Rutland City Council
December 4, 2023

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

Public Hearing: The Mayor convened and opened the public hearing on the City intent to establish a citywide street improvement district in accordance with Rutland Home Rule Charter #8. The Sidewalk Improvement District No. 23-01 shall be within the existing City of Rutland boundaries. Said notice of hearing published in the official newspaper for the City of Rutland on November 3 and 10, 2023; hearing to be held in the City chambers at 5:00 p.m. on December 4, 2023 to hear and determine the sufficiency of protests. No members of the public were present. The public hearing closed at 5:05 p.m. and the regular meeting convened.

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

Minutes: Lysne/McLaen moved approval of the November 6, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

Water Mains/Gate Valves: Mike Bassingthwaite, City Engineer, presented information on the city water mains and gate valves. He noted that gate valves are not cheap and most of them are connected to the old AC (asbestos cement) lines. It would be difficult to get grant funding to replace the mains if they are still connected to the AC lines. There is also the issue that the four inch lines no longer meet State standards. A line replacement project could be done in two phases, one north and then the other south of town. That is something to plan ahead on. The City's water tower is in good shape and could be p reported that cost estimates for water main and gate valve replacements are being developed. Some lines are very old; the ones with PVC piping will be included in the cost estimates. AC pipes are very fragile and can snap when moving dirt so they will not be included.

County Foreclosure: The City Auditor reported that the property in Rutland at Block 2, Lot 16, Original Townsite, was not sold at the County property sale. The City approved purchasing the site and that check is ready to be mailed. Once the City gets the deed, then action can be taken on the sale of the property.

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

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

ACH	DRN	$ 9.57	Phone
ACH	Stock Growers Bank	21.80	ACH fees
ACH	Waste Management	99.58	Hall garbage
ACH	Waste Management	176.99	Garbage Contract (Dec.)
ACH	Waste Management	1763.99	Garbage Contract (Jan.)
ACH	Waste Management	99.58	Hall garbage (Jan.)
ACH	Rutland Park Board	3137.17	Property tax pass through
13698	Scott Haan	1009.50	Nov. 5-18
13699	Deborah Banish	$1,409.34	Office supplies & November salary
13700	Ferguson Waterworks	623.07	Water meter reader & touch pad
13701	Forman Lumber	318.71	Machinery supplies
13702	Lori McLaen	95.74	Hall door hardware
13703	Maguire Iron	1656.00	Tower maintenance per contract
13704	ND Water Users Assn.	100.00	2024 dues

13705	Otter Tail Power	1121.44	Electricity
13706	Quill	292.96	Janitorial & office supplies
13707	Roger Pearson	60.00	November
13708	Sargent County Auditor	250.00	Lot 16, Block 2, original townsite
13709	Scott Haan	996.40	Nov. 19-Dec. 2
13710	SE Water Users	1,716.00	572,000 gals.
13711	Southside Automotive	9.96	Keys
13712	Waste Management	599.00	May Citywide cleanup dumpster
13713	Banyon Data Systems	1680.00	UB and Fund software support
13715	Forman Lumber & Fire	76.67	Conduit and supplies
13716	ND One Call	1.30	Line locate
13717	ND State Auditor	270.00	2022 year end audit
13718	Otter Tail Power	1085.88	Electricity
13719	Quill	36.78	Janitorial supplies
13720	Sargent County Teller	18.40	Sidewalk public hearing notice
13721	Scott D. Haan	976.05	Dec. 3-16, 2023
13722	Tony Van Lith	70.84	Water payment refund
13723	Scott D. Haan	80.35	Corrected hourly from $21 to $23
13724	Sargent County Auditor	20.00	Recording fee for lot deed
13725	Waste Management	14.98	Dumpster fee balance due

Motion carried.

Delinquents: There are two delinquent accounts at this time that will be turned off this week if not paid.

Auditor Report: Information and promotional materials have been received to publicize the availability of the City of Rutland app. The app was made available through Living Local, at no cost to the City. Living Local is through Kat & Company and they are helping get additional information on the app.

Mayor/Council Reports: Lysne said she spoke to the owner of the old Rutland General Store and Café property and the owner would be willing to sell the café portion if anyone is interested. He suggested that anyone interested could contact him for a walk-through of the property.

Mayor Mahrer said it appears that pocket gophers got through the dike at Cell #2 of the Lagoon. He will contact EcoLab to see what action might be taken in the spring to eliminate them and the mink that have been very active in that area. There was also a wet spot in the NE corner. Work will be needed in the spring on those issues.

The Mayor reported that the City will be applying for a burn permit at the municipal waste site to burn the wood and trees that were stockpiled there after the ice storm earlier this year.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Deborah Banish, City Auditor

Michael Mahrer, Mayor