

At a regular meeting of the Milnor City Council held on Monday, February 12, 2024, 5:00 p.m. the following members were present: Curtis Anderson, Monty Haugen, Jodi Ost and Jasmine Smith. Absent: Austin Roeder and Ryan Weber. Also present: Carol Peterson, LeeAnn Even, Scott Johnson, Beau Goolsbey, Landon Mund, Ryan Smith, Terry Dusek and Jennie Hanna. Travis Paeper joined the meeting later.

Meeting called to order by Mayor, Terry Dusek.

Motion to approve the meeting agenda (Anderson/Haugen, unanimous).

Motion to approve the January meeting minutes (Haugen/Ost, unanimous).

Beau Goolsey and Landon Mund, of Dakota Dirt, asked council if the road leading to their business in the Ruby Addition could be updated this spring. They stated the road needs several loads of gravel, and a maintainer needs to pack it down more often. Dakota Dirt has plans to open a coffee shop in May, and the traffic on the road will increase. Goolsbey and Mund questioned if the road could be paved in the future. Mayor Dusek stated he would consult the engineer, but informed Goolsbey and Mund that special assessments would most likely be involved in order to fund the paving.

Mayor Dusek discussed paperwork Mike Bassingthwaite had sent that reflected the revised plans and specs for the Water Improvement District No. 2022-1 from Interstate Engineering. Bassingthwaite requested council approve the revisions so Interstate Engineering could advertise for bids.

Motion to approve and accept the revised plans and specs for Water Improvement District No. 2022-1 and advertise to rebid (Anderson/Smith, with a roll call vote taken with all members present voting aye. No nays. Absent: Roeder and Weber). Motion carried.

Dusek informed council Otter Tail plans to deliver the light poles in May.

Sheriff Travis Paeper reviewed the Sheriff's report and stated the end of January and beginning of February had been busy with various investigations. He informed council the department has received positive feedback regarding the school resource officer.

Mayor Dusek questioned Ryan Smith about several street areas where asphalt needed to be replaced. Commissioner Scott Johnson stated Bituminous Paving would be completing a local project this summer and could be contacted to also do the asphalt replacement while they're in the area.

Attorney LeeAnn Even informed council that council pay could be changed, as long as the change took place before July 1. The pay raise would not take effect until the following year. Mayor Dusek stated state pay is \$50 per regular meeting, and other councils in Sargent County are paid \$50 per regular meeting also. There was a discussion about what pay should be raised to. Member Haugen stated he had not run for council for the pay and didn't believe council should raise their pay. There was also a discussion about raising the mayor's pay as well.

Motion to raise council pay to \$70 per regular meeting, to take effect for meetings starting after July 1, 2024 (Anderson/Ost, with a roll call vote taken with Members Ost, Anderson and Smith voting aye and Member Haugen voting nay. Absent: Roeder and Weber). Motion carried.

Motion to raise the mayor's pay to \$180 per month, to take effect starting after July 1 (Ost/Anderson, with a roll call vote taken with all members present voting aye. No nays. Absent: Roeder and Weber). Motion carried.

Even discussed the issue of replatting Caleb and Kylie Christianson's land from residential to agricultural and informed council her research so far showed it would not be possible. Even was going to investigate a bit further.

Carol Peterson reviewed the Economic Development Report and informed council the Praxis feasibility study for the grocery store had been completed and uploaded to the city's website. Peterson recommended council review it. With the feasibility study complete, Peterson stated the city has now pursued the next grant of up to \$300,000. Peterson updated council regarding the proposed barber and about the sidewalk grant.

Peterson reviewed RZ projects and stated some projects had been pending for a number of years. It was recommended letters be sent sometime this spring to these property owners to remind them the projects need to be finalized.

Motion to approve building permits to Ernest Roder and Jodi Ost – bathroom remodel and Patricia Hesselbach – bathroom remodel (Anderson/Smith, unanimous with Ost abstaining).

Motion to approve Pledge of Securities ended December 31, 2023 – Stock Growers Bank (Ost/Anderson, unanimous).

Motion to approve gaming permit to Milnor Scholarship Association – raffle board (Haugen/Ost, unanimous).

Council discussed updates to fence regulations and updating the building permit to state no work can begin until the permit has been approved. Member Smith suggested permit stickers for residents to post in their window. If the permit has not been approved, but a resident has already started work, council suggested imposing a fine and forcing the resident to cease work until the permit is approved.

The following bills were presented and approved (Haugen/Smith, unanimous).

<u>Check #:</u>	<u>Fund:</u>	<u>To Whom:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
19868	General	SCB Public Finance	8528.19
19869	General	Sargent County Treasurer	14,826.76
19870	General	Sargent County Auditor	2655.17
19871	General	Carol Peterson	1362.00
19872	General	Auto Value Wahpeton	25.99
19873	General	Dickey Rural Networks	368.03
19874	General	Lee's Service Station	138.00
19875	General	Midwest Pest Control Inc.	85.00
19876	General	Milnor Market	7.98
19877	General	Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.	396.72
19878	General	ODP Business Solutions, LLC	58.49
19879	General	Otter Tail Power Company	2037.52
19880	General	The Sargent County Teller	161.78
19881	General	Waste Management of WI-MN	1365.43
19882	General	Workforce Safety & Insurance	1055.58
19883	General	Payroll Account 61-639	6694.36
19884	General	Verizon Wireless	126.77

19885	General	Milnor Postmaster	170.66
19886	General	In Control Inc	1073.02
19887	General	Storbakken Sanitation Inc	4815.00
19888	General	Milnor Park Board	1006.10
19889	General	Library Fund	2397.37
19890	General	Airport Authority	7086.02
19891	General	Debt Service Fund	68,521.46
19892	General	Debt Service Fund	1415.80
19893	General	Payroll Account 61-639	5495.17
19894	General	Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	3031.41
3521	Debt Service	Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	3031.41
3522	Debt Service	Sargent County Treasurer	52,083.51
3523	Debt Service	Southeast Water Users	3243.50
3524	Debt Service	Dakota Valley Electric Coop	689.00
3525	Debt Service	City of Fargo	14.00
3526	Debt Service	Terry Dusek	23.18
3527	Debt Service	Payroll Account 61-639	1179.75
3528	Debt Service	Payroll Account 61-639	1012.00
6022	Payroll	Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	447.69
6023	Payroll	Jeremy M. Bixby	1083.33
6024	Payroll	Terry J. Dusek	138.52
6025	Payroll	Jennie M. Hanna	1700.51
6026	Payroll	Ryan J. Smith	2075.69
6027	Payroll	ND Child Support Division	522.50
6028	Payroll	Jeremy M. Bixby	905.84
6029	Payroll	Jennie M. Hanna	1367.17
6030	Payroll	Ryan J. Smith	1765.37
6031	Payroll	ND Child Support Division	522.50
6032	Payroll	Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	447.69
6033	Payroll	Unum Life Insurance Company	10.00
210E	Payroll	Nationwide Retirement Solution	418.88
211E	Payroll	Nationwide Retirement Solution	353.52
EFTPS 2	Payroll	Internal Revenue Service	3062.25
1015	Airport	Dickey Rural Networks	128.43
1016	Airport	Midwest Pest Control	85.00

The regular March meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m., March 11, 2024.

Motion to adjourn (Anderson/Haugen, unanimous).

Jennie Hanna, Auditor

Terry Dusek, Mayor