Official Minutes of the Ceylon City Council

March 14, 2023

Ceylon, Minnesota

The Ceylon City Council met in regular session on Tuesday March 14, 2023.

Members present were Councilmembers Judith Perkins, Wayne Walter, Lon Oelke, Jody Scott & Mayor John Gibeau. Acting Mayor Oelke called the meeting to order at 6:02. Also attending Sharon Rosen of the Sentinel Newspaper, Loretta VanHeel, Scott Riemers, Brandon Clarke & Terry Muller.

During the “Public Comment” portion of the meeting, Council heard from Loretta VanHeel with her concerns of snow piled on her property. Council will take it under advisement.

It was moved by Walter and seconded by Oelke to approve the February 14, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

“Unfinished Business”- Councilwoman Perkins gave information to Council about her findings on CD investments. She stated she is not done looking into other investors.

Motion was made by Perkins and seconded by Oelke to approve the February Financial Report as submitted by City Clerk~Treasurer. Carried. Motion was made by Perkins and seconded by Oelke to approve March bills. Carried.

There was interest in the sale of the lights at the softball field. Council decided at this time the lights are not for sale.

Scott Riemers of the broadband project was at the meeting to answer questions from the council about the expenses accruing for the locate cost of this project. Councilmen Walter said the question was asked if this project would cost the city anything, and was answered no it would be on REA. Riemers told Council it was the city’s responsibility to pay for locates. Council had more discussion on the topic and it will be the responsibility of the city to pay for all & future expenses of the locates. Mayor Gibeau said the city has no choice because of state law. Councilmen Walter asked where $30,000.00 was going to come from. Mayor Gibeau said the General Fund. Councilwoman Perkins stated this was all bad planning. She also stated CEDA was partly to blame for missing this. Mayor Gibeau also stated that there should have of been a permitting fee that would have included the locating fees, but now the city knows for future projects. Riemers asked if there was anything they could do for the city other than paying for it. Mayor Gibeau will look into a grant for the paying for the locating fees. Riemers said the goal is to be done by middle of June.

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Federated Electric is increasing their rates, the City of Ceylon will be increasing their rates effective for May 1st.

Council discussed Vendor Fees for 2023 Community Day. Motion was made by Oelke and seconded by Scott to approve a $50.00 fee. Walter abstained. Motion carried.

Clean-up Day was discussed and Clerk will contact Waste Management for dates.

The Juneteenth holiday will be recognized by the City of Ceylon and was motioned by Perkins and seconded Oelke to be a paid holiday for employees. Councilmember Scott & Walter Voted Nay. Mayor Gibeau voted Aye. Motion Carried.

“Paint the Town” grant was discussed. Council is interested in looking more into this grant. Clerk will contact Joshua Schuetz about moving forward with the project. Motion by Walter and seconded by Perkins to move ahead with grant process. Carried.

It was moved by Perkins and seconded Oelke to sign the insurance waiver form. The city checked the “Do not waive” box. Motion by Perkins and seconded by Oelke. Carried.

Motion was made by Oelke and seconded by Perkins to allow Walter’s to pick up blades from Sioux Falls SD and pay mileage. Motion carried. Walter abstained.

The city received a complaint about truck revving its engine all hours and the debris and tires at his home. Councilmen Walters would like council to meet in session to discuss all ordinance violations within the city.

Councilor Oelke reported on the Fire Association meeting. Radios are needed, helmets are also needed. Attendance has picked up and they are submitting grants. Oelke also discussed issue with coyotes within the limits of the city. It was motioned by Perkins and seconded by Scott allowing Oelke & Walter to take action needed to remove them. Carried.

Mayor Gibeau asked Oelke to have Fire Association to give an inventory of the top ten needs for the department. He would like to see a schedule for updating or replacing equipment and such. There being no more business the next scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday April 11, 2023 at 6pm.

Mary M Muller

Clerk~Treasurer