

City of Lismore
Minutes of the Council
September 11, 2023

The following are the minutes of the City Council meeting held on September 11, 2023. In attendance for the Council: Kris Weidert, Cliff Altman, Ryan Schieck & Mayor Wayne Bents. Absent were Kathryn Weber and Jim Weidert. Guest in attendance was Tom Bohlke and Barry Sauer. Mayor Wayne Bents called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

On a motion by Kris and seconded by Cliff it was duly passed to approve the agenda. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on August 7, 2023. Amber presented the financial statement which showed the deposits/invoices from the prior month to current. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Cliff it was duly passed to approve the financial statement, pay the invoices and make the stated transfers.

Maintenance report – Ryan Schieck gave the maintenance report – Cliff, Ryan and Amber met with an individual from ISG who helps on the engineering side of things but also can do other things within the City and their cost when used wasn't outrageous so we may want to think about hiring them as our official engineer which doesn't cost anything. Ryan hasn't done any mowing as it hasn't been needed. We hired Tom Bohlke to do the water/wastewater side of things and he will train under Justin. He will be on a monthly salary along with on call pay. We also hired Aiden Bohlke to help with some things around town but he will mainly work in the summer months. Lastly we hired Andy Lackie to help out with things that need to be done around town – no set hours as he isn't our actual Maintenance person just needed someone to help with cleaning up things along with winterizing and some other misc. jobs as we haven't had anyone apply for the Maintenance position so will continue to look for a more permanent person & have Andy help us on the side when needed. Ryan talked with Justin and he is willing to run the plow for snow removal this winter if Ryan runs the tractor but Cliff & Wayne didn't think he had his CDL so would need to check on that. On a motion by Cliff and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the maintenance report.

Fire Department report – Cliff gave the report and said they are working with Judy Christians from Wilmont FD on the washer/dryers to try to save on shipping costs. Had to go on a Fire Call to Lynn Farms and they ended up using foam so will need to bill them for that. Fundraiser went well. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the Fire Dept Report.

Amber Bertrand gave the clerks report – Amber did get a couple letters off to some businesses to move the vehicles that have been sitting there for longer than the ordinance allows. A letter needs to be sent to Marvin Kern in regards to the shed he is turning into a Chicken Coop as he has not applied for a Zoning permit or a Chicken permit. On a motion by Cliff and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the Clerks Report.

Barry Sauer was present to go over the Property/Casualty insurance renewal & Work Comp Renewal – it did increase some for the P/C but that was mainly due to inflation costs but otherwise everything else stayed the same. Work Comp Amber just kept the same as last year and when they do the audit they will adjust where needed. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Cliff it was duly passed to approve the Insurance Renewal.

Amber did receive a quote from People Service in case the City wanted to go that route (this was before we hired Tom). The cost per month was \$1,375.00 but that doesn't include emergency calls or travel time. Since we hired Tom we didn't need to go over this.

Council discussed the budget and went through it line by line and in the end they decided that the City will need to raise the levy by 8% which is still not covering all of the expenses but we didn't want to go too high. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the Preliminary Levy at \$122,100.00 for the 2024 year. We will still go over again in December to see if it can be decreased anywhere but most likely this will be the levy amount.

Nobles County ARPA Funds – Waiting for final invoice to send to County.

Park Equipment – Amber is still looking for Grant options & we will also watch for places selling equipment for cheap.

Land Sale – Wayne didn't get actual estimates/bids but did have a couple figures – Henning came in at \$1,000.00 and a place out of Windom was coming in at \$1,100.00.

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Ryan and seconded by Cliff it was duly passed to adjourn the meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes taken by Amber Bertrand, City Clerk