**City of Taylor, North Dakota – May 08, 2023**

The regular City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Emory Vaagen at 6:05PM

Council Members present: Daryl Jurgens, Melissa Gjermundson, and Mark Sloop

Councilman Jurgens moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Sloop. MCU

The Council reviewed the April regular City Council meeting minutes. Motion to approve the April regular City Council minutes was made by Councilman Sloop, seconded by Councilwoman Gjermundson. MCU

**Visitors:**

* Kelly Loftis (together with her husband Chuck Loftis, are the new pastors of Taylor Ecumenical Church) wanted to ask the City Council for a reduced rate for renting the Taylor Opera House. They are planning on using the Opera House as venue for Vacation Bible School which will commence on May 30 to June 02, 9:00AM to 12NN. Mayor Emory suggested a payment of $150 for the 4 days that they will be using it. Motion to approve the $150 for 4 days was made by Councilwoman Gjermundson, seconded by Councilman Sloop. MCU
* Deputy Ray Kaylor mentioned the Sheriff Department’s activity for the month: Kids Health & Safety Fair, Kids Job Fair, and Touch a Truck
* Brandon and Jenni Martin expressed their interest in buying two lots that they can use to build a 40x60 steel shop. They want to ask the City Council if they know any lots available for sale. Councilman Sloop mentioned to talk to Boyd Hofland as he wants to sell his shop. Mayor Emory suggested the lots 34 & 35 by Ray Jay Circle. Further discussion is needed by the City Council and will get back to Brandon as soon as decision is made. Another concern was discussed: the neighbor on the north side of the house where Brandon’s mother-in-law lives. Their dogs are too aggressive and the owner of those dogs are aggressive too when it comes to property line and fence. Mayor Emory said the best course of action is to call the police. Deputy Ray Kaylor said as long as those aggressive barking dogs stays in the owner’s backyard there’s nothing to do but if they bit somebody then that’s the time that they will take legal action. For the mean time Deputy Ray will continue to monitor both backyards.

**Old Business:**

Anthony Setness of Moore Engineering handed out copies of his report analysis of the City’s water and sewer. He mentioned three projects to look at:

1. Treatment System
2. Water Distribution System
3. Sewer Collection System

Starting with the Treatment System, he thinks the lagoons are pretty undersized for the population of the City. He said that the treatment system is his first highest priority, second highest priority is fixing the water lines since the City has a new water tower to hook up into. Mayor Emory will make contact with Southwest Water to discuss matters regarding possibly hooking up with the water tower.The water lines runs north and south mostly so it wouldn’t make sense to replace the whole lines with the new ones so probably put a hole in the new line and connect going outwards. Councilwoman Gjermundson asked to confirm that by adding water lines that runs east and west it will solve the water pressure issues especially at Ray Jay Circle.Mayor Emory asked if there is a benefit to running two lines to have a continuous loop down so if we do need to shut off one block we still have water on the other block. Anthony Setness suggested using gate valves so water can still go the other way.Anthony Setness suggested lining the interior of the sanitary sewer system with Cured-In-Place-Pipe, a trenchless technology which would reline a new pipe inside the existing sewer main.Mayor Emory said the sewer lagoon is a bigger problem than water at this point and so that’s the direction he wants to steer. Anthony Setness said it’s up to the Council to decide which project to pursue first.Anthony Setness suggested to demolish the existing lift station and construct a new lift station. In conclusion of his presentation, Anthony Setness said to pick which project to do first, get bids for whatever project the Council will decide on, and the target construction date will start 2024-2025. That depends on what funding the City will get and when will it get approve. With these grants, the City may have to take construction loan to get through these projects or with the DEQ rural development loans.

Mayor Emory said the Council will discuss further and review all the details and options that Anthony Setness presented before making a decision.

**New Business**:

A motion was made by Councilwoman Gjermundson to designate Richardton Merchant as Taylor’s official newspaper, seconded by Councilman Jurgens. MCU

**Portfolios:**

Rebel – not in attendance

Gjermundson – none

Jurgens – none

Sloop – regarding Perry Zillich’s intent to pour concrete driveway by his shop on Main Street. Councilman Sloop took pictures of the property and showed it to the Council. Mayor Vaagen thinks the curb is owned by the County so he will contact Chad Messer to clarify that. The Council is approving of Perry Zillich’s plan as long as proper communication is made between the City and the County.

Mayor Vaagen – mentioned he noticed a lot of cracks in the pavements and he is looking for getting somebody to look into them and seal them (like sandblast the cracks). Councilwoman Gjermundson will make a phone call for any company who does that.

A citizen complaint by Tim Kitzan was also discussed about damage on his property because of snow removal and harassing a certain school bus driver for parking on his property. Mayor Vaagen said he will visit with him and shed some light on the issue. Councilwoman Gjermundson asked Mayor Vaagen to bring law enforcement when he makes his visit.

**Auditor’s Report**

Councilwoman Gjermundson moved to approve the April Financial Report, seconded by Councilman Sloop. MCU

The bank is offering a 3-month CD at 4.5% interest rate. Right now we are getting 1.7% rate on our checking account. City Auditor Lisa Aune would like to move $700,000.00 to our checking account for 3 months. A motion was made by Councilman Jurgens to give City Auditor Lisa Aune the authority to purchase CDs up to $700,000.00 out of our checking account, seconded by Councilman Sloop. MCU

Councilwoman Gjermundson moved to approve April bills to be paid, seconded by Councilman Jurgens. MCU

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| **GENERAL** |  |  |  |
|  | 9368-71 | Payroll | $3,240.00  |
|  | 9372 | Consolidated Telcom | $103.98  |
|  | 9377 | MDU | $159.23  |
|  | 9375 | Lorna Oconner | $400.00  |
|  | 9374 | Lisa Aune | $104.80  |
|  | 9379 | Nina Wolf | $372.05  |
|  | 9376 | Mackoff Kellogg | $110.00  |
| **HIWAY** |   |  |   |
|  | 9373 | Jurgens Operating | $7,042.50  |
|  | 9377 | MDU | $119.66  |
| **OPERA HOUSE** |   |   |   |
|  | 9377 | MDU | $203.17  |
| **WATER** |  |  |  |
|  | 9377 | MDU | $258.98  |
|  | 9382 | SW Water | $2,287.77  |
|   | 9383 | SWDHU | $25.00  |
|  | 9384 | Wyatt Synnes | $100.00  |
|  | ACH | DCB | $10.00  |
| **SEWER** |   |  |  |
|  | 9377 | MDU | $276.14  |
|  | 9380 | Pump Systems | $1,040.00  |
| **GARBAGE** |   |   |   |
|  | 9378 | MGM Sanitation | $3,636.93  |
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No pending correspondence.

Councilwoman Gjermundson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM, seconded by Councilman Sloop. MCU

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Mayor Emory Vaagen Nina Wolf, Secretary