

JUNE 3, 2024
REGULAR MEETING

The only regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Atwater City Council was called to order on Monday, June 3, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Atwater City Hall by Mayor Mark Olson. Council members present were Brian Carlson, Shane Hagstrom, and Anthony Holtz. Deb Mickle was absent. Visitors at the meeting were Tiffany Hintz from Atwater Festival Days, Don Coughlin from Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, and Spencer Johnson from Bolton and Menk.

Representing the city departments was Chief Ross Johnson, Fire Chief Chad Busskohl, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Smith, Jason Johnson Head of Maintenance department.

The minutes of the April 2, 2024, regular meeting was motioned for approval by Hagstrom and seconded by Brian Carlson, motion was approved unanimously. Minutes of the Board of Review for April 4, 2024, were motioned for approval by Holtz, and seconded by Brian Carlson - motion was approved unanimously. Minutes of the April 29, Special meeting was motioned for approval by Hagstrom and seconded by Brian Carlson. The motion was approved unanimously. The regular meeting minutes for May 6, 2024 was motioned for approval by Hagstrom and seconded by Holtz. Motion carried unanimously.

TIFFANY HINTZ – ATWATER FESTIVAL DAYS COMMITTEE

Hintz appeared before the Council to update them on the layout of the events for Friday June 14 and 15th. The events are being focused on the downtown area. She got the permit to close the street from Kandiyohi County, who will be delivered by them. She has ordered a dumpster for the overflow of garbage.

An update on the day care/senior housing project is that Kandiyohi County received a \$500,000 grant from the State of Minnesota. This will help with new and already going day cares. Kandiyohi County Board approved \$70,000 in additional funds. This will help tremendously.

DAN COUGHLIN FROM MIDDLE FORK CROW RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Coughlin explained that after speaking with Jason Johnson regarding Tadd Lake he obtained some grant dollars for the stormwater, but then pursued a grant for a nano bubbler. It started with inquiries from residents about the algae that grows on the ponds. The board awarded \$70,000 for the nano bubbler technology to be installed. This is a pilot project. The hope is to improve the pond long term. Scientific data will be collected during the 3-month period the bubbler is running until September. They would like to send information in the next newsletter to inform the public about the project.

SPENCER JOHNSON – BOLTON AND MENK

Spencer updated the council on the progress of the street project, Fourth Street should be completed this week and ready for curb and gutter. Next meeting with C & L Excavating is June 12 at 10 a.m. Funding from PFA will be delayed until July, the amount bonded or \$ 2,104,100 is in the bank but cannot be used for water and sewer lines installation. That money can only be

**JUNE 3, 2024
REGULAR MEETING**

spent on items not covered by the two PFA loans.

Update on the Well house project is that when the billboard sign gets moved DeLite will update the sign to digital. The purchase agreement needs to be finalized and signed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Johnson read the May Emergency Services Report and asked Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office to help during Festival Days. He has a couple new houses on his clean up list that he is watching.

FIRE/AMBULANCE REPORT

Busskohl informed the council that the DNR grant is not settled yet but they want to apply again for 2025 for the 50/50 grant totaling \$10,000 to help replace older radios. FEMA grant has no feedback yet. Brian Carlson presented two quotes for power lift on the Ambulance. Stryker's quotes were \$50,564.45 (trade in of \$7500 included) plus install from Pomsal of \$1557.50 total of \$52,141.95. Second was Ferno with a quote of \$48,511.72. We already have a Stryker cot system in the ambulance currently the load system in all-in-one system, it didn't make sense to switch vendors. Motion was made by Hagstrom to go with the Stryker and was second by Holtz. Motion carried unanimously. Money is coming from the Atwater Fire Relief Gala fund.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

The maintenance department has been painting the curbs yellow on the south side and north side of town. Johnson explained that they need a lot more paint to get the rest of town painted. Motion by Hagstrom and second by Brian Carlson to purchase the paint they need to get the town traffic lanes and curbs repainted. Motion carried unanimously.

Jason Johnson explained the EPA Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) is an inventory of connections from the house service to the water meter using visual, scratch or magnet test for the pipes with houses built before 1986. Hagstrom proposed using an online document source to collect the information on Google Form and create a spreadsheet. The initial due date is August 15th and absolute final is October 11 of 2024. Spencer explained that Bolton and Menk could help with the GIS system for approximately initial set up of \$8500 with annual fee of \$750 to \$1500. With the help from B & M it could run \$14,000.

The council then switched the conversation to mosquito control and to keep track of how many gallons we use per spray. Johnson stated that the spray costs \$1100 for a 2.5-gallon bottle. They bought 3 bottles.

PARKS

The summer recreation numbers are up to 230 kids. We have two park mowers who are also helping with summer recreation coaching in the afternoons. Hagstrom reviewed the pay

JUNE 3, 2024
REGULAR MEETING

scale for the parks department and each of the seven employees in those departments. Registration was online and new this year and seemed to work very well.

CLERKS REPORT

Smith circulated around the table the delinquency list from May 24th, on the list were six highlighted addresses who were at least three or months late on their water bills. Council directed the maintenance department to shut off four of the residents who have not tried to pay on the bill.

An email from Carolyn Powers asking when East Road is going to worked on. Smith explained that East Road wasn't on the list of current street projects. She read a notice from Xcel Energy regarding a public meeting regarding the Upper Midwest Integrated resource plan. A list of dates is available from the clerk.

RESOLUTION 2024-16 TO ASSESSING LATE WATER BILLS

Motion was made by Brian Carlson and second by Holtz to pass Resolution 2024-16 to assess on their property taxes Rollings Hills Equipment and Tom Moen for the 2025 property taxes at zero percent – payable in one year. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

The following verified accounts were presented for payment, upon approval of the Finance Committee; it was moved by Brian Carlson and second by Holtz. Motion carried authorizing the Clerk/Treasurer to make such disbursements: June 3, 2024 (Checks numbers 32472-32508 for \$ 163,062.27 and Mid-month bills paid on June _____, 2024, were check numbers _____ through _____ for \$____,_____ all approved by the finance committee.

A motion was made to adjourn by Brian Carlson and second by Holtz at 9:20 p.m.

Goldie Smith
City Clerk/Treasurer