

The Max City Council met Monday, December 02, 2024 at 7:00 pm. Mayor Zabka and council members; Swanson, Fritel, and Westman were present. Adams absent. Visitors in attendance were Kathy Huettl, Pastor Janis, Susan Plesuk, Shannon Torgeson, and Bob Hennings, of Our Lord and Savior's Lutheran Church.

Meeting called to order.

Swanson moved to approve and dispense with reading minutes from November, Westman 2nd. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Pastor Janis discussed the possibility of taking over the Our Lords Savior Food Pantry. They mentioned that it could take 2 to 3 months to organize, agreed to carry insurance, and pay \$200. Their plan is to run it similar to other food pantries in the area, and asked if the city would agree. Westman motioned to approve, Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Council held discussion with Huettl regarding Zoning business. Swanson motioned to approve building permit 2024-3 as approved by the Zoning Committee. Westman second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Court report was presented, no new citations issued from McLean County Sheriffs Dept in November.

Nathan from Ackerman-Estvold discussed Lead Line letters that the auditor is to send out to the community. He discussed that there will be questions from the community, and he will help answer them when the need arises. The letters will include the testing procedure sent out last spring in the Lead Line Survey, for people to complete, who did not comply, because it is mandatory by the Federal Government. The next step will be the EPA hiring consultants to come door to door to test in person, in small cities and then large cities, for the residences that are still in unknown status. This endeavor is supposed to start in January and be completed by October 2025. Also, any water lines found to be made of lead, the city will have to replace 10% of those lines each year, and is required to be done by 2037. Ackerman and the state will advise when SLRF funding is available for the city to apply for.

Maintenance discussed the possibility of pumps needing replaced in the Lift Station. A quote is coming from ND Sewage Pump and Lift Station Service Company. Also discussed, is the need to replace some stop signs. Swanson motioned to approve purchasing signs. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Discussion was held on allowing the shop to be used in case of severe weather for the reindeer, and putting a sleigh inside the Civic Hall. Fritel motioned to approve the shop use, and the sleigh, contingent on guarantees of no damage to the Civic Hall floor. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

Council discussed the warning letters sent to a couple of dog owners and so far, no new incidences are being reported. However, it has been brought councils attention that one animal is a Pit Bull, and not allowed in the city limits of Max. Council directed the auditor to send a letter about the type of animal and a copy of the ordinance to the dog owner.

Discussed were the city's two small dumpsters that are broken, and rusted in the alley behind city hall. Council agrees to discontinue use of them, and keep the 4-yard dumpster. Council directed maintenance to dispose of the damaged dumpsters. Also discussed, was a quote for vehicle signage, but council would like to check into magnetic signs. Council directed the auditor to get a quote.

Presented was the paid holiday schedule for 2025. Westman motioned to approve the paid holidays. Swanson second. Vote all aye. Paid holidays will be New Years Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and one floating holiday.

The Auditor's office will be closed from December 23rd until December 31, 2024.

Bills to be paid in December were presented. Swanson motioned to approve and pay the bills. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

BILLS TO PAY- DECEMBER 2024		
ENTITY	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Butler Machinery	Cutting Edges	2,426.81
Butler Machinery	Loader Pmt paid November 04, 2024	16,778.00
Circle Sanitation	Garbage Service Contract	4,340.50
Doug Zabka	Water Tower Parts	75.86
EFTPS	Payroll 941 Liabilities-Paid online (Employer Portion) NOV 2024	696.69
First District Health	Water Testing	30.00
G & P Commercial Sales	Urinal Supplies	139.90
Lowe's Garden Center	Christmas Tree	300.00
Max Farm Services	Fuel Costs	463.33
McLean County Sherriff's Dept.	Police Protection	2,685.52
MDU	Natural Gas Utilities	163.71
Menards	Repairs & Maintenance Tools, and Supplies	284.59
Microsoft Office	Cloud Storage	2.14
Municipal Judge	Monthly Pay	178.00
NAPA	Oil	74.90
NorDak North Publications	Publishing- estimated	117.44
North Dakota Rural Water Association	GIS Mapping	83.30
NPRWD	Purchased Water	4,506.05
One Call	Utility Locates	9.00
Ottertail Power Company	Electric Utilities	1,123.59
Quickbooks	December Subscription -25.00 is for accounting service	175.00
RTC	December Phone Bill-Estimated	410.00
Swanston Equipment	Parts	56.47
Wild Prairie Solutions LLC	Curb Stop Repairsq	4,620.00
US Postal Service	1 ROLL Post Card stamps	56.00
Totals		39,796.80

Financial reports were presented. Fritel motioned to approve the financials. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Discussed were delinquent accounts. The auditor was directed to send pink slips and/or shut off notices as needed.

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

Meeting readjourned for renewal of Pour Choices and Red-Light Bar's alcohol licenses for January through June of 2025. Swanson motioned to approve. Fritel second. Vote all aye. m/c/a. Fritel motioned for meeting to adjourn. Swanson second. Vote all aye. m/c/a.

The next city council meeting will be held on January 06, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

Aaron Zabka, Mayor

Anita Porter, Auditor