Rutland City Council
March 6, 2023

The monthly City Council meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. Mayor Mahrer presiding. Council President Erickson and Council Members Lysne, McLaen present; Anderson absent. City Auditor and the City Engineer, Mike Bassingthwaite, also present. Members of the public also present.

Agenda: Erickson/Lysne moved approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes: McLaen/Lysne moved approval of the February 6, 2022 minutes. Motion carried.

2022 Financial Statement: The 2022 financial statement was sent electronically to the Council and published in the Sargent County Teller by March 1 as required by State Century Code.

Erickson/McLaen moved acceptance of the City of Rutland Financial Statement for the year ended 2022. Motion carried (Aye – Erickson, Lysne, McLaen, Mahrer; Nay – none. Absent – Anderson).

Property Purchase/Sale: The City purchased the tax forfeited property at 217 Arthur Street. Bids for the sale were due today by noon. The Mayor opened the sealed bids: $5,001.00 from Andrew Woytassek, $5,100 Jake Erickson and $5,500 Landon Evenson. The oral bid process commenced with a minimum starting bid of $5,500 and Andrew Woytassek was awarded the property with a high bid of $8,000.00. A Purchase Agreement will be executed with substantial progress on the property to be done within six months or the property will revert back to the City.

Hall Doors: The Hall kitchen door has been temporarily fixed. Erickson has contacted Fargo Glass and Paint but his calls have not been returned. He will follow up with other entities to obtain estimates.

Public Comments: Margie Johnson asked about the sidewalk project that includes the Rutland General Store area that has new sidewalk and a curb cut at the intersection. City Engineer Mike Bassingthwaite said the project is for both sides of the street from Front to Gay Street. Some sidewalk may not need replacement but the City must demonstrate that it is not necessary and that the curb cuts meet current ADA code. This project will not be bid out until 2024 so there is time to examine the entire project area.

Water Mains: Bassingthwaite said the City is on the DWSRF funding list which is a loan rather than a grant. If it is time to consider updating the mains, then a plan should be developed. Mains are required to be 8" rather than 6". The Mayor stated that there are valves that cannot be turned and need to be replaced. Erickson said there are no cast iron mains left in town; most are PVC and AC. Bassingthwaite said if the mains were done in the 60s there may be an asbestos problem. He will meet with the Mayor to review the water main maps.

TAP Grant: Bassingthwaite said that the ND DOT will fund 80.93% of the actual sidewalk construction cost. The City's cost share does not include the environmental and archeological studies required for the project. Concrete costs have doubled but hopefully they will come down before the construction phase begins. A field survey will be needed in the spring along with other studies not included in the grant award. The City and Interstate Engineering will need to enter into a contract for Engineering Services. He provided a proposed contract for future consideration. The preliminary engineering phase maximum cost is $29,500 and the Construction engineering phase is at a not to exceed $32,500. Costs are based on time but the project may not require as many hours as estimated.

NDLC Spring Workshop: The City Auditor reported that there will be spring training conference for elected and appointed officials in Bismarck on March 21 and 22. She requested approval for attendance.

Lysne/Erickson moved approval of payment for registration, lodging and travel for Auditor attendance at the North Dakota League of Cities Spring Conference, March 21 and 22, 2023, in Bismarck. Motion carried (Aye – Erickson, Lysne, McLaen, Mahrer; Nay – none. Absent – Anderson).

Financial Report: McLaen/Lysne moved approval of the February 2023 financial report as presented. Motion carried.

Bills: Erickson/Lysne moved approval of the payment of bills:

ACH	DRN	$ 146.27	telephone
ACH	Waste Management	1,798.94	Garbage Contract
ACH	Waste Management	100.65	Hall garbage
13562	Scott Haan	1,031.99	Jan 29-Feb 11, 2023
13563	Otter Tail Power	1,074.45	Electricity
13564	Scott Haan	1,123.79	Snow Removal Feb 12-25, 2023
13565	B. Mahrer Construction	607.50	snow removal
13566	Clark Equipment Company	7,330.65	Bobcat Skid Steer Loader
13567	Dacotah Paper	96.51	Paper products/Janitorial supplies
13568	Deborah Banish	831.15	February
13569	Municipal Finance Officers	30.00	Membership
13570	Quill	55.37	Janitorial supplies
13571	SE Water Users	747.00	Water, January 249,000 gals.
13572	Jacobson Plumbing Heating	878.63	Hall blower repair
13573	Otter Tail Power	52.62	Electricity
15374	Sargent County Teller	163.80	Minutes, Prop. Sale, financials

Motion carried (Aye – Erickson, Lysne, McLaen, Mahrer; Nay – none. Absent – Anderson).

Delinquents: There are three delinquents at this time; one bill will be paid by the closing agent.

The Mayor reported that Kenny Hamilton has offered for sale a set of snow tires for the City Skid Steer. He has purchased a new skid steer and the do not fit. He is asking $1400 for the wheels and tires. The Council passed on the purchase as tire chains have been helping with snow removal.

McLaen asked about any planning for water issues when snow begins to melt. The Council acknowledged the concern and expect water issues this spring. The major concern would be if the City lift station stops and runs over or if the Lagoon cells overflow.

Lysne asked if there is any progress on the Post Office. Erickson reported that the architect has seen the building and is develop plans.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deborah Banish, City Auditor

Michael Mahrer, Mayor