The following are the minutes of the City Council meeting held on May 13, 2024. In attendance for the Council: Kris Weidert, Cliff Altman, Kathryn Weber, Ryan Schieck & Mayor Wayne Bents. Guest in attendance was Mary Sites, Roxanne Kemper & Nick Weber. Mayor Wayne Bents called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was done.

On a motion by Kris and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the agenda. On a motion by Kathryn and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on April 10, 2024. On a motion by Kathryn and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the minutes of the Local Board and Equalization meeting held on April 29, 2024. Amber presented the financial statement which showed the deposits/invoices from the prior month to current. On a motion by Ryan and seconded by Kathryn it was duly passed to approve the financial statement, pay the invoices and make the stated transfers.

Maintenance report – Josh gave the report – Stated Spring Clean-up went well and that there wasn't too much to pick up. Merry-Go-Round is up and running at the park and working well. Park restrooms are cleaned and opened up – did need to replace the faucets but had some on hand. Shelter house is all ready to go as well but the microwave stopped working last year. Council said that we should replace it and Kris said she will get one. Electric Pump and did their annual service on the pumps – again mentioned the electrical board and that we may want to considered budgeting for one. Josh plans to go to a wastewater training in Pipestone and just went to a training on tracing water lines. Josh did ask the Council if he should pursue getting his wastewater license since he already has his water license. Council was on board with the idea - Tom Bohlke will still be the main person in charge once he gets his licenses but it would be nice to have more than one person who is licensed and Josh said he would be more comfortable having his license in case he needs to help with anything related to water/wastewater. Josh brought up the landscaping around the Fire Hall as last months meeting we discussed possibly just having him do it but Council discussed further and will get a quote from Ellen Henning's nephew since he offered to do one for us and then can decide what way to go with it – Amber will reach out to Ellen. Josh did some looking into for the basketball hoop at the park as the ones we have seem to keep breaking easily. The pole is still good condition would just need backboard and hoop. Council discussed and on a motion by Cliff and seconded by Kathryn it was duly passed to find better quality backboard/hoops with a spending limit of \$750 for each or \$1,500 total. A couple months ago the Council discussed going with C&B Operations for the larger leased tractor as it sounded like Titan no longer wanted to do the large tractor lease due to it getting harder to find. C&B sent over a contract for \$1,500/150 hrs and on a motion by Cliff and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to accept contract and lease with C&B Operations. The flag pole outside the Fire Hall got bent from wind – Kathryn & Nick said that they bought the flag pole for the City but this isn't the one they would have bought. Josh didn't see any others sitting around so not sure where that one is at - was before Amber and Josh's time. Josh will look around to see otherwise will look into getting a better flag pole that can withstand the wind. It was brought to Amber's attention that we may want to look into doing a keypad on the front door as when there was a call the last time the key was missing so couldn't get in right away. The Firefighters should all have a key but most of the time it is not on them when they get called out. Council was fine with looking into a keyless entry but would want to make sure it is more of a heavy duty one that will last. It was also brought up about possibly getting a camera for the front door of the Fire Hall as there is a lot of newer equipment in the Fire Station that no one wants to go missing. Council discussed both and on a motion by Kathryn and seconded by Cliff it was duly passed to get a camera for the front door and to place a keyless entry lock on the front door. Amber will look into the camera and Josh will look into the keypad. Last month Council made motion to put in an offer to purchase the Landpride mower from Titan for \$800 - Amber reached out to Dave and he said that they will just continue to lease at this time. On a motion by Kris and seconded by Kat it was duly passed to approve the Maintenance report.

Fire Department report – Jim gave the FD Report – Jim asked Amber to send a letter to the townships letting them know the rate change for next year. Still waiting to hear back on the FEMA grant. On a motion by Cliff and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the Fire Dept Report.

Amber Bertrand gave the clerks report – Last month the Council discussed the Veteran's Memorial and went to look at where it would be placed at the park but a motion is still needed if Council is wanting to have that there – on a motion by Kris and seconded by Kathryn it was duly passed to approve the Veteran's Memorial to be placed in the park at the area the Council deemed ok. We did get an estimate to raise a small area of the sidewalk by the park where the memorial would be going as it has sunken lower and could be a liability but the estimate came in at \$3,406.00. Council discussed and wanted to see about just replacing the full sidewalk as the cost might be close to the same so Josh will get those estimates and it will be discussed more at the next meeting but may need to look into grants. On a motion by Kathryn and seconded by Kris it was duly passed to approve the Clerks Report.

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Rebecca Towne gave the annual audit report via phone. Audit went well and there was nothing too concerning that Rebecca found but did mention that Amber should be doing a resolution for any donations that are received for the City or Fire Department. Amber stated she was not aware of having to do this but will make sure it happens going forward. The revenues and expenses were similar to what they were last year. On a motion by Cliff and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to approve the audit report.

Roxanne Kemper and Mary Sites came to the meeting to discuss and see why the Council voted to go to mail in ballots. Council went over the reasonings and did apologize for not getting the word out there to residents that this was being discussed but still felt in the end that it was the right move to make and can always go back to in-person voting at a later date if need be just not for the 2024 Elections. Amber did mention that the County mailed out a postcard which states that the voting place changed to the County but Amber has a letter that she will post online and put at the post office and bank that explains a little bit more and Amber is also available to help with questions or residents can call Joyce Jacobs at the County.

On a motion by Kathryn and seconded by Ryan it was duly passed to accept Resolution 24.5.1 Acknowledging Donations.

Park Equipment – Put on hold as Adrian is not selling the equipment due to liability. Will keep watching for grants

Land Sale – Working with County to get parcels split – need to do deeds and get things recorded.

Border wall for North side of new shop – Josh will look into this and work on getting it done.

Joint Powers Agreement with Nobles County – Amber hasn't heard back from Kayla so holding off at this time.

Cliff stated that the Booster Club should be pouring the cement soon at the ballfield.

With no further business to discuss, on a motion by Ryan and seconded by Kathryn it was duly passed to adjourn the meeting. The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

Minutes taken by Amber Bertrand, City Clerk