

Max City Council Meeting

The Max City Council met Tuesday, November 07, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Mayor Zabka and council members Adams, and Fritel present. Swanson and vert absent. Visitors in attendance: Ray Iverson, Amy Hauf, Arlin Swanson, Kathy Huettl, and Jody Gullickson.

Mayor Zabka called meeting to order.

Adams moved to approve and dispense with reading minutes from October. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Iverson discussed with council, a request from the Community Club for the city to donate a tree for the Tree Lighting Ceremony. He informed council that Robbin Plesuck would volunteer his time to pick up the tree, set it up, and decorate it on behalf of the city. Shawn motioned to approve the purchase of an 11' tree in the amount of \$279. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Amy Hauf discussed the difficulty with paperwork, to change signers on the Library Bank Account every year. She requested that the current council member stay on the account until it is necessary to designate someone else. Adams motioned to approve. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Huettl discussed a water draining issue at the west end of Main St. causing ice buildup. Mayor Zabka will assess.

Council held discussion regarding the 2024 Police Contract. Seargeant Arlin Swanson addressed councils concerns about policing in the area. Fritel motioned to approve the 2024 Police Contract. Adams second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Nathan Amick from Ackerman-Estvold discussed plans for the Lead Line Survey, and informed council that the Asbestos Inspection is complete, and that no asbestos abatement is recommended. Discussion was held on the water rate analysis. Tabled until next meeting.

Maintenance discussed a water residents water meter issue. Council was informed of needed supplies, and a sump pump hose for the city hall basement. Also discussed was the cities need for another weed trimmer, and Acme having a fall sale, that this would be a good time to purchase. Adams motioned to approve. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Also discussed were needed repairs to one of the Dixon Mowers. Council agreed that repairs to the mower needed more assessment. Tabled until spring. A garbage bin count was presented to council, and Circle Sanitation will be conducting an audit as well, in anticipation of the upcoming rate increases. Tabled until next meeting.

Discussion was held about putting lots 3-6 of block 9 up for closed bid, with the minimum bid at \$2000, and that there be a stipulation that the abandoned buildings on lots 5-6 be tore down within 6 months of the accepted bid. The bids are to be opened at the next meeting. Fritel motioned to approve. Adams second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Mayor Zabka directed the auditor to put the ad in the paper.

Council discussed the repairs needed to the senior center steps. Tabled until spring. Also discussed were the issues regarding Parcel No. 7630010025200 from the last meeting. The auditor informed council a certified letter had been sent, but no reply has been received. Zabka directed the auditor to resend a letter at 45 days before the 60-day deadline. Tabled until further action is needed.

Auditor presented council with resident complaints regarding properties on 4th Ave with an abundant amount of junk vehicles and other items. Mayor Zabka directed the auditor to send letters addressing the issues according to the City of Max Junk Ordinance.

Council discussed a resident’s request for some new gravel near 101 and 105 4th Ave to fix the ruts in the road. Fritel motioned to approve. Adams second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Fritel motioned to approve free use of the civic hall for the ND DOT Community Input Meeting to be held on December 5th. Fritel motioned to approve. Adams second. Adams motioned to approve free use of the civic hall for the Max Community Club’s Tree Lighting event on November 26th. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

A gaming permit application was submitted by the Max Pax 4-h club for a cash raffle to raise money for monthly craft projects, in the month of March, 2024. Fritel motioned to approve. Adams second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Bills to pay in November were submitted and reviewed.

BILLS TO PAY-NOVEMBER 2023		
ENTITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Aramark	Rugs and Supplies	318.80
Beall Law Office	Letter, ordinance review, and communications	885.21
Butler Machinery	Pads for Loader	1,040.50
Butler Machinery	Loader Loan Payment	16,778.00
Circle Sanitation	Garbage Service	4,138.25
D & L Auto	Halogen Bulbs	27.28
EFTPS	Payroll 941 Liabilities-Paid online (Employer Portion)	1,052.55
First District Health	Water Testing	30.00
Max Farm Services	Fuel Costs-Estimated	1,045.49
McLean County Sherriff's Dept.	Police Protection	2,685.52
MDU	City Natural Gas Utility	105.05
Menards	Maintenance items	114.90
Microsoft Office	Cloud Storage-paid online	1.99
Municipal Judge	June 2023 Judges Pay	178.00
NPRWD	Purchased Water	3,873.60
NorDak North Publications	Publishing-Estimated	176.68
One Call	Locates-14	9.10
Ottertail Power Company	City Electric Utility	1,046.26
Reservation Telephone Company	Phone and Internet Utilities-Online PMT-Estimated-waiting on the bill	405.74
TriGen Ag	Weed Killer for Lagoon	103.58
Total		\$34,016.50

Adams motioned to approve paying the bills. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. The financial reports were reviewed. Fritel motioned to approve. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Delinquent accounts were presented. Auditor was directed to send pink slips and/or shut off notices as needed.

Adams motioned for meeting to adjourn. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Meeting adjourned.

Next council meeting scheduled for December 11, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Mayor, Aaron Zabka

Auditor, Anita Porter