

# MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, FEBRUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2024

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Acting Mayor Dan Riggs called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Council members present: Dan Riggs, Billy Krotzer, Dale Nelson, and Bobbie Wosika

Council members absent: Brian Hitchcock

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Council and attending audience.

## Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for January
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$159,013.78. Check numbers #21900-21954. Voided check 21937 due to printing error. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$92,504.95.
- Administration Finance Report for January
- January Permits Issued – 0
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

## City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Kristi discusses the Shade Tree Grant. She states that the city has been officially rewarded \$80,000.00 of that grant for the trees on the boulevard and at the campground.

## Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Discussion on the POST mandated pursuit policy. It will be added to the policy book as it is mandated to have.
- Discussion on a public safety fund request. He would like to request \$3,000.00 to have a few speakers come to the community and talk about anti gangs and drugs. The speakers are both ex-gang members from Chicago. It would come from the \$18,204.00 that the city was awarded at the end of 2023 for public safety funds.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to approve \$3,000.00 to come from the public safety funds to have the speakers come to the community, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**

## Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent.
- Bobbie discusses the WHJ Media contract. They will put a hospitality tv up for three years. It will run not only ads for the Muni but will run other community ads. It will be at no cost.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the WHJ Media contract, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

## Parks - Billy Krotzer

- Billy will work with Mark to get the camera up at the beach bathrooms at the park.

## Water/Sewer/Maintenance Report-Reid Watson/Mike Hubner

- Discussion on an ordinance about water meter placement. There are a lot of meters out there that are near impossible to get to. An ordinance would help to the meters having to be placed in an accessible place. Kristi will get an ordinance example ready and bring it to the next regular meeting.
- Reid passed his water test. Dan would like to schedule a special meeting to discuss what to do now that he has his water license.

- **Motion by Dan Riggs to have a special meeting on Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6pm to discuss what steps to take moving forward now that Reid has his water license, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

### **East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika**

- Report on January minutes.
- North Memorial from Walker’s response time may be a little more delayed because of no longer being able to park at the fire hall and having to park in Walker.

### **Old Business**

- Discussion on the Moore Engineering Invoice 36373 in the amount of \$4,123.87. Zach Thoma states that they have been working on this invoice for a couple of months now. The original invoice was \$7,873.87, but \$3,750.00 had already been paid.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to pay Moore Engineering invoice 36373 in the amount of \$4,123.87 to come from park funds, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Discussion on public safety fund use.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to table until next month’s meeting, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on the COVID funds remaining. There is a little over \$40,000 remaining. It must be used by the end of this year to cover the costs. Bobbie would like to see it used to add on to the Muni. Dan would like to see about using the funds for the road at the campground. The road for the campground could be considered infrastructure improvements and might not fall in the list of projects that you can use it for. Kristi will look into it.
- Zach Thoma from Moore Engineering was there to discuss project updates, lead service lines, and PPL. He states that the lead service lines are going to be inventoried to see which could possibly be lead. They started shooting curb stops today to start getting an inventory of all the service lines. Then they will look at all the old plans and permits and eliminate ones that were worked on after a certain year. The Department of Health is paying for that.
- Dan Riggs states that the forfeited property next door is no longer an interest of his. He states that he does not think that it is in the city’s best interest to buy its own property because it does not help bring taxes down as it is a property that does not pay property taxes or water bills.

### **New Business**

- Claire Hansen was there from Hubbard County SWCD to discuss the seven-layer food forest. Kristi states that one of the trail accesses would be a nice place to possibly put one in.
- Kori Nelson was there to ask for a letter of support for Youth Emergency Shelter and Supports. She states that youth in Minnesota is ages 13-24. Bobbie asks where the homeless shelter would be located if they got the funding. She states that it would most likely be in Park Rapids. Dan asks why the ages is 13-24 when the legal age for an adult is 18. She states that the brain development does not usually mature until the age of 24 depending on their trauma. She states that they want to focus on more of the 13-17 age range for the shelter.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to approve a letter of support for the Youth Emergency Shelter and Supports, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed with Bobbie Wosika abstaining.**

### **Public Forum**

- Kristin Fake states that at the last meeting she brought to the council’s attention that Billy Krotzer has moved out of town. She is wondering if the council has done any more investigation into that. Dan states that Billy meets all the requirements necessary to be on the council.

- Chuck Andres states that Kristin Fake has resigned from the Hubbard County HRA. He thinks that it is important that someone from Eastern Hubbard County get on the board. Kristin states that she did not resign and that the paper was misinformed.

**Motion by Bobbie Wosika to adjourn at 7:07pm, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**

**Respectfully Submitted by,  
Michaela Dunham Deputy Clerk**