

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, APRIL 13TH, 2022

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, April 13th, 2022. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Council members present: Brian Hitchcock, Dan Riggs, Bobbie Wosika, and Nathan George

Council members absent: Billy Krotzer

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

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from March 9th, 2022, Regular Meeting
- Minutes from March 28th, 2022, Special Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for March
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$102,770.30. Check numbers #20171 to #20242. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$145,656.20.
- Administration Finance Report for March
- March Permits Issued – 0
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Jon Roscoe from Miller McDonald Inc. presented the 2021 auditors report, financial statements, and communication letters. He gave a summary of the city's standing at year end.
- Clif Allen from Moore Engineering was there to discuss the memorandums. He presented the first one for preliminary project scope estimates. To rehabilitate the water tower interior, it could cost anywhere between \$200,000 to \$500,000. To replace the sanitary lift station pumps and controls could range up to \$900,000.00 depending on the degree of upgrade. To replace the three sewer pond liners would estimate to be \$1,900,000.00. Collectively, these projects indicate a need of approximately \$4.3 million in infrastructure investments. Next, he discussed the second memorandum for funding application deadlines. Professional services to submit application would estimate from \$3,500 to \$5,500.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve Moore Engineering to move forward with the PFA submission to the PPL, and to prepare request to move projects from PPL to the IUP to determine funding eligibility. Profession fees for this are not to exceed \$5,500.00 memorandum up to \$5,500, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**
- Discussion on the Hubbard County Assessor contract renewal. It will increase from 1% to 2% beginning in 2024.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the renewal contract with David Johnson, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Resolution 9-2022 is a resolution acknowledging the donation from Akeley Fire and Rescue Auxiliary, Akeley Chamber of Commerce, Jason and Kella Dunham, Akeley Lions Club, Akeley T&M, BDB Building LLC, North Country Repair, Arvig, John and Christina Elavsky, Tim & Robbie Gack, Akeley Council, and Zappy's Café for the Akeley Community Easter Egg Hunt.
- **Motion by Nathan George to approve resolution 9-2022, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Resolution 10-2022 is a resolution acknowledging the donations from Peggy Davies for the Akeley Community Projects fund.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve resolution 10-2022, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**

- Discussion on ARPA funds going towards the bill for the water tower repair. Kristi just wanted to ask the council if they wanted to use the ARPA funds to offset the repair bill, which was not covered by insurance. At this time the bill had come out of the water fund.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to use the APRA funds to pay for the repair of the water tower in the amount of \$8,000.00, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- FYI that the Board of Appeals and Equalization meeting is on April 26th, 2022 at 11:30pm located at City Hall.

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Jimmy states everything is going well. He just returned from training at the chief's conference. Training went well. There were a few drugs busts over the last few weeks, one that confiscated 60m of cocaine.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent
- Still working on getting bid for the patio and bathroom remodel.

Parks - Billy Krotzer

- Discussion on the campground opening late. There is still ice on the lake and once the snow melts there will need to be some decent weather for it to dry up before it can be accessible. Kristi states that she does not foresee the campground being able to open by May 1st.
- Discussion on the size of RVs that are coming into the campground. Kristi states that the RVs that a few of the seasonals have do not fit properly into their sites because they are bigger than 40 feet. It is a state law that there needs to be at least ten feet between campers. Kristi would like support from the council to draft a letter to the seasonals about adherence to the size limit.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve Kristi in sending out a letter enforcing size adherence for the seasonals, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**

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

- Mike was absent.
- Reid asks the council to table the water hydrant repair discussion until next meeting.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to table hydrant repairs until next meeting, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**
- Discussion on when city wide clean-up will be this year. Reid states that it will be on May 14th and 15th. Bobbie asked if it could be moved to the first weekend in June. Might consider is for next year but leaving it the 14th and 15th for this year.
- Reid states that he is working on repairing the roads.

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Report of March minutes.
- Discussion on the Joint Powers Agreement proposed changes. Would like a draft that is agreed on to be sent to the league before the city approves it. It is still a work in progress.

Old Business

- Discussion on the community projects letter. Kristi talked to Amy Denz and asked her suggestions for the community projects letter. Bobbie and Peg read through the letter and there needs to be a couple of changes. They are getting addresses together and would like to get the letter out soon. Kristi and Kella will start printing them in batches. Kella can do the address labels. Chuck states that the postage will cost \$184.00. Chuck states that he went to Haas printing to see how much it would cost to do all of it including postage. That would cost \$452.82. Kristi asks Chuck what the percentage of people will open the letter with the machine looking labels. Chuck states that it is about two percent. Dan thinks that if there was some way to put the city logo on the letters that maybe it would peak more people's

interest. Council agrees that there needs to be more information and cost estimates before approving bulk mailing.

- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the community projects park letter, seconded by Nathan George, passed.**
- Brian reads a thank you card from the Akeley Library.

New Business

- Discussion from Nathan about there possibly being three people that are stepping down from the HRA. If they have not found any new members by May's meeting, the HRA might have to be dissolved.
- Dan discusses the possibility of giving all employees a raise due to inflation. When the budget was set, there was no way to know that inflation would be so much.

Public Forum

- Marv Vredenburg discussed concerns with the campground. He states that the seasonals would like a date to be set for when the campground will open. Council thinks that it is hard to set a date due to not knowing what weather conditions will bring. Kristi states that the city will try and give a week notice before opening. The city will put updates on the website and on Facebook page weekly for people to check. Marv discusses the road condition at the end of the campground and what can possibly be done to fix it.
- Dan asks is Reid has found out any new information on the sidewalk down by the bank. MN Dot is going to help repair it.

Motion by Dan Riggs to adjourn at 7:36pm, seconded by Nathan George, passed.

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