

## Max Council Meeting

The Max City Council meeting was held on August 3, 2023 at 7:00 pm. Mayor Zabka, and council members Swanson, Adams, Fritel, and Vert were present. Visitors in attendance were Kathy Huettl, Jody Gullickson, Ray Iverson, Katherine Turcotte, and Michelle Peterson-Lies.

Meeting called to order.

Adams motioned to approve and dispense with reading minutes from July, 2023. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Kathy Huettl asked for permission to block off the street in front of the Max Café & Southside Lounge on August 26<sup>th</sup> for a 12 anniversary BBQ & Corn feed event, with a street level Beer Garden from the hours of 2 p.m. until the bar closes. Swanson motioned to approve. Adams second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Jody Gullickson discussed that the Max Roughrider Rodeo has been a big event in Max for years, and it is good for business, and the community. She asked that the city please enter into an agreement, to continue mowing the Rodeo Grounds. Swanson motioned to approve. Vert second. Vote all aye.

Michele Peterson discussed that a time had not been established to start set up for the Rodeo Street dance and stated that she would like to set up at 5:00 pm and stay open until the bar closes. Council agrees with the time frame for the dance.

Catherine Turcotte expressed her gratitude to council for asking necessary questions, listening to her, and approving her fence permit. She stated she felt it should have been handled differently when she first submitted it. She also expressed her interest in volunteering in the community and willingness to serve on future open city committees.

Ray Iverson discussed his vision to promote Christmas that could attract more people to the city of Max, including possibly renovating a larger building for the museum, showcase Christmas in the old building year-round, and promoting more community Christmas events. Also, council was informed that he had people in place to form the Museum Board, that will be established in 2024.

Kathy Huettl of Planning & Zoning discussed a request from the Delzer's for the re-platting of a second addition, consisting of 4 newly purchased lots, three East and one slightly North of their lumber yard. Adams motioned to approve the re-platting. Adams motioned to approve. Vert second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Court: Judge Krebsbach suggested the city appoint Judge Myron Stern as an alternative judge for city. Adams motioned to approve. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a

Maintenance informed council that the water tower repairs are complete, and running efficiently. Also discussed, was a quote from Cenex in Garrison, who are willing to replace the tire on the city dump truck for \$649.44, and is the most reasonable price for heavy vehicles that has been quoted. Adams motioned to approve the repairs. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Maintenance discussed that rocks were moved from behind the museum, dirt was moved in, and grass has been planted. A list of supplies needed was submitted. Adams motioned to approve purchasing the supplies. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Maintenance let council know that volunteers put up two food advertisement signs with

ladders for the Red-Light Bar, but the Red-Light did pay \$125 to the city for use of city equipment to put up the taller Rodeo Event & Celebration sign.

Discussion was held on putting black dirt up for sale, that is stored at the landfill. Tabled until prices can be determined.

Discussion was held on the Sherriff's contract. Swanson informed council that the Sherriff is willing to come to a council meeting and discuss the contract. He is currently on vacation. Tabled until the Sherriff can attend the meeting.

Council reviewed the Alcohol Licensing Application and drawing of the seating area for adults and children, for the Max Cafe & Southside Lounge. Vert motioned to approve the application, and the drawing of the seating areas. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Research was presented to council on Money Market Account interest rates. Auditor is waiting for advice from the state Auditor's Office. Tabled until more information is obtained.

Discussion was held on the need for a new roof on the Senior Center building possibly within the next 5 years. Ray Iverson explained what the issues with the roof were, and that the Over 55 Club was willing to work with the city on the costs when the time comes. It is council consensus to budget and prepare. Council directed the auditor to research the Infrastructure Fund's laws to see if that money could be used for roof replacements on city buildings.

Discussion was held on the need to repair curb stops and fill the culvert by the St. Matthews Church. It is recommended to tap into the storm sewer to stop water from flowing into lots. Swanson informed council that it will cost approximately \$2,000 to repair and replace the curb stops. Fritel motioned to approve. Vert second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. The cost tie into the storm sewer, and fill the culvert is \$2,500. Adams motioned to approve. Vert second. m/c/a.

Discussion was held on whether the Block 9, lots 3-6 owned by the city should be put up for bid. It is council consensus to get estimates of costs for the city to tear down and dispose the house located on lots 5-6, and to fill and compact lots 3-6 to street grade level. Tabled until next meeting for costs to be determined.

Swanson motioned to appoint Chris Vert to be the Water Representative. Fritel second. Vota all aye. m/c/a.

Discussion was held on the 2024 preliminary budget. The auditor explained that the preliminary budget is estimated quite high based on last year's actual spending and the state recommendations for preliminary budgeting. The Auditor will meet with the budget committee before the final budget numbers are due. Adams motioned to approve the preliminary budget. Vert second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

City bills to pay were presented. Vert motioned to approve and pay bills. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

ENTITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Aramark	Rugs and Supplies	318.80
BND	Water Tower Laon Payment	17,250.00
Carousel Checks	1 Box-500 Count Checks	121.21
Circle Sanitation	Garbage Service	4,113.60
Coal Conversion Counties	Dues	141.00
Don Krebsbach	Reimburse for Grass Seed for the Museum	46.87
EFTPS	Payroll 941 Liabilities-Paid online (Employers Portion)	1,079.75
First District Health	Water Testing	30.00
Garrison Insurance	Liability, Auto, Public Assets, Fire & Tornado Insurance	5,537.00
Max Library	State of North Dakota Aid transfer to the library	297.04
Max Farm Services	Fuel Costs	664.39
McElwain Construction	Cleaning the manhole for Storm Sewer Drainage	500.00
McLean County Sherriff's Dept.	Police Protection	2,685.52
MDU	City Natural Gas Utility	84.53
Menards	Curb paint and Supplies	61.57
Microsoft Office	Coud Storage-paid online	1.99
Municipal Judge	June 2023 Judges Pay	178.00
NPRWD	Purchased Water	6,788.70
ND Rural Water Systems	Mapping	50.00
NorDak North Publications	Publishing	524.25
One Call	Locates	2.60
Ottertail Power Company	City Electric Utility	1,151.96
Reservation Telephone Company	Phone and Internet Utilities-Online PMT-Estimated-waiting on the bill	408.00
The Computer Store	Printer Repairs	255.00
US Postal Service	1 roll of postcard stamps	96.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$42,387.78</b>

Financial reports were presented. Adams motioned to approve the financial reports. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Swanson motioned to approve the purchase of office supplies. Vert second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Council directed auditor to send pink slips and/or shut off notices as needed.

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

Next Council meeting due to the holiday will be held on September 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm, with the Final Budget Meeting to be held immediately after.

Mayor, Aaron Zabka

Auditor, Anita Porter