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NEW ENGLAND CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Regular City Council Meeting 11-4-24

Mayor Kovar called the meeting to order at 7pm Present: Chris Fitterer, Breann Krebs & Mike Grote Excused: Rebecca Ferderer, Rex Fitch, Tom Gorek Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to approve the October 2024 minutes as presented. Motion carried. Mayors Report Ariann Doe was present at the meeting representing Rainy

Butte Productions. Ariann wanted to thank the City Council for allowing them to use the Memorial Hall for their practices and productions. They would like the same agreement next year as they had with the city this year. The council agreed that we can have the same agreement next year with Rainy Butte Productions.

Water & Sewer Nothing to report Street & Lights Nothing to report Buildings & Grounds Nothing to report Equipment The sweeper is down and it is a possibility that it could be the hydro's. If this were the case it would cost \$20,000 to fix if parts can even be found for that old of a sweeper. Springtime is the best time to look at a different sweeper as bigger cities trade their older ones in. The city will first find out how much it will cost to fix our current sweeper and we will proceed from there. We should be getting another Prairie Dog payment coming in the near future.

Ordinance People are inquiring if roosters are allowed in New England. Chickens are not allowed in the City of New England. The Auditor will send letters to residents that may have roosters. All trailers, campers, boats, etc. are supposed to be off of the city streets by November 1st of every year. We will have our county police tag any of these vehicles left on the street and they will be towed after 48 hours. City & State Government Affairs Nothing to report Zoning Commission Motion by Mike, seconded by Breann to approve the 2nd reading of the zoning ordinance changes. Motion carried. Auditors Report Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to approve the following bills for payment. Motion carried.

- 11/1/2024 15768 GS Publishing Ads and Minutes -240.48
11/1/2024 15769 Keane Hanson Plumbing & Excavating Fix Toilet city hall -26.50
11/1/2024 15770 City of Dickinson Landfill Charges -2,123.40
11/1/2024 15771 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -752.37
11/1/2024 15774 Bobcat of Dickinson Oil Filters & oil -379.32
11/1/2024 15775 Chemistry Lab Water Samples -183.52
11/1/2024 15776 Southwestern Dist. Health Unit Water Samples -25.00
11/1/2024 15777 Newby's Ace Hardware Air Filters -53.36
11/1/2024 15778 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance -1,330.01
11/1/2024 15779 Vestis Rug Cleaning -122.72
11/1/2024 15780 One Call Concepts Call Tickets -15.00
11/4/2024 15789 Vestis Rug Cleaning -122.72
11/4/2024 15790 Virtuoso Leidholm Consulting LLC Website Maintenance -150.00
11/4/2024 15791 Hanson Plumbing & Excavating Blow out sprinklers -120.00
11/6/2024 15793 Debbie Ur-lacher-Briske Reimburse for Light -19.16
11/25/2024 15800 Edward H Schwartz Construction Blade Alleys -193.00
11/25/2024 15801 Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance -1,330.01
11/25/2024 15802 Butler Part -16.32
11/25/2024 15803 The Herald Year Subscription -45.00
11/25/2024 15804 Visa 1864 Stamps -258.99
11/25/2024 15805 VISA 8078 Oil Change Garbage Truck, Parts at Bobcat-1,103.22
11/25/2024 15806 Fitterer Oil Brake Work -201.30
11/25/2024 15807 City of Dickinson Landfill Charges -1,867.80
11/25/2024 15808 Consolidated Ambulance Phone -52.10
11/25/2024 15809 Consolidated City Hall Phone -531.76
11/25/2024 15810 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -643.33

11/25/2024 15811 Tri County LLC Battery Cores, cables, antifreeze, supplies -733.20
11/25/2024 15812 ND Water Users Association dues -100.00
11/25/2024 15813 Southwestern Dist. Health Unit Water Samples -25.00
11/25/2024 15814 Tiger Heating & Air Control Board Furnace Memorial Hall -385.00 Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to approve the Hettinger County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion carried. Old Business The city council opened up one bid for the house on 1st Ave East. The bid was from Alexander Weinberger for \$6,020. Motion by Chris, seconded by Breann to reject the bid from Alexander Weinberger. Motion carried. If there are other interested parties, the City Auditor has the ability to sell it. The City Council reviewed the water, sewer and garbage rates. A rate study was done for the water and sewer by the Midwest Assistance Program. They gave the City of New England recommendations to maximize revenue and when we choose to increase rates, different avenues that would best suite the City of New England. Not only do we need to be able to pay for all of our utility expenses and water & sewer main loan payoffs we also need to maintain a debt coverage ration of 1.1. In addition, we need to have an asset management plan and create an O&M reserve or capital improvement reserve for future expenses. Motion by Mike, seconded by Chris to eliminate the 1st 1,000 gallons free included in the base charge of water and sewer. Motion by Chris, seconded by Mike to raise monthly residential garbage rates by \$5.00 per month beginning 1-1-2025 and \$1 per year for the next 5 years. Motion carried.

