

The City of Max Council met on Tuesday, May 06, 2025 at 7:00 pm. Mayor Zabka and Council Members; Swanson, Fritel, and Westman were present. Adams absent. Visitors in attendance were Rusty and Nyssa Stroshein, and Bonnie Torrence from the McLean County Independent.

Mayor Zabka called the meeting to order.

Fritel moved to approve and dispense with reading minutes from the April meeting. Swanson second. Vote all aye m/c/a.

Kathy Huettl presented a fence permit for replacement of an existing fence at PT W2 SE Less than 1 AC 9-150-83 for Richard Talbott. Planning and Zoning makes the recommendation to approve. Westman motioned to approve. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Also, a building permit for a lean-to at McElwain Trailer park at lot 86 was recommended for approval, for Julie McElwain. Swanson motioned to approve. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Maintenance presented a bid from Schumaier Concrete for \$3,181.00 to replace the sidewalk near Cenex, damaged during the water leak repairs, earlier this year. Fritel motioned to approve. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Smith updated council on the status of the Lift Station Project. The control panel will be arriving before the end of the month.

Discussion was held on the best use of the Municipal Infrastructure Funds. It is council consensus to allocate the funds to the Sewer Lift Station Project. Council directed maintenance to assess 5 curb stops that are most needed repaired this year. Swanson moved to designate the Municipal Infrastructure funds to both projects. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. If there are any remaining funds council will determine the best use for them later in the year.

Huettl asked if there was an update on the repairs of the senior center porch. Zabka stated he will bring in the proper tools needed for handrails. Council discussed putting outdoor carpet on the surface of the porch at a cost of \$200 if needed. Swanson motioned to approve the purchase. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Maintenance will complete the installation of the carpet and the hand rails.

Discussion was held on the letters sent to the owner of parcel #7630010012560000. Council directed the auditor to talk with the health department about a building inspection for the house, and get direction from the city attorney on the next steps in the process. Tabled until more information is obtained.

Council discussed the trees that are blocking driver's line of site at 7th and Carvell Street. Council directed the auditor to send a letter to the property owner. Maintenance plans to paint the curb at that corner, and install a new stop sign.

Council discussed putting Lots 5, 6, and 7 of block 2 up for sealed bid. Swanson moved to put them up for bid with a minimum of \$500 for all. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. The auditor will place the ad in the paper.

Presented was the NDIRF Fire & Tornado Insurance quote for 2025-2026 coverage. Westman motioned to approve. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Fritel motioned to approve for Westman, Zabka, and both maintenance staff, to be signers on the city Menard's account. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

The annual McLean County Law enforcement contract for 2026 was presented. Swanson motioned to accept and approve. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Fritel motioned to approve the free hall use for Ray Iverson to do a charitable benefit for Wendy Day, on May 31st. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Bills to pay in May were presented. Westman motioned to approve to pay the bills. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

BILLS TO PAY-MAY 2025		
ENTITY	Electric Utilities	AMOUNT
Black MTN Printing	Utility Bill Card	644.25
Blue Cross Blue Shield of ND	Medical Insurance (Employer Portion)	1,000.00
Circle Sanitation	Garbage Service Contract	4,323.75
Craig Smith	Reimbursement for parts	31.29
D & L Auto	City Vehicle tire repair	105.00
Dakota Fire Extinguishers	Fire Extinguishers Annual Maintenance	469.39
EFTPS	Payroll 941 Liabilities-Paid online (Employer Portion) APR 2025	879.23
Ferguson Waterworks	Meters	4,300.00
First District Health	Water Testing	30.00
Immense Impact, LLC	Annual Website Fees	737.00
Max Farm Services	Fuel Costs	308.36
McLean County Sherriff's Dept.	Law enforcement Contract	2,739.23
MDU	Natural Gas Utilities	414.79
Menards	Janitorial supplies and parts	189.03
Microsoft Office	Cloud Storage	2.14
Municipal Judge	Monthly Pay	178.00
NorDak North Publications	Publishing- estimated-Estimate	137.94
NPRWD	Purchased Water	4,134.50
One Call	Utility Locates	9.00
Ottertail Power Company	Electric Utilities	1,491.93
Pomp's Tire Service	Loader Tire Repair	362.08
QuickBooks	Monthly Subscription	367.00
RTC	Phone Bill	411.00
TeamLab Innovative Solutions	Road Patch	970.00
US Postal Service	2 Rolls Post card stamps	112.00
Totals		24,346.91

Financial reports for the month of April, were reviewed. Swanson motioned to approve. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Needed office supplies were requested from the auditor. Fritel motioned to approve. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Delinquent City Utility Bills were discussed. Council directed the auditor to send pink slips/shut off notices as needed.

In open discussion Swanson talked about the city ordinance that states very clearly that Pit Bulls are not permitted within the Max City limits. The Stroshein's opinion is that the ordinance is outdated, and that based on their research other breeds are more harmful. Swanson stated that it is his opinion, that the city needs to enforce the ordinance the city has in place.

Swanson motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Meeting adjourned.

The next regular Max Council Meeting will be held on June 02, 2025, at 7:00pm

Aaron Zabka, Mayor

Anita Porter, Auditor