

The regular meeting of the Page City Council was held on March 8, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. at the Page City Office with Jim Heidorn, Lucas Erickson, Chris Erickson, Sarah Ritter and Eryn Jager present. Deputy King was also present at the meeting. Mayor Heidorn opened the meeting.

Motion by C. Erickson and second by Jager to approve the February 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 - \$55.19; John Deere Financial - \$1,279.54; Payroll Taxes - \$92.43; Otter Tail Power Co. - \$1,042.50; City Auditor - \$1,123.50 (Monthly salary); Teresa Heidorn (February Labor) - \$84.50; Clifford Farmers Elevator - \$362.70; Boiler Inspections (City Shop & Auditorium - \$100.00; Cass County Reporter - \$56.76; Page Oil Company - \$26.48; Workforce Safety & Insurance - \$327.21; ERCU Visa – \$644.83 (Lowe's - \$106.43; DEY Appliance {Auditorium Boiler} - \$447.47; Fleet Farm - \$51.60; Handy Hardware - \$8.58; Page Oil - \$30.75).
WATER & SEWER: Waste Management - \$1,383.55; Otter Tail Power Company – \$353.33; Cass Rural Water Users - \$1,399.13; Jim Heidorn (City Maintenance) - \$1,574.99; Payroll Taxes - \$130.85; City of Fargo - \$14.00; Judy Johnson (W&S Labor) - \$135.42; Ferguson Waterworks - \$622.06; ND One Call - \$1.20; ERCU Visa – \$345.53 (Post Office - \$26.95; Menards - \$318.58). Motion by L. Erickson and second by C. Erickson to approve the Auditor's Report and pay bills as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPUTY'S REPORT – Deputy King reviewed February's report with the Council. There were five calls for service last month – 3 suspicious activity calls, a welfare check and a crash. He stated that there were also two break-ins at the storage unit. These were not included in the report so he may submit an amended report once he determines why these were not included.

The following items were discussed:

- 1) Heidorn stated that he has talked to an electrician regarding a new heater for the well pit and he will get at it soon.
- 2) Auditorium boiler – The boiler is now working properly after about \$500.00 in parts which have been hard to locate and some had to be improvised. The boiler was recently inspected and passed the inspection after a leaky valve was repaired.
- 3) Tax-forfeited properties – Discussion was had on tax forfeited property that has a house on it. There are some problems in getting a clear title on this in order to sell the property with a clean title. The mortgage company states they were not notified of sale of tax forfeited property and they would like some remuneration to write off mortgage. This was tabled until next meeting. Heidorn stated he would talk with City's attorney to see what other options are available.
- 4) Heidorn stated that we recently had Jet-Way flush out a block of sanitary sewer as a resident was having some issues with sewer back-up. Jet-Way has advised that a sanitary sewer line just south and west from the end of this block looked like it should also be done. It was decided that two or 3 blocks of sanitary sewer should be flushed each year particularly those with just a few houses on a line. A maintenance schedule will be discussed with Jet-Way.
- 5) There are some issues with the Water Tower at this time with water pouring out the overflow. It is believed this was caused by some ice breaking loose in tower and cracking a fitting. H&H Coatings will be getting here sometime this week to repair if possible. They will not be able to repair until there is no longer any ice in tower.

- 6) The Council reviewed bids received from Hope Electric regarding the replacement of lighting with LED lighting in the City Shop (\$1,656.00) and the City Auditorium (\$4,480.00). The annual energy savings on the auditorium would be about \$2,000.00. Motion by L. Erickson and second by Jager to accept the two bids and have Hope Electric proceed with both projects. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7) Gaming permit applications were reviewed from Our Savior Lutheran Church Sunday School for a quilt raffle and from the Page Fire Department for a raffle and their Fun Night on April 10th. Motion by C. Erickson and second by Ritter to approve both gaming permits. Motion carried unanimously.
- 8) C. Erickson inquired whether or not any plans have been made for Page Community Days. The Page Community Club has not met as yet to discuss Community Days but it is hoped plans will be made soon.
- 9) The Auditor stated that the Page Volunteer Fire Department is in the process of attempting to get a gaming license with the help of West Fargo Rural Fire Department Gaming. At present Harwood Fire & Rescue has the license to operate gaming in R&J's Front Page Lounge. This will expire June 1st of this year. If the City wishes to change this, notice will need to be given to Harwood Fire & Rescue. This will be discussed further at next month's meeting when more information is available.
- 10) Heidorn stated that he finally got hold of someone at Ripp's Trucking (which is now Topp's Trucking) regarding the long overdue water bill. After some discussion they stated that a check would be sent out right away.
- 11) Jager stated that the School has mentioned putting a parking lot in the area of the old playground area and some items would not be kept for re-use by them. The Park may be interested in the playground equipment that the school will not be keeping. Council stated that she should keep on top of this and equipment should be inspected thoroughly to see if can be removed and reused safely.
- 12) Ritter stated that the walking in the Auditorium has been going very well. There is an event (a bridal shower) scheduled on March 20th. There has also been a request for the use of auditorium tables for a wedding in July. A fee of \$2.00 per table was suggested or a donation would be accepted for use of tables also. Some tables will need to be replaced soon.
- 13) C. Erickson asked about Spring Clean-up Week. After discussion, Spring Clean-up Week will be scheduled for May 13 – May 20. These dates are tentative until confirmed with Waste Management. Two 30 yard roll-offs will be placed behind the auditorium for clean-up week.
- 14) Heidorn stated that we have received some new garbage containers so if anyone is in need of a new container due to breakage, etc. to let the Auditor know. Residents should be aware that Waste Management has requested that garbage containers be placed on the curb for Friday pickup before 6:00 a.m.
- 15) The City has signed up with the Source Well Program which offers discounts from 15 to 25% on many items from large equipment to office supplies.
- 16) There have been complaints again about excessive barking of dogs in some areas of town. It is advised that the non-emergency dispatch number at Cass County (701-451-7660) can be called to register a complaint.
- 17) No correspondence to review.

18) The Tax Equalization Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 12 at 8:00 a.m. following the City Council meeting which is scheduled at 7:00 a.m.

19) Past due water and sewer accounts were discussed. Past due accounts this month are as follows:

- Pam Belling – over 60 days past due
- Jeremy Duncan – 16 days past due
- Dustin Erickson – 16 days past due
- Ken Hubbard – over 30 days past due
- Lance Iwen – over 120 days past due
- Corey Phelps – over 30 days past due
- Kristine Royal – 16 days past due
- Patricia Selby – over 30 days past due
- Carol Stafford – over 30 days past due
- David Tomperi – 16 days past due
- Ripp’s Trucking – over 120 days past due

There being no further business brought before the Council motion was made by C. Erickson and second by Jager to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m. The next regular Council meeting will be Monday, April 12, 2021 at 7:00 AM in the Page City Office with the Tax Equalization Meeting scheduled for 8:00 a.m. following the City Council meeting.

Judy L. Johnson
City Auditor