

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
EITZEN CITY COUNCIL**

January 9, 2023

The regular meeting of the Eitzen City Council was called to order at 6:03 pm. Council members present were Mayor Jeffrey Adamson, Doug Meyer, Emily Burrichter and Mitch Luttchens. Also in attendance, City Clerk Steve Schuldt, Darryl Meyer, City Maintenance, Charlene Corsen-Selbee with Fillmore County Journal, William Hoskins from Hoskins Electric and Marcus Weikert from Minnesota Rural Water Association (MRWA).

Marcus Weikert informed council of programs available to cities with populations less than 2500 and 80% or below 2021 household median income. He explained his services identify wastewater treatment, environmental, and infrastructure needs, including treatment problems, failing infrastructure, maintenance needs, public health concerns, watershed or discharge area concerns, compliance with MPCA, asset management programs, cybersecurity programs, GIS analysis, funding and safety. He expressed that his services are free and he will be available to meet with the city maintenance person for an evaluation of the city's assets and discussion of needed improvements. Following discussion Mitch Luttchens moved, second by Emily Burrichter and the motion passed to accept the services of Mr. Weikert.

Willie Hoskins reviewed his quote for updates to lift stations at Townline Road and Winnebago Avenue and installation of a new control panel to be installed at the city wellhouse. The project is projected to cost \$85,789.62 with work to begin in mid 2024. Mr. Hoskins explained that the current system is outdated and is no longer supported. The modification would provide a wireless connection between the lift stations and the wellhouse. The system will allow the operator access to the network with a mobile phone. Mr. Hoskins explained that an initial payment is not necessary to order the equipment. Following discussion, council agreed by consensus to table a decision until January to allow time for researching grant funding.

Minutes of the November 14, 2023 council meeting were reviewed. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Mitch Lange and the motion passed to approve the minutes.

November financial statements were reviewed. Mitch Luttchens moved, second by Emily Burrichter and the motion passed to approve the financial statements.

Council was informed that pricing for pivot wheel replacement is being researched.

Council considered whether to hold a Local Board of Appeal and Equalization (LBAC) or defer to a County Board of Appeal and Equalization (CBAE). Council agreed by consensus to host a Local Board of Appeal meeting.

Council noted that the Habitat for Humanity house is connected to the city electric grid but no electricity is being used at this time.

Council discussed an offer made by Gov Card to accept credit and debit cards. It was agreed that limited card usage did not warrant the ability to accept credit cards at this time.

Council discussed certification of real estate taxes to be collected in 2024. Emily Burrichter moved to certify a levy of \$126,000, second by Mitch Luttchens and the motion passed unanimously.

Council considered a request by Randy Meiners to discontinue water charges for his building on Winnebago Avenue. He states the water meter is removed and he doesn't use water in the building. Darryl Meyer will look for a way to shut water off to the building.

Council reviewed claims payable for the month of November. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Mitch Lange and the motion passed to approve all claims.

There being no further business, Emily Burrichter moved, second by Mitch Luttchens and the motion passed to adjourn at 7:05 pm.

Steve Schuldt, City Clerk

Jeffrey P. Adamson, Mayor