REGULAR MEETING of the COMMON COUNCIL of the City of Cuba City, December 05, 2023.

Mayor John Van De Wiel presiding. Called to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Van De Wiel, Alderpersons S Tranel, L Weber, B Loeffelholz, F Raupp, N Moris,

T Hazen, C Hendrickson, R Hess

Also Present: J Hill, G Morrissey, M Patterson, S Simon

Mayor Van De Wiel asked all present to join in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Alderperson Weber and seconded by Alderperson Hess that the Common Council approve the consent agenda items: Approval of the minutes of the November 1, 2023 Regular Meeting and the November 7, 2023 Special Meeting of the Common Council; approval of notice of this meeting posted at City Hall, IGA and the Cuba City Post Office and e-mailed to the Tri-County Press on December 1, 2023; and authorize payment of claims against the General Fund and Municipal Sewer Plant in the amount of $589,860.51. Motion carried: Ayes-8; Noes-0.

**Citizens Comments**

Susan Simon addressed the Council regarding her previous request that the City reimburse her for attorney fees related to her appeal of the Plan Commission’s decision to deny her application for a conditional use permit to add a rental unit to her home. Mayor Van De Wiel stated that the City Attorney’s opinion is that the City is not obligated to reimburse Ms. Simon. DPW Morrissey stated that if the Council would like to discuss this further and put it to a Council vote, it could be added as an action item for a future meeting. DPW Morrissey will follow up with Ms. Simon.

**Committee Reports**

Finance: 2024 budget recommendation has been made and the public hearing will be held tonight. Police Advisory: At this time, the department does not have any applicants for the full-time officer position. Purchase of a new squad is in progress. Board of Public Works: Met last week with the Electric & Water Commission to discuss the 2028 Main Street reconstruction project and advertising for bids and quotes on the 2024 street and utility projects. Electric & Water – Tim Heinrich of WPPI attended the November 21st meeting to give an update on public power. He also commended Lineman Jacob Salzmann on his participation in the visit with legislators at the capitol as well as DPW Morrissey on advocating for small utilities. Commission Chair, Tim Hazen commended Deputy Clerk, Becky Hill on her efforts in collecting past due utility bills to lower the dollar amount added to the tax roll. The Commission also discussed potential uses for the remaining WPPI Value of Local Utility Funds. Some of the things mentioned were LED lights at the park, new trees, a donation to the Lioness and Lions Clubs, and a donation to schools.

**Department Reports**

DPW Morrissey presented his monthly report. At a joint meeting of the Board of Public Works and Electric & Water Commission, direction was given by Electric & Water to complete the City’s utility projects related to the 2028 Main Street reconstruction a year or 2 ahead of the state’s timeline. Road salt for the season will be coming in the next couple weeks. The public works employees all passed salt certification class. Public Works Supervisor, Tim Pickel will retire in February. The position will be posted later this month. The electric department will purchase a used power transformer from Mt. Horeb for the new substation. A new power transformer costs approximately 550-600k. The utility’s cost for the used transformer is 84k. The cost to have it moved and set will be approximately 10k. There was a water main break on Main Street over the weekend. Sludge hauling for the year was completed last week. Sludge hauling normally takes 6 days but it only took 3 days this time due to a better quality sludge being produced. Morrissey credited this to the exceptional job done by Wastewater Treatment Operator, Chad Bennett. More reports on adaptive management and chlorides will be due to the state soon. Lateral inspections are still in progress. Master Plumber, Marty Wilberding is working with the public works employees on the business portion of water softener and cross connection inspections. The Park & Recreation Board plans to meet Dec. 20th to review a park/shelter rental policy. The first binder layer of blacktop is down on the new parking lot at the south end of Splinter Park. There will also be some trees planted and landscaping work done. The shape of the parking lot is designed for safety to slow down traffic. The city’s engineer is working on plans for the new restroom at Splinter Park which will be bid out in early spring.

Fire Chief Patterson presented the department’s monthly report. Both the DNR and AFG grants have been submitted. Practice for the month included monthly truck checks, tool inventory, search and rescue, pump operations and gas meter operations. The department responded to one non-page call for a person locked out of their apartment with their oven on.

**Action Items**

Mayor Van De Wiel called to order the public hearing regarding the 2024 Budget for Municipal Operations at 7:23 p.m.

No comments were heard on the 2024 proposed budget.

Mayor Van De Wiel declared the public hearing closed at 7:24 p.m.

Moved by Alderperson Hendrickson and seconded by Alderperson Loeffelholz that the Common Council adopt Ordinance 2023-08 Appropriating Funds for 2024 Operations. Motion carried: Ayes - 8; Noes - 0

Moved by Alderperson Hess and seconded by Alderperson Moris that the Common Council approve payment of the $2,500 budgeted to Mount Pleasant cemetery. Motion carried: Ayes - 8; Noes – 0.

Moved by Alderperson Hendrickson and seconded by Alderperson Weber that the Common Council approve the appointment of Election Inspectors for 2024-2025 as presented. Motion carried: Ayes - 8; Noes - 0.

No action was taken on the award of bids for the Epione facility razing and abatement.

Moved by Alderperson Tranel and seconded by Alderperson Raupp that the Common Council approve advertising for bids and quotes for the 2024 Street & Utility projects. Motion carried: Ayes-8; Noes-0.

Moved by Alderperson Tranel and seconded by Alderperson Hess that this meeting adjourn. Motion carried: Ayes-8; Noes-0. (7:36 PM)

Jill M. Hill

Clerk-Treasurer

I hereby certify that the Clerk-Treasurer has submitted the above minutes to me, and I hereby by my signature approve said minutes and all acts of the Common Council as set forth herein.

John Van De Wiel

Mayor