

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

November 14, 2023

The regular meeting of the Eitzen City Council was called to order at 6:05 pm. Council members present were Mayor Jeffrey Adamson, Doug Meyer and Emily Burrichter. Mitch Lutichens was absent. Also in attendance, City Clerk Steve Schuldt, Darryl Meyer, City Maintenance, Charlene Corsen-Selbee with Fillmore County Journal and Rose Korabek with Caledonia Argus.

Minutes of the October 10, 2023 council meeting were reviewed. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Doug Meyer and the motion passed to approve the minutes.

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

Jeff Adamson informed council that he and Emily Burrichter met with Kahya Fox, executive director with Habitat for Humanity, and was informed that a family has been selected for the Eitzen House. The house is expected to be ready in March 2024. It was noted that the house has been connected to the city electric utility. Doug Meyer stated that the house has safety issues due to open basement windows. He noted that some children were playing around the house and could have fallen into the basement through the open windows. Additionally, there is a danger due to the house being electrified with open basement windows which is also a state code violation. Jeff Adamson will contact Kahya Fox to express the city's concerns.

Council was informed that Kevin Kruse is requesting that different wheels be installed on the irrigation pivot to eliminate severe rutting. Darryl Meyer will research and report back to council at a future date.

Council was presented with a letter from Lee Langager requesting whether the Eitzen City Council will host a 2024 Local Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting (LBAE). Mr. Langager is suggesting that it is more economical for the city and the county to move to an Open Book forum in which the taxpayer works through their claim directly with the assessor's office. The taxpayer can also refute their property values at the County Board of Appeal and Equalization if an agreement is not reached with the County Assessor. Council agreed by consensus to table a decision until the December meeting.

Council reviewed an invitation by MiEnergy Cooperative to Wholesale Cities to be held November 21, 2023 in Rushford. The meeting will cover 2024 projected power costs, updates on MiEnergy operations, information about services and training and an overview of solar interconnections. Jeff Adamson and Darryl Meyer will plan to attend.

Council reviewed a proposal submitted by Hoskins Electric, Inc. for \$85,789.62 to make well house control modifications (\$22,574.40) and modernize lift stations at Townline Road and the Ball Field (61,935.13). Additionally, a repeater station will be installed (\$1,280.09). Council agreed by consensus to table a decision until the December meeting.

Council was informed of GovCard, a program that allows payment acceptance by online bill-pay, acceptance of credit, debit, ACH and Recurring payments. There would be a fee charged to the customer but no cost to the city other than a one time set-up fee of \$199.00. There is optional equipment including a USB card reader (\$199.00) and Terminal (\$495.00). Council requested additional information including customer charge.

Council was informed of a request to attend quarterly chamber of commerce meetings with surrounding communities. Council requested additional information.

Doug Meyer informed council that the plow truck is badly rusting and suggested a timeline for replacement.

Council discussed sidewalk snow removal. Council agreed by consensus that the sidewalk is to be considered a three-season sidewalk for the coming season.

Council reviewed claims payable for the month of October. Emily Burrichter moved, second by Doug Meyer and the motion passed to approve all claims.

There being no further business, Emily Burrichter moved, second by Doug Meyer and the motion passed to adjourn at 6:55 pm.

Steve Schuldt, City Clerk

Jeffrey P. Adamson, Mayor