Official Minutes of the Ceylon City Council

July 11, 2023

Ceylon, Minnesota

The Ceylon City Council met in regular session on Tuesday July 11, 2023. Members present Mayor John, Gibeau, Councilmen Wayne Walters & Lon Oelke. Absent Councilwomen Judith Perkins & Jody Scott. The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Mayor Gibeau. Attending the meeting were Angie Connell, Barb & Armin Kronback, Chris Griffin, Toni Ahl, Randy & Sandy Miller & Sharon Rosen of the Sentinel.

Mayor Gibeau opened the Public Hearing for the RSD Ordinance. No comments were made. Council set the benefit of ratio at 25%. It was motioned by Walter and seconded by Oelke to adopt Ordinance 2023-1. Walter-Aye, Oelke-Aye & Gibeau-Aye. Carried.

It was moved by Oelke and seconded by Walter to approve the June 13, 2023 minutes. Motion carried. It was motioned by Oelke and seconded by Walter to approve the June Financial Report and the July bills. Motion carried.

No comments (Public Comment).

Chris Griffin of Helping Hands of Ceylon asked for approval to apply for grants to purchase new playground equipment. Council gave the okay to pursue any grants they can find and bring it back to council.

Councilmen Walter asked to get bids for the removal of four trees that our owned by the city. Motion was made by Walter and seconded by Oelke to approve accepting bids for the removal of trees. Motion carried. Cont…Pg 2

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Mayor Gibeau apologized for not attending a meeting for the Cemetery Association. He stated it was his understanding that the tree removal at the cemetery was going to be the Lake Belt Cemetery Association’s expense. He stated at the meeting he missed they decided that both entities would split the cost of the tree removal and that they have already paid their half so the city needs to pay the bill of $6,250.00. He also stated he found some guy to repair the gravestones that are in need of repair. The guy charges $2,000.00 per day to do repairs. He asked if council would commit funds to the budget for the repairs. Mayor stated he felt really bad about the tree removal bill. Councilmen Walter asked why they didn’t bring it to the council before the tree removal was done. Mayor Gibeau says we are obligated to pay this bill because it is our cemetery. Walter asked why we spend money that is not budgeted for. Mayor Gibeau said there is money in our General Fund to pay this bill. Councilmen Oelke said there is no sense it throwing money like that for stones no one is coming to see anyway. Oelke said we go ahead and pay the bill but does not agree with the way this happened. He will not accept this moving forward. It was motioned by Oelke and seconded by Gibeau to approve the payment of $6,250.00 to the Cemetery Association. Walter was a nay. Carried.

Mayor Gibeau asked if the city wants to be connected to fiber from REA. It was decided that city hall, the fire hall & the treatment plant will get hooked up.

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Councilmen Oelke asked if the meeting with the state has been set up yet. It has not. Mayor Gibeau wanted to know how much money could be budgeted for the repair of the stones at the cemetery. He will find somewhere in the budget to make it work. Motion by Walter and seconded by Oelke to adjourn. Carried. Council moved to closed session to give the employee reviews. Motion was made by Walter and seconded by Oelke to give employees a cost-of-living raise of 4% effective July 1, 2023. All other benefits remain the same.

Motion carried.

Next regular council meeting will be held on Tuesday August 8, 2023 at 6pm in the council room.

Mary M Muller

Clerk~Treasurer