



MINUTES OF MANKATO CITY COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 7, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mankato City Council was called to order by Council President, Sam Becker beginning at 7:00 p.m. on February 7, 2023. Councilmen present were: Sam Becker, Kevin Ost, Rodney Payne and Lyle Dauner. Councilman George Hennion was present via zoom. Mayor, Justin Schoonover was absent. Also present was City Attorney, Darrell E. Miller and Interim City Clerk, Sharon McCormick and Assistant City Clerk, Angela Brown.

Visitors present were: Sheriff Don Jacobs; June Pumphrey; Sara Grout; City Employee, Matt Badger, City Employee Marvin McCormick; Larry Steele, M & A Engineering.

Councilman Becker requested that everyone join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sheriff Don Jacobs addressed various concerns within the city, and a general discussion was held with the council in regard to these concerns. Sheriff advised the council that he had been able to employ new officers and that his department would soon be at full staff.

Larry Steele reported on and reviewed with the council the bids for the swimming pool repairs and painting. Steele recommended that the council accept the bid of Ashton Kate Construction, LLC for \$33,853.00. Councilman Dauner moved to accept the bid from Ashton Kate Construction, LLC for \$33,853.00 and that the proper officers sign the contract. Councilman Ost seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Marvin McCormick presented the council with bids for replacement lighting on the highway. McCormick discussed the need for backup generation at the substation and also the need to replace copper wiring within the city. McCormick informed the council that KMEA would do a rate study. No action was taken on the bids for replacement lighting and the matter was tabled for further discussion at a later date.

City Employee Matt Badger updated the council on the water line project. Badger reported that the project was proceeding according to schedule, but there might be a possible delay for full completion of the project. Badger reported to the council on the council's request for replacement of water meters that had not been functioning for some time. Many of the meters have been replaced since the last meeting and as time permits, the remaining defective meters will be replaced or repaired when needed parts are available.

June Pumphrey requested permission to use the Armory for 6 nights for a dog obedience class to be open to anyone wishing to participate. The council agreed to allow the Armory to be used as requested and requested that the City Clerk work out the scheduling with Ms. Pumphrey.

Councilman Dauner moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilman Payne seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Sara Grout from the Mankato Library Board requested that Nadine Smith be appointed as trustee on the Library Board to replace the position held by Anna Morgan. Councilman Payne moved to appoint Nadine Smith as a trustee on the Library Board. Councilman Ost seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

The council discussed the ordinances pertaining to sewer tap fees and concurred that the ordinance require that a sewer tap fee be assessed to the property owner to every property where a sewer tap existed whether the sewer was being used or not.

The council reviewed the Revolving Loan Fund loans.

The council reviewed the policy on free parking at the designated parking sites in and near the City Park. The council discussed the need to establish a fee for those using electricity at the parking sites. Councilman Hennion moved to assess a \$10/day fee for an electrical hookup. Councilman Ost seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was had concerning the Chamber of Commerce request of \$400 for "welcome bags" to new residents of the City. No action was taken.

Councilman Ost moved to approve to pay payment #10 to APAC for the water line project. Councilman Payne seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Sharon McCormick presented information to the council concerning the renewal of the City's insurance with Blue Cross/Blue Shield. The premium increase for the renewal is approximately 12%. Councilman Hennion moved to approve the renewal of the BC/BS policy. Councilman Becker seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

The council reviewed a letter from Old Republic Aerospace, Inc. for the renewal of liability insurance at the city airport. Councilman Dauner moved to renew the coverage and Councilman Ost seconded the motion/ Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was held concerning the letter of request submitted by Susan Abel on behalf of the Junior Clio Club to use the City as a go-through for the grant applications with the Jewell County Community Foundation for new lights to replace lights at the community center, some of which were destroyed by hail in 2020. Councilman Ost moved and Councilman Hennion seconded to allow the City to be a go through for grant applications with the Jewell County Community Foundation. Motion passed unanimously.

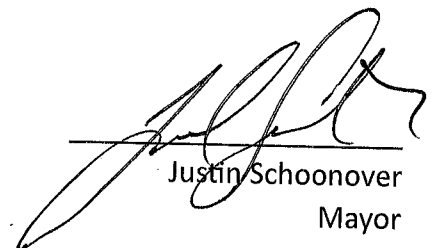
The council reviewed and discussed the quote from EMC Insurance for the city's comprehensive insurance coverage.

City Clerk Sharon McCormick presented the council with the contracts with Advantage Computer for use of the Jayhawk Software and related training. Councilman Ost moved to approve the contracts as presented and Councilman Dauner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

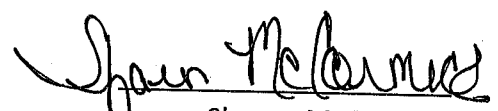
City Clerk McCormick and Assistant Brown requested that the council consider renting a postage machine. After discussion, Councilman Payne moved to rent a postage machine through PitneyBowes. Councilman Ost seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

City Attorney Miller discussed the sewer line replacement project and the need to obtain additional easements. Miller requested that the City approve Gilmore & Bell as bond council. Councilman Dauner moved to approve Gilmore & Bell as bond council for the sewer line replacement project. Councilman Payne seconded; motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m.



Justin Schoonover
Mayor



Sharon McCormick
Interim City Clerk
