

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, AUGUST 9TH, 2023

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, August 9th, 2023. Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

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

Council members absent: Dale Nelson

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

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from July 12th, 2023, Regular Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for July
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$294,435.97. Check numbers #21409 to #21500. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$414,815.03.
- Administration Finance Report for July
- July Permits Issued – 0
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Resolution #20-2023 is a resolution acknowledging the donation from the Akeley Lions Club and the Akeley Regional Community Center for the Akeley National Night Out event.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to approve resolution 20-2023, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Discussion on setting a work session for the budget. The 2024 proposed tax levy is due by September 15th, 2023.
- **Motion by Brian Hitchcock to set up the budget work session for August 30th, 2023, at 6:00pm, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Discussion on the Moore Engineering project updates. Kristi states that it is an FYI on what is going on for the city. Mike states that down on Graceson there is a valve that was replaced that was put on a different line because there was no room to get it back down to its original pipe. To look at getting it back to the pipe it needs to be on he contacted Zach at Moore Engineering. He is hoping that it all falls into place.
- There was a variance application by Crow Wing Crest Lodge that is requesting a variance due to wanting to replace and enlarge a structure that is of nonconforming use. Hubbard County has to send notifications of this variance. The council does not need to take action if they do not feel they need to.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to take no action, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Discussion on Jimmy needing a new laptop. Jimmy states that with the new software update that Hubbard County is using. He says that his laptop is outdated. He received two quotes for a new laptop. One has a three-year warranty and would cost \$2,608.96. The second one has a four-year warranty and would cost \$2,684.03.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve Jimmy getting a new laptop up to \$3,000.00, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Jimmy states that he was approached by the task force wondering if they could put a device on one of the City's light poles. It would help with better communication. It would give them a wider range of coverage.

- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve the Joint Task Force to put a device on a light pole at their expense, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Jimmy states that this year's National Night Out was the best year yet.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent.

Parks - Billy Krotzer

- Discussion on getting the park and Paul's Patio re-keyed. There are too many locks that have different keys.
- **Motion by Brian Hitchcock to give approval to City Hall to getting bids on getting the park and Paul's Patio re-keyed, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Kristi states that the cameras are up and working.
- Discussion on a camera at the beach bathroom. The system will not reach that far. Billy will work with Kristi on getting a quote for something like a trail cam for there.

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

- Mike states that there was a water leak over by the campground. The water main was hit by the excavator, and it took a little while for them to find all the shut offs. A boil water notice had to be issued due to water pressure being lost for an hour. The notice was issued because it is protocol. The water break was fixed.
- Kristi states that due to the water leak and needing to put out a boil water notice, it made city hall realize we need updated information to be able to get ahold of people. Postcards will be sent out in hopes of getting that updated information.
- Discussion on the MPCA OSG Grant. Mike says that it would be nice to get funding for possibly the sluffing at the sewer ponds or the rip raft that need attention. He states that Zach from Moore Engineering can help with it.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve moving forward with the grants with the \$5,000.00 from the league, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Wruck Sewer and Portable contract being able to dump portable toilet waste in the City of Akeley wastewater treatment plant. Dumping rate would be \$0.25 a gallon.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve the Wruck Sewer Portable contract pending their approval, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Mike states the city's PFA results came back, and the city is at a .2 concern level.
- Question asked about RF meter installation. All but 16 have been installed by Alex.

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Report on July minutes.

Old Business

- Discussion on the parking lot and trailhead bids. The number one bid from Linnco. Inc comes in at \$351,849.62. The city's 20 percent would be \$70,639.92. The city would need to come up with the remainder. With the \$65,000.00 match they already have from Hubbard County the remainder would be \$5,639.92.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to accept the bid from Linnco. Inc in the amount of \$351,849.62 and to use the \$65,000.00 from Hubbard County with the city paying the remainder of \$5,639.92 and any other additional costs from Moore Engineering, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

New Business

- Discussion on speed signs from Akeley streets. Bobbie states that there are some streets that do not have signs for what the speed limit is. She is wondering if there should be signs put up. Maybe it is something that could be looked into. Jimmy states that in any town in Minnesota the speed limit is 30mph whether it is posted or not.
- Brian reads a thank you letter from the Akeley Library for the donation.

Public Forum

- Kristin Fake asks if there were any expenses that the city incurred for the water main break. The council states that there were no additional expenses incurred, just hours.
- Marv Vredenburg states that the roads down at the campground are getting worse and that more material should be brought in to build the road back up. Dan will look into it.

Motion by Bobbie Wosika to adjourn at 6:58pm, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.

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