City Council Meeting

January 2, 2024

Sanford Room

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular monthly meeting was held at 7pm with the following members being present: Deb Hengel, Julie Larson, Darryl Larson, John Vankempen and Tom Grout.

Also present: Jay Sias, Lucy Anderson, Darin Grosz, Larry Martini, Nathan Porter, Joey Lohse and Chris Lohse.

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated at this time.

Motion by Grout and seconded by Vankempen to approve the following meeting minutes as presented: December 4, 2023 Truth in Taxation Hearing meeting, the December 4, 2023 regular city council meeting and the December 18, 2023 Study Session meeting minutes as presented. Motion pass unanimously.

Committee reports:

The Grant County Sheriff updated the council on how the new Law Enforcement Center building project is moving along, via pictures etc.

Nathan Porter, Elbow Lake Fire Chief, informed the council that there will be a new fire chief starting in 2024 and thanked the city for all their support over the years and then introduced the new fire chief, Chris Lohse, who attended this meeting with him.

City Supt., Joey Lohse stated that it has been quiet in the city, with having now snow and weather to worry about. He stated that it is a pleasant change. The crew is getting some things done that have been put aside because of time issues.

Supt Grosz and Mayor Hengel informed the council that the City Power Commission is planning on implementing a 4% average electric rate increase in 2024 and this will start showing up on the customer’s March billing statement. The reason for this increase is to cover the increase in power costs to the utility by Western Area Power Administration and our surplus power suppliers. The utility is in the process of having a rate study done shortly, since this is done very four years.

Motion by Grout and seconded by Julie Larson to approve the 2024 City of Elbow Lake appointments as recommended by Mayor Hengel (a copy can be obtained at the city office). Motion was passed unanimously.

Motion by Vankempen and seconded by Darryl Larson to approve the 2024 City of Elbow Lake fee schedule as recommended by Mayor Hengel. Motion was passed unanimously.

Motion by Vankempen and seconded by Darryl Larson to approve the Bollig Engineering Task Order numbers 4 and 5 (copies of these can be obtained at the city offices) for airport improvement projects scheduled for 2024 and 2025. Passed unanimously.

Councilperson Darryl Larson introduced the following resolution and was seconded by councilperson Grout to move for its adoption:

**RESOLUTION FOR THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR A MINNESOTA JOB CREATION GRANT FOR JETLINE SALES AND SERVICE LLC**

(A COPY CAN BE SEEN AT THE CITY OFFICE)

Voting yes: all present

Voting no: none

Resolution was duly passed and adopted.

Councilperson Grout introduced the following city ordinance and was seconded by councilperson Darryl Larson to move for its adoption:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ELBOW LAKE, MINNESOTA, ANNEXING LAND IN SANFORD TOWNSHIP, GRANT COUNTY, MINNESOTA PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES 414.033, SUBSECTION 2(1), PERMITTING ANNEXATION BY ORDINANCE**

(A COPY CAN BE SEEN AT THE CITY OFFICE)

Voting yes: all present

Voting no: none

Resolution passed and will be published in the Grant County Herald, before becoming formally adopted.

The council reviewed the City of Elbow Lake Pay Equity report completed by Clerk Admin. Treas. Jeff Holsen before sending it off to the State of Mn. for compliance.

Motion by Darryl Larson and seconded by Vankempen to approve the City of Elbow Lake Pay Equity Report for 2024 and to send it into the State of Minnesota for their approval. Motion was passed.

Old Business: Mayor Hengel updated the council on how the city web site is progressing. She stated that it is coming along quite nicely, but there is still much work to be done.

Motion by Darryl Larson and seconded by Vankempen to approve the bills payables as presented. Motion was passed.

Motion by Grout and seconded by Darryl Larson to adjourn this meeting at 7:45 pm. Motion was passed

Jeff Holsen

Clerk Admin.Treas.