

The regular meeting of the Page City Council was held on April 13, 2020 at 8:15 a.m. via Conference Call with Jim Heidorn, Julie Bankers, Natalie Nitschke, Lucas Erickson and Chris Erickson present. One guest was also present. Mayor Heidorn opened the meeting.

Motion by Bankers and second by C. Erickson to approve the March minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Auditor's report was given and the following bills presented for approval:

GENERAL FUND: Waste Management - \$94.94; Waste Management (Park) - \$73.96; BEK Communications - \$51.86; John Deere Financial - \$82.44; Payroll Taxes - \$85.37; Otter Tail Power Co. - \$1,111.59; City Auditor - \$1,050.00 (Monthly salary); Cass County Reporter - \$165.13; Clifford Farmers Elevator - \$174.74; Teresa Heidorn (March labor) - \$66.00; Sarah's M&M Grocery - \$9.96; Cass County Sheriff's Office - \$71.00; Dacotah Paper - \$55.12; ERCU Visa - \$442.78 (NDLC - \$170.00; Runnings - \$106.99; Menards - \$41.24; Page Oil - \$25.00; Fleet Farm - \$38.68; Office Depot - \$60.87.) **WATER & SEWER:** Waste Management - \$1,367.76; Otter Tail Power Company - \$411.50; Cass Rural Water Users - \$1,569.75; Jim Heidorn (City Maintenance) - \$692.25; Payroll Taxes - \$62.52; City of Fargo - \$14.00; Judy Johnson (W&S Labor) - \$125.00; ND One Call - \$1.20; ERCU Visa - \$87.81 (Post Office - \$26.95; Office Depot - \$60.86). **STREET IMPROVEMENT SAVINGS:** Starion Bonds (Street Improvement Bonds payment) - \$169,405.00. Motion by C. Erickson and second by L. Erickson to approve Auditor's Report and pay bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPUTY'S REPORT – Deputy Longlet was not present for the meeting but submitted his report via email. There were 9 calls for service in March. There were three incidents in the 200 block of Argus Avenue. Most calls fell into the other category which include domestics, disturbance and suspicious activity. There were 2 medical calls.

The following items were discussed:

- 1) The Notice of Nuisance was served and the resident was to appear before the City Council at today's meeting but due to the COVID-19 crisis the hearing was waived for today. We are hoping the resident will clean up property before weather warms up considerably. A neighbor of resident called to complain that they saw a rat running across the street from that property. Mayor Heidorn stated he would be calling the Fargo/Cass Public Health Office to see if there are any other options.
- 2) A letter was received from the City Attorney stating that the individual that has been farming City owned property visited with them regarding the letter that was sent to him from the City. He seems to be willing to do the land swap that was mentioned as long as he could continue to farm the land until it is developed. Motion by C. Erickson and second by Bankers to table this item until next meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3) Catholic Church clean-up. Mayor Heidorn suggested that a 30 yard roll-off be ordered to be placed in front of church so clean up can be done. It was also suggested that a schedule be set up so only two people go in at a given time. Signs will be posted on the roll off and on Facebook stating it is not for public use and that roll-offs will be available during clean up week for the public's use. C. Erickson stated that perhaps a trail cam could be placed to control the abuse of this roll-off. The roll off will be about \$440 plus disposal fee. Motion by C. Erickson and second by Bankers to order the roll off and to do the clean up as discussed. Motion carried unanimously.

- 4) Spring Clean-Up Week – May 14th to May 21st. The Council agreed that Spring Clean Up dates will remain the same and signs will be posted soon.
- 5) Rob Viera of Buell Consulting, Inc. introduced himself to the Council. His firm is handling the construction of a Verizon Tower one mile south of Page and since this is in the City of Page extra-territorial jurisdiction, they wanted to make sure the City had no questions or concerns. This is a 250 foot self-support tower which means there are no guide wires. It is planned for spring or summer of 2021. The tower will accommodate two other companies. It will be located west of Highway 38 and north of 19th Street S.E. Lake Township has approved a building permit for this tower. Motion by Nitschke and second by Bankers to agree with Lake Township on the building of this tower. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6) Election June 9, 2020 – There will be no polling place for the June election. All voting will be done by absentee voting. Residents should be looking for applications for absentee ballots to arrive in their mailbox soon. If one is not received they should contact Cass County Auditor's office to have one mailed to them. Candidates to be placed on ballot:

Mayor – James “Jim” Heidorn – running unopposed

Four running for the 2 Council Seats – Julie Bankers, Erin Jager, Arnold Bankers, Sarah Ritter

- 7) Mayor Heidorn stated that the 2020 Census is being done. Residents will be sent a form in the mail or can go on-line and complete it. He urges all residents to be sure and be counted in this census as this affects certain payments the State and the City receive as they are based on population.
- 8) The Cemetery Road has been closed due to erosion around the culvert. It will be decided after the water goes down or ditch is pumped out to see what needs to be done to repair the road or culvert.
- 9) The lift station pumps have each been running several hours a day. Last week they were each running about 9 to 11 hours a day. Each pump is down to about 8 hours a day now. Residents should be reminded to make sure their sump pumps are draining outside and not into the sanitary sewer system.
- 10) The City received a letter from the North Dakota Environmental Quality Drinking Water Program stating that in 2019 the City of Page satisfied all applicable Safe Drinking Water Act requirements and the City is commended for this accomplishment from which their consumers benefitted. To recognize the City of Page, the Department issued a Safe Drinking Water Act Certificate of Achievement.
- 11) Motion by L. Erickson and second by C. Erickson to approve the application for a gaming permit from the Page Café for a raffle to be held in June. Motion carried unanimously.
- 12) The Auditor stated that Mitch Calkins of Lake Agassiz Regional Council has asked to be added to the Agenda for the May City Council meeting to discuss the following: Finalization of Page Housing CDBG award; Brownfields grant opportunity and city economic recovery funding. There was no objection to having this placed on the May Agenda.
- 13) Past due water and sewer bills were discussed. Past due accounts this month are as follows:

Pam Belling – over 30 days past due
Jeremy Duncan – 21 days past due
Jim & Chari Dunn – over 90 days past due
Keagan Haas – 21 days past due
Ken Hubbard – over 30 days past due
Lance Iwen – over 90 days past due
Nathan Nelson – over 30 days past due
Kristine Royal – over 90 days past due

- 14) Nitschke stated that the Park Board has met and would like to be notified by the City as soon as the Park can be opened so a clean-up day can be scheduled. A discussion was had regarding park mowing and payment of the employee. Hours should be submitted to the Auditor on the 1st and the 16th. The employee will be paid twice a month. Mowing should be completed before 8:00 each evening. Donation letters have not been sent out yet but will be soon listing what the Park would like to purchase or do this summer. Some items are as follows: New garbage containers for the park and ball fields; complete landscaping at the tennis court; painting at the tennis court; tiller to be able to do volleyball court and other projects. Jessica Erickson is the newest member of the Park Board and has agreed to act as Secretary. Heidorn stated that he will get information to Nitschke regarding where to order signs that the Park Board would like to get. Nitschke also stated that if there will be youth ball games this spring or summer and if Community Days is still a go with the tractor pull, the Park Board will do concessions at these events.

There being no further business brought before the Council motion was made by C. Erickson and second by Bankers to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m. The next regular Council meeting will be Monday, May 11, 2020 at 7:00 AM. It is not known at this time whether next month's meeting will need to be done by Conference Call.

Judy L. Johnson
City Auditor