

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, MARCH 13TH, 2024

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, March 13th, 2024. 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 February 14th, 2024, Regular Meeting
- Minutes from February 20th, 2024, Special Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for February
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$118,019.34. Check numbers #21954-22008. Voided check 21953 due to vendor not receiving. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$86,667.47.
- Administration Finance Report for February
- February Permits Issued – 0
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda with adding Hubbard County Hazard Mitigation for FEMA update, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Resolution 7-2024 is a resolution acknowledging the donations from Eastern Hubbard County Fire Department, BDB Building, Akeley Chamber of Commerce, Red River Event Center, T&M Express, Akeley Council, Jimmy Hansen, Amber Long, North Country Repair, and Akeley Fire & Auxiliary for the Akeley Community Egg Hunt.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to approve resolution 7-2024, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**
- Discussion on MPCA grant opportunity. Kristi states that legislation gave 2.3 million dollars to the pollution agency and that Crystal, from Hubbard County Soil and Water, could help the city get up to \$50,000.00. These funds could go towards the trees for the town and maintaining them. The application is not due until April. Kristi states that it would not cost anything for the city to apply.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve Kristi to apply for the grant, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Just an FYI that the Local Board of Appeals will be on April 17th, 2024, at 10:00am.
- Kristi states that she received an email from Nick at Hubbard County. For Hubbard County to get funding they need a survey done for FEMA on Hubbard County Hazard Mitigation. Kristi would like to know if there is anything the council would like to add to it. It is a plan put in place in case of a natural disaster, so that as long as we have one, FEMA would cover the costs.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to authorize Kristi to do the necessary footwork for getting the Hubbard County Hazard Mitigation Plan to Hubbard County for FEMA, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Jimmy states that the software change with Hubbard County is up and running and working well.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey was absent.

Parks - Billy Krotzer

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

- Discussion on the Calcium Chloride Contract. Kristi states that she asked Reid if he would like to stick with what the city has been doing in the previous years or to switch to the derma blend. He would like to keep it the same.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve the Calcium Chloride Contract in the amount of \$3,398.84 with the funds coming from the park, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Discussion on the Bobcat broom. The new one that the city had just recently bought was not a well-built one and it only lasted an hour. That broom was returned, and the city now needs to order a better one. There are three bids. One from Bobcat, Skid Pro, and Jim's Trailers Plus Marine.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve getting the 68-inch angle broom for \$6,192.44 from Bobcat with the funds being split 50/50 between the park and the Muni and contingent on if the broom's brand is Bobcat, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on the city getting all new water meters through out town. The meters that the city currently have are very old and are failing. Mike states that he, Kristi, Reid, and Kella met with DSG and Ferguson to get bids on how much it would cost for all new meters. Further discussion on the kind of meters the city must choose from. DSG is much less than Ferguson. Discussion on using the COVID funds that the city still has and possibly pulling funds from a CD.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve DSG quotes, quote number s103519702 in the amount of \$61,471.00 and quote number s103519771 in the amount of \$23,526.00, with the funds coming from the city's COVID funds and \$44,970.00 from a CD, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Report on February minutes.

Old Business

- Jean Ruzica stated that Mary Thompson from Heartland Lakes applied for a grant to help with the bathroom project. There will be an informative meeting at City Hall on Monday, March 25th, 2024 at 4:00pm.
- Discussion on public safety funds that the city received. In the future Jimmy's vest and holsters will need to be replaced.
- Brian reads a thank you card from Kori Nelson from Youth Emergency Shelter & Supports.

New Business

- Frank Lamb discusses how he thinks that the city should not buy the building next to City Hall and let it go to someone who would have to pay taxes on. He also states that the Akeley census is wrong, they never even talked to him or the other seniors. Once again, he states that he is not for putting trees in front of businesses. Also, it is time for Akeley to have pride again.

Public Forum

- Steve Keranen states that there was a resignation on the Hubbard County HRA and that there is an opening on the board.

Motion by Billy Krotzer to close the meeting was closed at 7:26pm for Reid Watson's performance review, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.

Motion by Bobbie Wosika to open the meeting at 7:36pm, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.

Motion by Dan Riggs to adjourn at 7:36pm, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.

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