he could order water repair parts (couplers, fittings, etc.) due to the lack of availability/shipping delays from Covid. The council said that was okay.

Park/Recreation/Pool – The pool has a few broken fittings due to freezing. Tschappat will order and replace as needed. Reis inquired about the possibility of restocking fish at the dam.

Building/Equipment – The siren needs to be reset to blow at 12:00 pm. Possible vehicles were reviewed, but the council wants to see what is available at the state auction in April. The Citizen’s Building elevator is still out of order. The repair company is waiting on parts.

Code Enforcement/Law Enforcement/Library – The code enforcement follow up was reviewed, along with the monthly library report.

LEAD – Discussion was held with the status of LEAD, who to contact, and it was suggested that the city could request their allocated funds for the Economic Development Director position back at a prorated amount. Waltman will consult Leola School Business Manager Kayla Casey about future investments in an Economic Development Director. From there, funds may be requested from LEAD for the city to allocate elsewhere.

Public Comments: Leola School representative Nancy Kindelspire inquired about having a fun final day of school at Lundquist Dam. She has been in contact with GFP and wanted to make sure the city was onboard before planning any further. The council felt this was a good idea and will be willing to help/provide if anything additional is needed.

Upcoming Meetings: Waltman will have electing training webinars on March 3, March 16, March 18, and March 25. The finance office will be closed for webinars. There will be an Equalization Meeting on March 15. There is a virtual District 6 meeting on March 23. April 5 will be the next regular city council meeting. On April 15, there will be meeting to canvas the election votes.

Correspondence: DENR sent the renewal permit that reinstated the Restricted Use Site. The mayor opened a sealed bid for the surplused Jacobson tractor for $500 from Curt’s Repair. As this was not published, nothing will be done at this time.

At 9:52 pm, Rau moved with a second from Reis to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

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ATTEST: Royce Erdmann, Mayor

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Sondra Waltman, Finance Officer

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