

Elkton City Council Minutes February 5, 2024

The Elkton City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Remund at 6:00 PM. Council members present were Jordan Beck, David Bierman, Bill Kuehl, Scott Stuefen and Rick Weible. Council member Tal Farnham was not in attendance.

Motion by Weible second by Kuehl to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor – motion carried.

Motion by Beck, second by Bierman to approve the January 9th regular meeting minutes. All in favor - motion carried.

During citizen comments, Luke Hemmen was on hand and inquired about the status of the land transfer for the city owned property on the corner of Elk and 2nd Street. Schuurman stated that the transfer had been completed. Steve Kuehl was on hand and requested the council to take action with the issue of his lawn being torn up year after year from people parking off the road to pick up kids at the school. The council discussed a resolution to the problem, the pick up area is not safe to kids being picked up and causes a traffic flow problem which could slow down response from emergency vehicles. The council decided to speak with the school administration to determine how to make things run safer and smoother for all and keep vehicles off private property. For now barriers will be placed to prevent parking in the grass. If the decision is to have no parking on the residential side of the street, signs will be posted as soon as possible.

Steve Jensen, Public Works Director was not on hand but left his report. They have spent time looking for water leaks, 2 curb stop leaks were found in the 700 block of Antelope Street and a service line leak was found in the 300 block of Beaver Street. Jensen and Nelson will attend a MSHA safety training on February 27th. They work to keep the alleys drivable with the warmer weather. Still waiting on the lagoon lift station pump, but have been able to keep things running temporarily.

Bar Manager, Jennifer McBrien was on hand to give her report. She presented the council with her financial report. The ice machine is still giving problems, it doesn't keep up with events or busy nights. GES was in several months ago and the conclusion was that the machine was being fed with hot water instead of cold water, that was corrected. But the bar is still having issues. The council advised having GES come back out and do some checking and to ask about a possible trade in for a larger unit. McBrien discussed the payment to bartenders for cleaning, she feels that the cleaning is part of the job and shouldn't be an extra amount. The council was okay with discontinuing the extra pay. McBrien then spoke to the council about the under 21 ordinance that was implemented years ago. The ordinance restricts anyone under 21 from entering the bar even with a parent. The ordinance isn't always followed, and she feels that sometimes with ball games going late and no other establishment being open after 8 or 9 PM, out of town spectators and families have no place to get a quick bite to eat. The council is open rescinding the ordinance if McBrien feels that her and her staff are comfortable with the enforcement of carding for alcohol purchases. The council has decided to seek citizen comments about the issue before any official action is taken.

Finance Officer, Susan Schuurman was on hand and gave her report. She reminded the council of the current vacancies that need to be filled for the next terms. Other topic of concern was moving the council meeting. It was discussed that we may want to change the meeting date all together to avoid having to change the meeting date throughout the year. More discussion

will be held. Motion by Weible, second by Bierman to move the March meeting to Wednesday the 6th. All in favor – motion carried.

News for the Fire Department includes they will hold a Fish Fry on Friday, March 29th.

Ambulance Director, Scott Stuefen reported the new truck will be picked up on the 6th. The EMT refresher will be held March 15-17th. Mayor Remund discussed the property owned by the city behind the fire hall. The developer that had been interested in developing the property has pushed the project off and is requesting more help from the city. It was decided that it was best for the city to utilize the property for the ambulance garage and look at possibly building on for office space that could be rented. The building committee will plan to work with Remund for plans to present to the council at a later date.

Sherry Bauman, City Librarian was not in attendance, but left her report. Story hour and daycare deliveries continue. Planning continues on the Summer Reading Program. The new computers were ordered by the school. Bauman has requested her annual amount from the Brookings County Commission. She is working on the annual public library survey that is required by the State Library and is due March 31st. The next library board meeting is March 13 at 5:00 PM.

Park and Rec report includes the director position has been advertised, so far, no applications have been received.

The council reviewed the budget overview for Jan 2024.

In unfinished business, Pay Request 15 was received from J & J Earthworks in the amount of \$178,168.43. Motion by Weible, second by Bierman to approve the pay request. All in favor – motion carried. Phase III is in the works, we are on the agenda for the March DANR meeting for funding. SPN has stated we could possibly start work this summer, but more likely starting in 2025. The community center roof was discussed, Council member Beck will have a discussion with the lumber yard to get things scheduled for work to be completed this summer.

