

**CITY OF MILLER**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 19, 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, December 19, 2023.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Tom McGough, Aldermen: Dale Hargens, Will Jones, Patrick Price, Mike Wetz, and Alderwomen: Susan Hargens and Tammy Lichty.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor McGough called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

**AGENDA:** Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the agenda. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderwoman Hargens to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on December 6 and the special meeting held on December 8, 2023. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Public Input:** Ron Blachford was present to thank the council for the quick response in getting his sewer line hooked up. You are all doing a good job. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mayor McGough stated his appreciation for the council members. Mayor also commended each employee for everything they do; they are engaged and on top of things. Also, thank you to the patrons of our community. Alderman Wetz thanked the fire department for the invite to their annual dinner. He had a good burger and chili.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Policy Manual Change – Inclement Weather:** The personnel committee asked for input from the council as to what they would like to see in the Inclement Weather Policy. The committee will rewrite the policy and bring it back to the board for review.

**Blachford Sewer:** Alderman Jones, Alderwoman Hargens, and Mayor McGough were able to view the sewer repairs at Ron Blachford's home. Mayor McGough visited with Terry Manning and there was contact with Camden Hofer, SPN, regarding the Phase II sewer project on East 7<sup>th</sup> Street. It was determined that no one would have been able to know exactly where Blachford's sewer was connected to the main. Sheila Coss will contact Camden Hofer regarding the notes for the Phase II sewer project on the corner of East 7<sup>th</sup> Street and East 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. References prior to the projects were a 1991 employee hand drawn map and a map from approximately 1930.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Tony Rangel – Sewer Clarification:** Tony Rangel wanted to address the implied comment from the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding the city paying for his sewer. He hired Brad Manning and Lenny Fischer to replace his sewer from his basement to the sewer main. Terry Manning had also stated to Mayor McGough that Tony did pay for his own sewer line to the main.

**Mike Werdel – Legion Snow Removal:** Mike Werdel, American Legion Commander, thanked the city and the local businesses for all the support they have received. The Legion building is being used several nights/week. They are hoping to start working on the addition this spring. He would like to visit with Terry Manning for the water & sewer and Dustin Graham for the electrical connections to the new addition. The Legion and the City of Miller have an agreement for snow removal. He stated that there appears to have been other private entities dumping snow at the Legion. Anyone that would like to dump snow should contact the Legion to sign an agreement for in-kind work or donations to assist the Legion financially.

**2024 Meeting Date Changes:** Motion by Alderman Wetz, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the following 2024 meeting date changes from Monday to Tuesday due to holidays: New Year, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President's Day, and Labor Day. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**St. Lawrence Intergovernmental Agreement:** Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to approve the 2024 Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of St. Lawrence for administrative work. The agreement is the same as 2023. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**NorthWestern Corporation:** Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve the assignment of our NorthWestern Corporation agreement to NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation effective January 1, 2024. There are no additional changes to the existing agreement. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Farm & Home Show:** Motion by Alderman Jones, seconded by Alderman Wetz to have a booth at the Farm & Home Show to be held January 12-13 and donate \$100.00. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Year-end Meeting Date:** Motion by Alderman Wetz, seconded by Alderman Hargens to have the year-end meeting on December 28 at 8:00 a.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Building Permit:** Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Jones to approve a building permit for Nathan VanZee to install a fence pending department head signatures. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**Approval of Bills:** Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderwoman Lichty to approve the bills for payment. Five members voted aye. Alderwoman Hargens abstained. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Motion by Alderman Price, seconded by Alderman Wetz to go into executive session for personnel matters pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 8:12 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried. Mayor McGough returned the meeting to regular session at 9:31 p.m. No action taken.

Motion by Alderman Hargens, seconded by Alderman Wetz to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m. All members voted aye. Motion carried.

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Tom McGough, Mayor

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Sheila Coss, Finance Officer

**LEGAL NOTICE OF RECEIPT**

Copy of the official proceedings  
was received on: \_\_\_\_\_  
Published once at the  
approximate cost of: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bills December 2023 (2)**

|                       |                             |                     |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| A & B Business        | Supplies                    | 33.56               |
| American Solutions    | Supplies                    | 80.33               |
| BSE                   | Supplies                    | 808.31              |
| Cowboy Country Stores | Fuel                        | 1,566.76            |
| DSG                   | Supplies                    | 204.99              |
| DGR Engineering       | Prof Fees                   | 1,483.15            |
| Mastercard            | Supplies                    | 334.78              |
| gWorks                | 2024 Core Ann. Subscrip.    | 4,569.00            |
| Hand Co Ambulance     | Lottery Machine Fees        | 1,200.00            |
| Hand County Title     | Prof Fees                   | 330.00              |
| Hargens, Susan        | Reimb.                      | 422.38              |
| Hartman Construction  | Hauling                     | 7,844.40            |
| First Bank & Trust    | Power                       | 2,770.79            |
| ISG                   | Prof Fees                   | 1,500.00            |
| Martinmaas, Chuck     | Gravel                      | 10,625.00           |
| Miller Ace            | Supplies                    | 648.05              |
| OHED                  | Industry                    | 7,400.00            |
| Rural Development     | Loans                       | 16,403.00           |
| SD Dept of Ag         | Lic. Renew.                 | 45.00               |
| SD DOR                | Sales Tax                   | 6,639.27            |
| SDMEA                 | Dues                        | 1,585.00            |
| Storey Kenworthy      | Supplies                    | 718.07              |
| Stuart C Irby         | Supplies                    | 138.00              |
| Sturdevant's          | Parts                       | 196.85              |
| Visa                  | Water Purchased             | 32,514.05           |
| WAPA                  | Power                       | 50,804.80           |
| Wesco                 | Service Restorer/Led Lights | 12,988.73           |
|                       | Accounts Payable Total      | <u>\$163,854.27</u> |

**Payroll Salary plus**

**Benefits by Department:**

12/21/2023

| Department           | w/o OT             | OT              | Total              |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 41402 FINANCE OFFICE | 3,358.90           | 0.00            | 3,358.90           |
| 42101 POLICE         | 12,557.57          | 584.71          | 13,142.28          |
| 43101 STREET         | 8,766.15           | 43.13           | 8,809.28           |
| 43201 SEWER          | 5,816.72           | 41.98           | 5,858.70           |
| 43305 WATER          | 5,816.64           | 41.96           | 5,858.60           |
| 43403 ELECTRIC       | 13,457.95          | 216.51          | 13,674.46          |
|                      | <u>\$49,773.93</u> | <u>\$928.29</u> | <u>\$50,702.22</u> |