**CITY OF VERNDALE**

**WADENA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday January 19, 2021**

**6:00 pm**

**Verndale City Hall**

**101 Brown St SW**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**  Tara Erckenbrack, Daryl Jacobson, Jim Runyan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Ardith Carr, Anthony Stanley

**STAFF PRESENT:**  Cory Carr, Police Chief; Matt Uselman, Public Works Manager; Melissa Current, City Clerk/Treasurer

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Robin Fish, Chase Graba

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Insurance for Sewer Lagoons - Current stated that Ronda Kern stated that the League of MN Cities is requiring the City to use the values that they provided for insurance purposes for 2021. Current stated that they are recommending the Sewer Lagoons be insured, which will cost the City $817.00. Current stated that this is an optional insurance so the Council needs to decide whether or not to take the insurance. There was discussion about what the insurance would cover and if it was necessary.

A motion was made by Runyan to table the decision until the next meeting, seconded by Jacobson. AIF/MC.

1. Apprentice Program – MN Rural Water – Uselman stated that this is a two (2) year program (144 hours per year) that Graba could get into. Uselman stated that some of the trainings will cost money. Uselman stated that there might be grants available to reimburse the cost of the program/training. Uselman stated that after the two-year program is completed and passed Graba would have a Class D Operators License for water and sewer. Uselman stated that Graba would either need to pick water or sewer for this program. Uselman offered to have a representative from MN Rural Water come to the next meeting and explain the program. Uselman stated that they were hoping to start this program in February. Uselman stated that the purpose of this program is for personal advancement. There was concern about putting money into an employee and then having them leave right away. Erckenbrack asked what the newest proposal that was made with the Police Officers. Current stated that they had to be employed for one year to get reimbursed by the City for all fees. Erckenbrack stated that the same process would need to be used in this situation. Erckenbrack stated that the City would not be paying Graba for his license; there wouldn’t be a pay raise. Jacobson stated that it would be helpful to have some numbers; a firm commitment from Rural Water. Tabled until the next meeting.
2. Ordinances - Council discussed the Legal and Editorial Research and Report from American Legal Publishing Corporation for the City of Verndale Ordinances. The Council made it to number 40 in the report. Most of the report requires only a yes or no response. To view the full report please come to the City Office.

Erckenbrack adjourned the meeting at 7:55 pm.

**Submitted by: Attest:**

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Melissa Current, City Clerk/Treasurer Tara Erckenbrack, Mayor