In new business, the council was presented with a new contract to approve for the Code Enforcement in Elkton, no changes were noted. Motion by Beck, second by Weible to approve the contract. All in favor – motion carried. Discussion was held about the possibility of painting lines on the streets by the school that would not allow cross traffic. The council would like to speak with a representative of the school but feel this is something that can be done.

Motion by Bierman, second by Weible to approve payment of the February bills. All in favor – motion carried.

Motion by Weible, second by Bierman to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 6:59 PM. All in favor – motion carried. The council came out of executive session at 7:20 PM. Motion by Kuehl, second by Weible to increase Steve Jensen hourly rate by 10% to \$32.44. All in favor – motion carried. Motion by Stuefen, second by Bierman to increase Gary Lynn hourly rate by 10% to \$17.27. All in favor – motion carried. Motion by Beck, second by Kuehl to increase Terry Nelson hourly rate by 10% to \$23.98. All in favor – motion carried. Motion by Bierman, second by Weible to increase Susan Schuurman hourly rate by 10% to \$27.40. All in favor – motion carried. Motion by Beck, second by Weible to increase Linda Kampmann hourly rate by 10% to \$14.30. All in favor – motion carried.

With no further business before the council. Motion by Weible, second by Beck to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM. All in favor – motion carried.

February 2024 payments

Aflac 27.04 insurance; A-OX welding 40.19 shop supplies; Aramark 782.32 bar, c-ctr mats, supplies; AT&T 169.62 cell service; Avid Hawk 45.00 website monthly fee; Beal Distributing

3902.30 beer purchases; Br. Co. Sheriff's Dept 2862.44 contract law enforcement; Br. Deuel Rural Water System 5649.20 water purchased; Century Business Products 61.70 library copier lease, copies; Chesterman 492.20 pop purchased; CHS 2610.38 propane, diesel, supplies; City of Elkton 345.25 utility fees; Code Enforcement Specialists 1500.00 retainer; Colonial Life 460.41 insurance; Cook's Wastepaper 4108.89 contract garbage; Core & Main 143.73 water dept supplies; Dakota Beverage Co 3534.35 beer purchases; Dakota Pump 1980.00 sewer pump monitoring system; Dakota Service & Repair 123.11 shop supplies; Dept of Revenue 2180.61 sales tax remittance; DMI 1985.09 JCB repairs; EFTPS 7581.41 federal tax payments; Elkton Ambulance 1765.00 Balance on truck; Elkton Community Club 40.00 banquet tickets; Elkton-Lake Benton After Prom Party 100.00 donation; Elkton Locker 13.26 bar, c-ctr supplies; Elkton Lumber 575.49 park maintenance, shop supplies; Elkton Plumbing 1956.02 Water leak fixes; Elkton Public School 1843.00 library computers; Emergency Apparatus Maint 4164.40 Fire Engine repairs; First District Association of Local Gov 1055.75 yearly support; Glacial Lakes & Prairies Tourism 240.00 membership fee; Harry's Frozen Food 1733.50 pizzas for bar; Henry's 2917.59 bar supplies; ITC 786.73 phone & internet service; Jensen, Steve 70.00 phone reimbursement; *Johnson Bros 543.00 liquor purchases; Johnson Bros 2719.94 liquor purchases; LEAF 41.00 finance office copier lease; Lowes 31.05 fire dept maintenance; Lynn, Erin 18.05 reimbursement for books for library; McBrien, Jennifer 30.00 phone reimbursement; Nelson, Terry 30.00 phone reimbursement; Office Peeps 415.00 FO equipment; One Office Solution 19.13 copier maintenance, copies; Otertail 2713.20 electricity; Pepsi 272.00 pop purchased; Postmaster 174.00 postage; Republic Beverage Company 538.30 liquor purchases; RFD News 171.20 publications; Runnings 401.23 shop supplies; Schuurman, Susan 30.00 phone reimbursement; SD Retirement 3392.12 retirement payment; Sioux Valley Energy 55.00 lagoon electricity; Skyview 773.17 fuel purchases; *Southern Glazer's 1143.60 liquor purchases; Southern Glazer's 239.30 liquor purchases; *Vadim Municipal Software 3486.55 annual support fee; Visa 189.62 library supplies; Visa - Street 153.33 shop supplies; Visa - Bar 119.99 bar supplies; Wellmark BC/BS 3339.91 health insurance; Wex 52.05 fuel purchases.

***denotes already pd. *Payroll:** Mayor/Council 859.98; Finance 5061.74; C-ctr 125.26; Street 4078.39; Library 2093.21; Bar 14286.87; Water 4633.40; Sewer 4078.35.