An individual has inquired about a lot directly to the West of the New England Clinic. The council will ask \$1,000 for the lot. The jake brake ordinance for the City of New England and Hettinger County has been approved. The NDDOT will purchase the signs and if everything goes well, the NDDOT will get the signs installed before the ground is frozen. New Business Motion by Mike, seconded by Chris to approve the Pledge of Securities from Bravera Bank. Motion carried. Council Comments None Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to adjourn. Motion carried.

Pub. Jan. 9, 2025

NEW ENGLAND CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Regular City Council Meeting 12-2-24

Mayor Kovar called the meeting to order at 7pm Present: Rebecca Ferderer, Breann Krebs, Tom Gorek & Mike Grote Excused: Chris Fitterer Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to approve the November 2024 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

The county policing report was presented by Deputy Christian-son. October was busier than November. October investigations included suspicious person, MIP tobacco, harassment, aggravated assault, loud music, destruction of property. November investigation included 2 juvenile investigations and an MIP tobacco. For juveniles if it is criminal then it will go to juvenile court. Motion by Rex, seconded by Tom to approve the county policing report. Motion carried. Mayors Report The Golden West Bar needs to get special liquor permits when they have a bar at special events. They have been negligent in getting the required permits. The auditor will get the permits to the Golden West Bar and they will need to fill them out and pay the \$25.00 fee for each event.

Waiting on an answer for the lot sale in town. Water & Sewer Nothing to report Street & Lights Nothing to report Buildings & Grounds Nothing to report Equipment Nothing to report Ordinance Letters were sent to the residents that have suspected roosters in city limits. City & State Government Affairs There is an RBDG Grant through USDA that Rebecca is looking in to. In summary, the grant is an investment in the community with the possibility of creating jobs in the City of New England. For example, the city could purchase a building with the grant money and then could lease the building to a business. This could be an opportunity where it may be more affordable for a business to get into a building and have the building furnished with what the business may need. Zoning Commission Nothing to report Auditors Report Motion by Rex, seconded by Mike to approve the following bills for payment. Motion carried. Transaction - Current Month 12/2/2024 15822 Southwest Water Authority Monthly Water -7,688.27 12/2/2024 15823 GS Publishing Minutes -558.11 12/27/2024 15829 MDU Utilities -4,187.38 12/27/2024 15830 Newby's Ace Hardware Flapper -14.39 12/27/2024 15831 Menard's Filters -34.37 12/27/2024 15832 Southwestern Dist. Health Unit Water Samples -25.00 12/27/2024 15833 One Call Concepts Call Tickets -3.00 12/27/2024 15834 Kubik, Bogner, Ridl & Selinger Legal Services -150.00 12/27/2024 15835 The Hub Convenience Stores Fuel -926.18 12/27/2024 15836 Slope Electric Street Lights -594.00 12/27/2024 15837 Consolidated City Hall Phone -521.34 12/27/2024 15838 Consolidated Ambulance Phone -51.33 12/27/2024 15839 Fisher Sand & Gravel Sand -594.66 12/27/2024 15840 VISA 8078 Cartridges for garbage truck -85.45 12/28/2024 15847 NE Park Board Revenue Sharing July-Dec 2024 -8,435.65 12/28/2024 15848 NE Cemetery Taxes -47.62 12/28/2024 15849 SpecialAssessment Deficiency Specials -23,712.00 12/29/2024 15851 Visa 1864 Stamps for water bills, subscription -331.99 Old Business The house we had for sale is now sold. It was sold to a group of contractors. They will flip the house. New Business We have been looking for a new scrubber for the gym floor at the Memorial Hall. The school has a couple extra ones that they do not use. We will see how affordable this is as one of them needs new batteries and needs to be serviced. If the price is reasonable, we will buy it. Christmas bonus is the same as last year. Motion by Breann, seconded by Mike to approve the raises for the city employees starting in 2025. Motion carried. Council Comments Breann has been nominated to be the treasurer of the Library Board. Motion by Breann, seconded by Tom to adjourn. Motion carried.

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