Rutland City Council
August 7, 2023

The monthly City Council meeting was convened at 5:05 p.m. by Mayor Mahrer. Council Members Anderson and McLaen present; Erickson and Lysne absent. City Auditor also present.

Agenda: McLaen/Anderson moved approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

Minutes: McLaen/Anderson moved approval of the July 7, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

City Sidewalk Project: The City Engineer was unable to attend the meeting. The Mayor said the City must determine where it wants sidewalk replaced. Anderson noted curb cuts/ramps do not meet ADA code. The Mayor said the exact project area needs to be defined so the Engineer can develop estimates; that should be the area from the café to the insurance building, and the sidewalk to the north of the insurance building. He will contact the Engineer for estimates to get the east side done. The west side also needs to be done. The City needs to identify what it can afford to do on an annual basis.

Resolution of Public Necessity: The resolution of public necessity for the sidewalk project was postponed to the next meeting.

2024 Budget: The auditor presented a 2024 preliminary budget for consideration. The estimate is approximately a 106.05 mill budget; the Council mill levy is 105. The budget can be reduced after this meeting but not increased. Last year's budget was just under 105 mills so there is not much room to increase revenues or reduce expenditures.

Anderson/McLaen moved to approve the 2024 preliminary budget and set the public hearing on the budget for the next meeting, Monday, September 11, at 5 p.m. Motion carried.

Financial Report: McLaen/Anderson moved approval of the July 2023 financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

Bills: McLaen/Anderson moved approval of the payment of bills:

252e	DRN	$ 145.24	Phone
250e	Waste Mgmt.	$ 99.75	Hall garbage
251e	Waste Mgmt.	$ 1,767.91	City Contract
253e	ND Job Service	$ 76.89	Unemployment Ins. 2nd Qtr.
13639	Otter Tail Power	$ 1,049.82	Electricity
13640	Scott Haan	$ 1,214.72	July 2-15
13641	Deborah Banish	$ 1,301.60	July, mileage, MFOA
13642	Joe's Ag Supply	$ 120.00	Grounds keeping chemical
13643	Nardini Fire	$ 825.00	Fire Insp - Shop, Museum
13644	ND One Call	$ 2.60	Line locate
13645	Quill	$ 273.16	Office & Janitorial Supplies
13646	Roger Pearson	$ 60.00	Water meters, reading
13647	Scott Haan	$ 1,067.45	July 16-29
13648	SE Water User	$ 1,104.00	368,00 gals. May 22-Jn 22
13649	Southside Automotive	$ 77.02	Tire repair on skid steer
13650	Walock-Johnson Insurance	$ 1,501.00	Liability & fleet ins.
	Total Checks	$ 10,686.16	

Motion carried.

Delinquents: There are three delinquent accounts currently.

Auditor Report: The Auditor reported approval of Gaming permit #240 for the Wild Rice Antique Tractor and Plowing Association for a raffle at Uffda Day on October 1, 2023, and approval of a building permit for a garage on Parcel #29-9110000, Greene's Addn., Lots 5-6-7-8 & 100 ft. vacated alley & 145x80 ft.

The Auditor reported on the Municipal Finance Officers Association workshop she attended in Bismarck. She was part of a panel discussion on records management/retention/and destruction. The information on a special assessment deficiency level was presented and was already discussed as part of the preliminary budget.

The Auditor noted that the North Dakota League of Cities convention will be in Bismarck in September and she plans to attend. The registration fee is $250.00. There is an Elected Officials workshop on Wednesday, September 20, as part of the convention but it will also be available virtually for a $75.00 fee. She urged Council Members to take the opportunity for the webinar. Council Members Anderson and McLaen expressed interest in the virtual webinar. The Auditor suggested they register and invoice the City.

Mayor Report: The Mayor reported that the owners of the property at 304 Bagley want to build a berm to protect against water this year. They want to cover or remove the East and West sidewalk but will keep the North side sidewalk that got east and west. The Council concurred to permit the removal of the old sidewalk and the construction of a berm to protect the house from excess water.

It was noted that the Rutland General Store building, the Cramton property and the Amerman property all sold in July so there will be new residents in town.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

ATTEST:

Deborah Banish, City Auditor

Michael Mahrer, Mayor