

# **MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2020**

The Akeley City Council met at Akeley City Hall for a regular meeting Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

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

Council members absent: Nathan George

## **Consent Agenda:**

- Minutes from August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Meeting
- Minutes from August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Work Session
- Treasurer's Report for August
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$108,271.76. Check numbers #18629 to #18726. Voided check numbers 18458 and 18626. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$133,526.25.
- August Permits Issued – 2
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda adding handicap sign in front of City Hall and a new variance application under new business, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

## **City Hall – Kristi Kath**

- Administration Finance Report for August is in the packets. It is just an FYI.
- Kristi discusses the certification of the preliminary levy. She states that the numbers they discussed from the work session have differed a little bit due to going through worker's compensation and increasing the budget numbers. She did this because they could be paying more than what was budgeted but that she will not get the numbers until the end of September. The preliminary levy comes to \$214,244.86 with a 3.581% percent change.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve the preliminary levy in the amount of \$214,244.86, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on the LAC propane contract. Kristi states that the price is cheaper than last year. This year it is \$1.10 a gallon. She proposes they contract for 5400 gallons.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve LAC contract, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

## **Police Department – Jimmy Hansen**

- Jimmy discusses they are patrolling 64 for drug busts.

## **Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock**

- Lacey was absent. Nothing to report.

## **Parks - Billy Krotzer**

- Kristi states that she received an email from Arvig saying that the cables being put in at the campground has moved to a surveying team that will come out. They will give a two-day notice before they come out.
- Bobbie asks about the flag at Paul's Patio needs to be replaced. It can be purchased, and maintenance can put it up.

### **Water/Sewer/Maintenance Report – Kelly VandenEykel**

- Discussion on resurfacing 2<sup>nd</sup> and Marie Ave. Kristi asks if it is something, they want to do this year or if it is something, they want to do next year. Dan states that it should be left alone for another year before asphalt is put on it.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to take no action on 2<sup>nd</sup> street and Marie Ave until next year, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Kristi states that Kelly said that a part went out on Herb's mower. It was proposed to cost around \$1,500.00 to get fixed or looking at a new mower. The quote that Kelly got for it getting fixed is about \$1,800.00 and to get a new one would cost \$8,500.00.
- Discussion by council and they said it should get fixed.

### **East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika**

- Report of August minutes.
- Starting September 2<sup>nd</sup>, fire board meetings are on the first Wednesday of each month.

### **Old Business**

- Bobbie states that the bathroom committee did not have a meeting. No update at this time.
- Discussion on the rental ordinance from last month. Kristi states that she can contact smaller cities that are similar to Akeley and also contact the League of Minnesota Cities to see if there is a similar ordinance that would be more fitting for the city. Billy states that Jimmy should go through it and pick out the key points that he would like.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to table the rental ordinance until further notice, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on NSF and deposit procedures. Bobbie states that she got an email back from the League of Minnesota Cities. Kristi says that the city is not charged by RCB to do the leg work for us. She says that she has done collection work before and it is a lot of work. RCB can access records that they need to get ahold of the people that wrote bad checks. The city does not have access to the records that RCB has. It would not be worth getting the \$30.00 for all the time that would need to be put into it. She states that she prefers to keep NSFs out of house. Billy states that Lacey's problem with RCB is that some people will write a bad check and not even know about it and then when they are notified by Lacey, they cannot just take care of it. He thinks that we should give it a try.
- **Motion by Billy Krotzer to table NSF and deposit procedures until next month, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**
- Discussion on Liquor Store storm shelter grants for upgrades. No one has any information at this time.
- **Motion by Brian Hitchcock to table Liquor Store storm shelter grants for upgrades until next month, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Discussion on the Hubbard County COVID-19 Business Assistance Program Participation Agreement.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve the Hubbard County COVID-19 Business Assistance Program Participation Agreement with Heartland Lakes Development Commission, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

### **New Business**

- Richard Wahlin discussed a tree that is leaning into his yard. It is on the city's road right away. There is a bid for \$800.00 to take down the tree.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to pay Stan Chase in the amount of \$800.00 to remove the tree, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Discussion on putting a handicap sign in front of City Hall. Bobbie says the blue paint on the sidewalk is faded and there should really be a sign put up. Kristi states that having a sign put in would cause problems with plowing. They would need to get permission from the highway department to paint it again because it is not the city's road. Kristi was asked to contact the state about painting the street.

- Discussion on the new variance application that will be presented to the Hubbard County Planning Commission/Board of adjustments at their next meeting. Kristi states that there is no action that needs to be provided. Needs to know whether the council has any objections to the variance. Dan stated that the board knows what they are doing and we should stay out of it.

#### **Public Forum**

- Kristin Fake states that it has been brought to her attention concerns about the new decal on the squad car. She states that it is political. Dan Riggs asks her if there are any Trump stickers or Biden stickers on the car. She replied no. The council disagrees that the decal on his car is not political.

**Motion by Dan Riggs to adjourn at 6:50pm, seconded by Bobbie Wosika, passed.**

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