

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, APRIL 12TH, 2023

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, April 12th, 2023. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

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

Council members absent:

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

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from March 8th, 2023 Regular Meeting
- Minutes from March 16th, 2023 Special Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for March
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$122,445.27. Check numbers #21100 to #21175. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$103,650.35.
- Administration Finance Report for March
- March Permits Issued – 0
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Jon Roscoe from Miller McDonald was there to present the 2022 Audit.
- Resolution 13-2023 is a resolution approving the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Akeley on behalf of its city attorney and the police department.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to approve resolution 13-2023, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Resolution 14-2023 is a resolution acknowledging the donation from Steve Bayman and Peg Davies for the Akeley Community Projects Fund.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve resolution 14-2023, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Resolution 15-2023 is a resolution acknowledging the donation from North Country Repair, Zappy's, and Akeley council members for the Akeley Community Easter Egg Hunt.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve resolution 15-2023, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on the public comment policy. It provides rules for the public forum portion of meetings.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to adopt the public comment policy, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Discussion on the MN Dot TH34 bid numbers. The city cost changed from \$192,899.93 to \$221,448.14. The biggest expense is the street lighting portion. The aesthetic sidewalk cost lowered from \$14,544.79 to \$4,439.74. Kristi states that she has asked for a stage payment plan which would mean the city would pay 50% of the cost when due and then the other 50% when the construction starts.

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Jimmy was absent. He is currently at the Chiefs Conference.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent.

Parks - Billy Krotzer

- Billy states that he needs Reid to help get the cameras up in the park.

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

- Mike and Reid were absent.
- Kristi states that the Minnesota Department of Health is requiring an inventory of the line going into every mapped house. There is funding out there to be able to hire someone to get that information instead of having our guys do it. It must be completed by October 2024. This is just an FYI.

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Nothing to Report as the meeting is not until April 20th, 2023.

Old Business

- Chuck states that they had a meeting with Hubbard County public works. He said that they decided that they are going to do the trail accesses this year. Discussion on where the water and sewer lines will come from. The tap grants should be used to get some things done before they go away. The committee can start applying for more grants starting in the spring of 2024.
- Frank Lamb commented that the committee is losing ground on being able to get projects done and thinks that the city should borrow the money needed to get the bathrooms completed and to just make it a part of the levy. Brian stated that's not feasible right now and the committee needs to come up with a firm direction of what they can do with the funds that they currently have.

New Business

- Edith Hudson asks the council if she can put a bench in memory of her husband down at the public access. The city would need to talk to the county to see if cement could be used down at the access.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to find out if the bench can be put at the access and if it can't be placed there then approving it to be placed in the city, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- The Paul Bunyan Days committee is asking the city to help print 4000 fliers. The fliers would be in color and the cost per copy would be 6 cents equaling a total of \$244.00.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs that half comes from the liquor store and the other half comes from the park, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Discussion on the Akeley Food Shelf wanting to expand and build a storage area off the back of the building. Per ordinance they must be 15 feet off the rear property line. As long as that is followed, there are no problems with them building off the back of the building.

Public Forum

- Frank Lamb asks if the permit for the parade during Paul Bunyan Days has been applied for. Kristi states that it is on her April checklist.
- Kristin Fake asks about the trees that have not been removed from her property yet and if that is what the special meeting last month was about. The special meeting was a different project. It did not have to do with the highway 34 project. She also states that she does not think that two minutes is enough time for public forum speakers. Dan states that if someone asks to be put on the agenda the time limit does not apply. It is just for the public forum section.

Motion by Dan Riggs to adjourn ? pm, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.

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