

City of Meservey Council Minutes April 11, 2022

Council Persons Present: Mike Gobeli, Jennifer Rembe, Cyneva Myers, Pat White and Mike McNutt.

Mayor Miller Called Meeting to Order at 6:35 PM.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Gobeli to approve, 2nd by Rembe. Approved unanimously.

Approval of March minutes – Motion to approve by Myers, 2nd by McNutt. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Bills – Motion to approve by White, 2nd by Rembe. Approved unanimously.

April Expenditures – Absolute Waste Removal (Garbage) \$1,700.00; Active 911 (FD Subsc.) \$234.00; Alliant Energy (electric) \$2,264.53; Belmond Independent (publishing) \$246.00; Brown Supply (check valve) \$513.27; Cerro Gordo Engineer (Sand/Salt roads) \$248.77; Cerro Gordo County (Sewer) \$3,077.14; DeBour Electric (Waterworks generator) \$8,897.54; Feld Fire (Service FD equip) \$800.00; Frontier (phones) \$134.92; Hawkins, Inc. (Additives) \$474.75; IA Dept of Rev (WH) \$25.35 (Sales) \$0.16 (WET) \$503.02; IA Firefighters Assoc (Membership) \$68.00; IPERS (pensions) \$130.64; Jasperson Insurance (Insurance) \$17,816.00; Meservey Public Library (apportionment) \$3,875.00; Midwest Pipe (hydrant, fittings) \$535.00; Miller & Miller PC (legal fees) \$705.00; Mosquito Control of Iowa (2021 spraying) \$1,200.00; NEW Coop (Gas) \$1,045.16; S&H Environmental (Water/Sewer Super.) \$1,879.00; US Treasury (payroll taxes) \$609.96; Woody's Dust Control (dust control) \$1,984.00; Wright Co. Landfill (2021 Expenses) \$686.02; Aimee Miller (Clerk wages) \$776.30; Jennifer Rembe (Water wages) \$243.80; Richard Miller (Mayor Salary/Water) \$203.61.

Public Input – Joey Dickman presents insurance renewal, not much has changed, most premiums are the same, however cyber liability has increased. For \$50k coverage on Fire dept increased from \$143 to \$817. For \$50k coverage on City increased from \$303 to \$817. If the City chooses to, they can decrease the coverage to \$25k on one or the other or both at a premium of \$589 or they can drop it altogether. Mayor will get in touch with the Fire Chief to see what they have and determine what is necessary. Will let Jasperson's know within a week. Joey reviewed building and equipment valuations. The deductible for the '86 pumper went up to \$1k due to value. Mayor signed renewal forms.

Julie Kaduce gave update on EMS inventory and Fire Department. City owns 2-3 oxygen tanks that will not be able to use. Wants approval to either return them to Airgas or give them to Thornton, they need to be hydrotested. Council wants them sent to Thornton. City owns AED, the only one in town, would like to see it mounted somewhere and make sure there is public awareness regarding where it is located and how to access it. The pad is expired and it needs new batteries, cost would be \$209.00, both need to be replaced every 5 years. Council gives permission to replace pad and batteries and they will get it mounted, etc. Presents 2 lists of other inventory from ambulance, one of things we would keep and store, the other of things we wouldn't be able to use, wonders if council wants to give it away to certified EMS departments, sell to certified EMS departments. Collective value of items is approx. \$3,600. Council would like those items to be presented to Thornton first, they provide coverage for Meservey and the items should be used to our benefit first. If there are duplicate items that Thornton does not need, they can be sold with the funds coming back to the Meservey Fire dept and public safety budget. Grant request was submitted for the generator with \$2,500 of matching funds coming from Meservey Public Safety budget and also the proceeds from the recent Community Soup Supper.

Departmental Reports: Fire dept – Nothing additional. Library – none. Streets – none. Water/Sewer – Mayor got an estimate for drilling a 2nd well at a cost of \$250,000. There are some grants available, however it could take 12-18 months to get those funds, and should start the process now. Would be set up to run every other time with the current well, which means we would need new computers. Council asked several questions, including whether we might need to update some mains at the same time. Mayor asks if they would like him to proceed with getting more information about grants and costs. Motion by Gobeli to proceed, 2nd by White. Approved. Maint /Equip – none.

Mosquito Control – cost is up from last year by \$180, motion by Rembe to stay with Mosquito Control of Iowa, 2nd by Myers. Approved.

Dust Control – This years rate is \$1,984. Franklin County agreed to pay half, Cerro Gordo agreed to pay a one-fourth. Motion by White to approve, 2nd by Gobeli. Approved.

Trees – Barkema estimates \$650 to trim everything at the parks and remove one tree and straighten the light pole. Lauen will take out shrubs. Motion by White to approve, 2nd by McNutt. Approved. S&H offered to

take down and haul away 2 ash trees on a property owned by the City. Council decided to leave them alone for now, they are still in good shape.

Mowing – Will advertise same as last year.

Derelict buildings – Should have possession of both properties soon, Mayor would like to solicit for bids to demo the buildings. Advised to get a bid from Lauen and at least one other contractor.

Generators – Have received part of the equipment for the water works building, no news on grant yet.

Lucas Water Connection – Connection has been made!

Building permits – Makenna Anderson would like to install chain link fence. Council approves.

Discussion surrounding fences and what materials are acceptable.

Other discussion – We need to start testing the tornado siren regularly, will develop a schedule and put a notice in the water bills. Rembe will put flowers in the boxes in front of City Hall again. Steve O’Neil is retiring from Emergency Management Commission, Mayor plans to attend EMC meeting on Wednesday night. More test wells are being drilled at Ries property

Motion by White to adjourn, 2nd by Rembe. Approved unanimously.

Next regular meeting of the Council: May 9, 2022, 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aimee J Miller

(Mayor)