**CITY OF VERNDALE**

**WADENA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday November 8, 2021**

**6:00 pm**

**Verndale City Hall**

**101 Brown St SW**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**  Ardith Carr, Tara Erckenbrack, Daryl Jacobson, Jim Runyan, Tony Stanley

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Michael Madsen, Fire Chief; Jason Rurup, Maintenance Worker; Melissa Current, City Clerk/Treasurer

**STAFF ABSENT**: Cory Carr, Police Chief; Matt Uselman, Public Works Manager

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Tahna Rurup, Family Life Church

**OPENING PRAYER:** The opening prayer was led by Tahna Rurup, Family Life Church

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES AND NOVEMBER PAYABLES**

A motion was made by Carr to approve the October 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes as written, seconded by Jacobson. AIF/MC.

A motion was made by Stanley to approve the November payables in the amount of $15,981.64, seconded by Runyan. AIF/MC.

**ACKNOWLEDGE VISITORS:**

**Clif Allen - Moore Engineering:** Current stated that payment was recommended for Partial Pay Estimate #9 in the amount of $53,485.00 for final coatings, logo completion and partial electrical and controls installation completed.

A motion was made by Stanley to approve Partial Pay Estimate #9 for Maguire Iron in the amount of $53,485.00, seconded by Carr. AIF/MC.

Current stated that payment was recommended for the Moore Engineering Invoice in the amount of $6,443.13.

A motion was made by Carr to approve the Moore Engineering Invoice in the amount of $6,443.13, seconded by Runyan. AIF/MC.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Page 2

November 8, 2021

City of Verndale

Regular Council Meeting

**FIRE DEPARTMENT –MIKE MADSEN-** Madsen stated that there were 10 medical calls and two (2) fire calls for the month. Madsen stated the department would like approval to pay the

grant writer $1300.00 to get the FEMA grant process going as the FEMA Grant opened today (Nov. 8). Madsen stated that the grant writer fee would be reimbursed if the department is awarded this grant. Madsen stated that the cost of a new truck is looking to be around $600,000.00.

A motion was made by Carr to approve the grant writer invoice in the amount of $1,300.00, seconded by Stanley. AIF/MC.

**LIQUOR STORE - MELISSA CURRENT-** Current stated that there was a net profit of $5,605.78 for the month; Net Profit for the year in the amount of $40,186.02. Current stated that sales were up from 2020 in the amount of $4,776.55. Current stated that work on the furnace has begun. Current stated that Pool League started on Oct. 27 so there will be a league playing every Wednesday. Current stated that meat raffles started on Nov. 5 and they will continue on Fridays at 6 pm. Current stated that the Liquor Store is going to try and do theme nights and have drink specials that go with the theme. Current stated that at the end of the month they are planning to have an 80’s night as that is the decade theme that was voted for. Current stated that the ATM has been moved opening up more seating in the bar.

**POLICE-CHIEF CARR-** No Report – Erckenbrack asked the Police Committee to follow up with Chief Carr.

**PUBLIC WORKS- MATT USELMAN-MANAGER-** Uselman was not in attendance. Erckenbrack asked why there wasn’t going to be a Festival of Lights this year. Carr stated that the school (Band and Choir) usually puts this on. Carr stated that she was glad to see that the water week poster contest would continue.

**CLERK/TREASURER- MELISSA CURRENT**- Current stated that the Truth in Taxation (TNT) meeting will take place on Dec. 13 at 6 pm with the Regular Council Meeting to follow. Current stated this is the time when residents can come ask questions about the budget. Current stated that the Board of Equalization training is open until Feb. 1, 2022 and the City needs at least one member trained as there are not any at the moment. Current stated that a final budget meeting date needed to be set. Council agreed on Monday November 29 at 6 pm. Current stated that there are some residents that have bills that need to get filed to the County. Current stated that letters will be sent out to give them notice about it being discussed at the Dec. 13 meeting. Current stated that the City needs to find a new firm to perform the audit as Mayer, Porter & Nelson are no longer performing governmental audits. Stanley suggested finding out who the school uses for a firm. Current stated that she is waiting to hear back from a couple firms so that the Council has at least two options to pick from. Current stated that Murlyn Kreklau called and said that the County is looking to give three (3) small cities funds from the American Rescue Plan (ARP). Current stated that Kreklau thought the funds could be used to revitalize downtown, destroy/remove blighted buildings, etc. Council agreed that the City would be interested in receiving these funds and possibly using them for revitalizing downtown. Current stated that she would call Kreklau and let him know.

Page 3

November 8, 2021

City of Verndale

Regular Council Meeting

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resolution 21-1108 – Resolution Accepting a Donation from the Verndale Lions

A motion was made by Carr to approve Resolution 21-1108 – Resolution Accepting a Donation from the Verndale Lions in the amount of $18,077.22 to be put in their Building Fund, seconded by Jacobson. AIF/MC.

1. Resolution 21-1108A – Resolution Accepting a Donation to the Verndale Fire Dept.

A motion was made by Jacobson to approve Resolution 21-1108A - Resolution Accepting a Donation to the Verndale Fire Department in the amount of $210.00 from Coor’s Beverage Company, seconded by Runyan. AIF/MC.

1. Resolution 21-1108B - Resolution Accepting a Donation to the Verndale Fire Dept.

A motion was made by Runyan to approve Resolution 21-1108B - Resolution Accepting a Donation to the Verndale Fire Department in the amount of $785.00 from Leaf River Ag Service, seconded by Jacobson. AIF/MC.

1. Resolution 21-1108C - Resolution of Sponsorship

A motion was made by Carr to approve Resolution 21-1108C - Resolution of Sponsorship authorizing participation with the Community Concern for Youth Program by contributing $969.00 for the project, seconded by Runyan. AIF/MC.

1. Resolution 21-1108D – Resolution approving Wellhead Protection Policy

A motion was made by Jacobson to approve Resolution 21-1108D – Resolution approving the Wellhead Protection Plan for the City of Verndale, seconded by Carr. AIF/MC.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

1. Sourcewell Elections: Current stated that this is just informational.

Mayor Erckenbrack adjourned the meeting at 6:25 pm.

**Submitted by: Attest:**

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Melissa Current, City Clerk/Treasurer Tara Erckenbrack, Mayor