

CITY OF MILLER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 3, 2023

The City of Miller is an equal opportunity employer.

The City Council met in regular session at city hall at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3, 2023.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ron Blachford, Aldermen: Jim Odegaard, Mike Wetz, Tom McGough, Joe Zeller. Alderwomen: Tammy Lichty and Susan Hargens.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Blachford called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

AGENDA: Motion by Alderman Odegaard, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Wetz to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on December 20, 2022, and the year-end meeting held on December 28, 2022. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Jan Kittleson requested the city's rules and regulations regarding snow removal. The ordinance can be found on the City's website at www.cityofmiller.com. Will Page, Alderman McGough, and Mayor Blachford along with the rest of the council commended the entire city crew for a great job done with snow removal from streets, intersections, and around fire hydrants after the emergency routes, fire hall, and airport runway were cleared.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Ron Hoftiezer, street superintendent, added to his report. The street department has been out sanding streets to cut down on the ice buildup. The sun will help the most. Deputy Finance Officer Cindy Deuter answered Alderman McGough's question pertaining to the two sales tax payments received each month from the State. The second payment is normally larger due to it covering a wider range of days than the first payment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2nd Reading Ordinance #741 – Camping: Mayor Blachford read Ordinance #741. Motion by Alderman Wetz, seconded by Alderwoman Hargens to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance #741. Alderwoman Lichty questioned who will set up the campground to reflect the new code. Alderman McGough commented that there will be signs displaying the new rules and regulations and drop boxes for registration and payment. City employees from the street and park departments will oversee the campground to enforce Ordinance #741. Roll call vote: Alderman McGough – aye, Alderman Odegaard – aye, Alderman Zeller – aye, Alderman Wetz – aye, Alderwoman Lichty – aye, Alderwoman Hargens – aye. Motion carried.

2nd Reading Ordinance #742 – Removal Permit: Mayor Blachford read Ordinance #742. Motion by Alderman McGough, seconded by Alderman Zeller to approve the 2nd reading of Ordinance #742. Roll call vote: Alderwoman Hargens – aye, Alderwoman Lichty – aye, Alderman Wetz – aye, Alderman Zeller – aye, Alderman Odegaard – aye, Alderman McGough – aye. Motion carried. The Code of Ordinances regarding fences was mentioned. An ordinance that specifically addresses fences needs to be created.

NEW BUSINESS

Electric Department – On-call: Dustin Graham, electric superintendent, researched on-call compensation for employees of other surrounding entities with utilities. Graham informed the utilities committee members of his findings to support the \$40 per day that is listed in Resolution No. 2023-1 and is well within the budget. On-call was established in the Miller City electric department in 2008 at \$20 per day and has not increased since. The city has agreed to pay Dakota Energy Cooperative \$40 per day for on-call services. Alderman Odegaard and Alderwoman Lichty would like to research how other entities compensate for on-call.

Resolution No. 2023-1 – Salaries: Motion by Alderman McGough, seconded by Alderman Zeller to approve Resolution No. 2023-1 with one revision to stay at \$20 per day when on-call for Dustin Graham and Devin Letsche. All members voted aye. Motion carried. The increases for each employee’s pay along with the seasonal employee increases were discussed during the 2023 budgeting process. An increase in on-call pay will be addressed later.

Resolution No. 2023-2 – Fee Schedule: Motion by Alderman Wetz, seconded by Alderman Odegaard to approved Resolution No. 2023-2. All member voted aye. Motion carried.

1st Reading Ordinance #743 – Fee Schedule: Mayor Blachford read Ordinance #743. The Building Removal Permit Deposit for water/sewer capping of \$500 is refundable upon inspection as stated in Ordinance #742.

Designate Depositories and Official Newspaper: Motion by Alderman Wetz, seconded by Alderwoman Hargens to designate *The Miller Press* as the official newspaper and Quoin Financial Bank and American Bank & Trust as the official depositories. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Dakota Pump & Control: The 2023 Annual Inspection Agreement was presented. DPC has changed the way they charge for annual inspections. Due to increased costs and today’s global changes, inspections will now be invoiced out on a time/material basis rather than paying an upfront annual fee.

SPN & Associates: Motion by Alderwoman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Wetz to approve SPN & Associates invoice 27532 for \$7,600.00 for East 4th Street Improvements – Design. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Memorandum for Destruction: Motion by Alderman McGough, seconded by Alderman Odegaard to approve the memorandum for destruction of the 2017 payroll, fund accounting, utility billing, and miscellaneous records as listed. All members voted aye. Motion carried. The city follows the South Dakota Municipalities Records and Retention and Destruction Schedule by the State of SD Bureau of Administration Records Management Program.

SD GOED Infrastructure First & Capital Improvement Program: The Governor’s Office of Economic Development was awarded a \$1 million grant from the EDA to help 16 communities properly plan for large capital expenditures. There will be a webinar on January 10 for interested parties.

NECOG Letter: The Northeast Council of Governments December 2022 Newsletter covered their year-end review. The council would like to check into the grant funds available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund program for potential funding for the new municipal swimming pool and lights at the ballfields.

Muth Electric: A letter from Muth Electric that listed their hourly rates was received and given to the council as correspondence only.

Motion by Alderwoman Lichty, seconded by Alderman Wetz to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Ronald Blachford, Mayor

Cindy Deuter, Deputy Finance Officer

LEGAL NOTICE OF RECEIPT

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