

Michigan City Council Regular Monthly Meeting

Monday March 9, 2020 @ 5:00 pm

Mayor Rysavy called the meeting to order.

Members Present – Diane Schock, Chris O’Brien

Member Phone in – Jay Vasichek, David Daws

Others Present -- Auditor Lori Lucke, Superintendent Scott Gilbertson, Paul Ringdahl

Call for additions to agenda. Agenda approved with additions

Minutes from previous Council meeting were presented.

Schock made motion to approve with correction, O’Brien second. Motion carried.

Monthly bills were presented as follows:

AGCOM	\$ 14.47	Polar Communications	\$ 226.58
Brager Disposal	\$ 2000.25	ND Sewage & Pump	\$1115.00
Cardmember Services	\$ 12.99	Verizon	\$ 241.33
Grand Forks Utility	\$ 26.00	North Dakota One Call	\$ 2.40
Hamster Oil	\$ 103.99		
Nelson County Sheriff	\$ 1014.30		
Nodak Electric	\$ 88.35		
Ottertail Power	\$ 1536.17		

O’Brien moved to pay bills presented. Vasichek second. Motion carried.

Superintendent Report

Monthly water loss was a gain of 1% for due to water tower management. The water loss for year to date is less than 1%. Nelson County Housing Study is underway. Fire Mitigation was out to for the yearly evaluation.

Auditor Report

Past due water bills discussed, which will result in two shut off notices to be mailed. The shut off date is March 19, 2020.

Old Business

The City Council had postponed a vote on paying Paul Ringdahl for damages to the basement of his residence. All the Council Members were present to vote at the meeting. Mayor Rysavy called for a vote to pay for damages to Paul Ringdahl’s residence. Vote as follows: Vasichek – No, O’Brien – No, Daws – No, Schock – No. The decision was unanimous not to pay damages to Paul Ringdahl. Paul Ringdahl entered the meeting at 5:30 after the vote was taken. Paul Ringdahl was notified of the decision by the City Council. Paul Ringdahl left the meeting.

The City is concerned that residents may not be prepared for unforeseen events, such as flooding. Daws recommended the City put notices out on social media and the web site to remind residents to check with their insurance companies to be sure they have adequate homeowner's or rental insurance to protect from damages.

City Pickup Truck – Daws made a motion to start looking for a pickup truck in the range of twenty to twenty-three thousand dollars, with low mileage. O'Brien second. Motion carried

2020 City Elections There are 2 council positions up for election. Those seats are currently held by Chris O'Brien and David Daws. Chris O'Brien will not serve another term, David Daws will start the re-election process. The Park Board has 2 positions up for election that are currently held by Shaun Watkins and Shannah Lentz.

New Business

The Mayor proposed to the Council purchasing a tree as a memorial for Jim Vasichek instead of purchasing flowers. The Council liked the idea and decided to discuss it further in the Spring when the tree could be planted.

The Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan meeting is March 11 at 7pm. The Mayor and Auditor will be attending the meeting and anyone else is welcome to join.

Doctor Hagen is retiring soon. The Mayor recommended to the Council we recognize his retirement and the community's gratitude for his service by planning a celebration in his behalf. The Council agreed and the planning will be discussed in future meetings.

Civic Center kitchen supplies need to be replaced. The Council agreed to purchasing the items needed for the kitchen.

Dogs unleashed. There have been complaints of residents walking pets without leashes. There is a leash law in effect for the City of Michigan. A notice will go out on social media and City web site to remind residents of the ordinance. Pet tags will be expiring in July 2020.

Cost of living and wage increase. The City Superintendent was due for a wage increase from 2018. The Council discussed the cost of living and inflation rate for the last two years. Daws made a motion increase the hourly wage to \$20 per hour and continue to pay \$560 per month which is the Superintendent's portion of his family insurance plan. Vasichek second. Motion carried.

The Tax Equalization hearing will on April 13th at 5 p.m.

Jay Vasichek mentioned that the Council Meeting Minutes are no longer published in the newspaper and residents have questioned him about it. The Council Meeting Minutes are published on Michigan City web site every month. This is all that is required by the Century Code.

Next Council meeting will be held March 09, 2020 @ 5pm

Schock made motion to dismiss the meeting. Daws second. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A. Lucke, Auditor

