

Rutland City Council Minutes
May 4, 2020
Rutland Town Hall

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Acting Mayor Michael Mahrer. Council Members Erickson, Lysne, and Siemieniewski present. City Auditor present.

Minutes: Lysne/Erickson moved approval of the April 6, 2020 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: Colton Corry stated he intended to file papers to run for the City Council but, unfortunately, missed the deadline. He is interested in serving on the Council. The Council thanked him for his interest and will announce when there is a vacancy to be filled.

Traffic Signs: Council Member Erickson reported that the new speed have been installed but are not functioning properly. He is in contact with the company to resolve the programming issues.

Mayor Narum Resolution: Erickson/Lysne moved adoption of the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was appointed to the Rutland City Council on November 2, 1970 to fill a vacancy on the Council for a two-year term; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was elected Mayor of the City of Rutland, sworn into Office on April 18, 1972, and served as Mayor until his death; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum served on the North Dakota League of Cities Board representing cities under 2,500 population for several years; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was recognized for his City service and was named Citizen of the Year in 1992 by the North Dakota League of Cities; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum served as the City's representative on the Sargent County Job Development Authority; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum served as an active firefighter from 1965 to 2014 and was a leader in the establishment of the Rutland-Cayuga Rural Fire District and was inducted into the North Dakota Firefighters Museum Hall of Fame in 2015; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was an active participant on the Rutland Softball Team as a player and later as an umpire and served on the ND State Softball Association Board; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was instrumental in the establishment of the Rutland Depot Museum and ensured that the Museum exhibits and building were maintained; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum helped improve the City of Rutland during his years of service as Mayor, as the Water and Wastewater System Operator, Municipal Waste Site Operator, City Shop Maintenance Man, and general City maintenance and mowing, and any other job that needed to be done in the City; and,

WHEREAS Ronald D. Narum was very active in other City, County and State organizations including the Sargent County Weed Control Board, Lake Agassiz Regional Council, Nordland Lutheran Church of Rutland, Sargent County Ambulance, and the Sargent County Museum, to name only a few.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rutland City Council extend its appreciation and gratitude to Ronald D. Narum and condolences to his family upon his death; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rutland City Council designate April 18th as Ronald Narum Day in the City of Rutland to recognize his contributions and service to the City and its residents.

Motion carried unanimously.

City Bank Accounts: Erickson/Lysne moved that to authorize Michael Mahrer and Deborah Banish as signers on all City of Rutland accounts at the Sargent County Bank and remove Ronald Narum from the accounts. Motion carried unanimously.

City Mowing and Maintenance: Mahrer reported that Matt Smith and Logan Wyum have offered to assist with mowing City lots as needed. The City's mower blades are too long and were adjusted. They will be paid at the rate of \$14.00/hour.

City-wide Clean-Up: Erickson said there were a lot of items received at the landfill and people were charged according to the number and size of items. The amounts will be added to the next utility billing statements for payment. The total was \$550.00 and will help offset the cost of the roll-off.

Water Leak: Erickson said another water line break/leak has been located at Bill Anderson's property. His sump pump has been trying to keep up with the water leak which has caused water to pool across the street. Once the repairs are done, the water should lower.

The issue of sump dump discharge was again discussed and a letter on that and other summer-related items will be sent to residents.

Mowing: Lysne asked about City mowing private lawns that exceed the six-inch height limit. The City Auditor will publish the required notice in The Teller in addition to including that in the resident letter to be sent.

Lysne/Erickson moved that the City charge \$100.00 per time when the City is required to mow lawns that exceed six-inches in height. Motion carried.

The Auditor stated that once the notice to mow lawns is published, the City does not need to provide any prior notice to property owners and can proceed to mow said lawns. Any mowing costs that are not paid timely will be assessed to the property in September.

Sewer Lift Service Contract: Erickson/Siemieniewski moved approval of the service contract with ND Sewage Pump & Lift Station in the amount of \$425.00 for a period of twelve-months. Motion carried unanimously.

Building Permit: Building Permit #229-20 for Nathan and Shawna Bergh for a concrete drive at 115 Front Street. Motion carried unanimously.

Financials: Erickson/Siemieniewski moved approval of the April 2020 financial reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills: Lysne/Siemieniewski moved approval of payment of bills:

| General Fund | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| ACH | DRN | \$ 139.85 | Telephone |
| 12979 | USPO | 73.40 | Postage |
| 12980 | Otter Tail Power | 1114.13 | Electricity |
| 13001 | City of Fargo | 14.00 | Health Water samples |
| 13002 | Deborah Banish | 574.19 | April hours |
| 13003 | Maguire Iron | 5245.00 | Water tower thaw |
| 13004 | ND Sewage Pump & Lift | 1242.50 | Main lift service |
| 13005 | Roger Pearson | 73.88 | April hours |
| 13006 | Ronald Narum | 253.96 | Mayor salary |
| 13007 | Rutland Oil Company | 805.73 | Fuel |
| 13008 | SE Water Users | 1269.30 | 423,100 gals. March 2020 |
| 13009 | Sweeney Controls Company | 1336.30 | Freeze-up overfill |
| 13010 | Sargent County Teller | 87.20 | Minutes publication |
| 13011 | Vining Oil & Gas | 320.39 | Hall heat/propane |
| ACH | Waste Management | 75.32 | Hall garbage |
| ACH | Waste Management | 1583.28 | City garbage |
| 2010 Streets | | | |
| 1030 | Sargent County Bank | \$16,208.75 | 2010 Streets loan payment |

Motion carried unanimously.

Delinquents: There are two delinquent accounts at this time.

Acting Mayor's Report: Mahrer said the Council will need to determine how to proceed to fill the vacancy for the City maintenance work. The job description will be reviewed at the June meeting.

Council Members Mahrer and Erickson will examine the scrap iron at the City Shop to determine what should be disposed and what may be sold.

Council Member Lysne brought up the water billing for the Rutland Housing, Inc., which is done on a flat rate even when the apartments are not full. The Council concurred that Housing water usage should be billed on usage rather than a flat rate. That will be reviewed after the billing is done for a few months.

The meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deborah Banish, City Auditor

Michael Mahrer, Acting Mayor

The next meeting will be Monday, June 1, 2020