

**Rutland City Council**  
**May 5, 2025**

The monthly City Council meeting convened at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 5, 2025. Mayor Mahrer, presiding. Council members Erickson (by phone), Lysne and McLaen present. City Auditor also present. Others present: William Hoflen and Brad Siemieniewski. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

McLaen/Lysne moved approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

Erickson/McLaen moved approval of the April 7 Board of Equalization and regular meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Brad Siemieniewski said he purchased the trailer next door to his residence last fall. He has been cleaning it out and plans to remove it after that. He asked to have some dirt provided and placed around the old fire hydrant to even out the ground. The Mayor said Scott will check on the hydrant area ground.

Mayor Mahrer said William “Billy” Hoflen is interested in serving on the Council to fill Bill Anderson’s position. Anderson has relocated to Lisbon.

Erickson/Lysne moved to appoint William Hoflen to fill the vacancy until the next election in 2026 when the remaining two-years of the term will be on the ballot. Motion carried.

The City Auditor will provide Hoflen with the Oath of Office and other materials prior to the next meeting.

The Auditor presented a proposed Ordinance that would allow Otter Tail Power to have the franchise in the City. The current franchise agreement expires in June. The item will be on the June agenda for approval.

Council Member Lysne asked about allowing chickens in City limits. She was informed that existing Ordinances do not allow chickens or fowl of any kind within the City. If she wishes to pursue the matter, sample ordinances can be provided by the City Auditor. Mayor Mahrer said a change to allow fowl might need to be done by a community vote.

McLaen/Lysne moved approval of the April financials as presented. Motion carried.

Erickson/Lysne moved approval of the payment of bills:

DRN	149.72	Phone
US Treasury	720.48	April monthly payroll taxes
US Treasury	415.07	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter payroll taxes
Scott Haan	962.73	Apr. 5-18, 2025
Amazon Capital Serv.	123.88	Museum supplies (RCC reimb.)
Bill Anderson	184.70	Council pay
Deborah Banish	1,515.11	April
Interstate Engineering	667.50	Lead service line project
John Deere Financial	142.97	Mower chute
ND One Call	3.00	Line locate
Otter Tail Power	1,340.07	Utilities
Quill	177.24	Museum items (RCC reimb.)

Sargent County Teller	71.00	minutes publication
Scott Haan	1,180.12	Apr. 19 – May 2, 2025
SE Water Users	899.72	276,836 gals. Feb. 21- March 24
US Post Office	224.00	Postcard (utility) stamps
2010 Streets Checking		
Stock Growers Bank	17,403.75	Streets loan P&I

Motion carried.

The City Auditor reported one delinquent at this time. A building permit application has been received to move a mobile home onto 211 Arthur Street. It was noted that this would be a Conditional Use and needs to have a hearing. The Auditor will schedule a Zoning Commission meeting/public hearing as soon as possible.

The Council discussed the application in relation to current Ordinances.

Erickson/Lysne moved approval of the Building Permit from Kady Wolters to place the 65 foot x 14 foot mobile home at 211 Arthur Street upon a conditional use hearing and notice to adjacent land owners. Motion carried.

The City Auditor reported that WSI has awarded a grant to the City for new ergonomic office furniture. Not everything in the grant request was approved as WSI did not deem it ergonomically needed or was not included in the completed study. Some of the City items have been placed for sale. A bid of \$210 was received for the security system that the City purchased years ago and that had not been used. File cabinets will be used for long term storage needs or disposed of if unable to be sold.

City-wide clean-up day is May 17, starting at 8 a.m. A dumpster will be at the City Shop. Information has been posted at the bank and Senior Center, on the City website, app and Facebook page and noted on the water/utility bills sent out in April and May.

The Mayor reported that the leak at 422 First Street South was located and there is a leak on both the City and the resident side that will be repaired.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m. The next meeting will be June 2, 2025.

ATTEST:

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Deborah Banish, City Auditor

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Michael Mahrer, Mayor