

City of Meservey Council Minutes December 12, 2022

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

Mayor Miller Called Meeting to Order at 6:30 PM.

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

Approval of November minutes – Motion to approve by Rembe, 2nd by Myers. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Bills – Motion to approve and pay bills by Rembe, 2nd by McNutt. Approved unanimously.

December Expenditures – Absolute Waste Removal (Garbage) \$1,750.00; Alliant Energy (electric) \$1,932.88; Belmont Independent (publishing) \$74.98; Cerro Gordo County (Sewer) \$3,398.89; Clear Lake Bank & Trust (comp. soft) \$13.88; Clear Lake Sanitary District (water/lagoon testing) \$203.20; Display Sales (bulbs) \$109.28; Frontier (phones) \$174.04; Heartland Asphalt (street patching) \$2,284.80; Treas-State of IA (WET-Nov) \$177.28; IPERS (pensions) \$108.14; Jasperson Insurance (add generators) \$43.00; Mosquito Control of Iowa (mosq spraying) \$1,380.00; Overhead door of MC (remote) \$101.00; ProShield Fire (fire ext. inspect) \$241.70; S&H Environmental (Water/Sewer Super.) \$1,735.00; True Value (water supply) \$73.93; United LP (propane/tank rent) \$915.68; Aimee Frohling (Clerk wages) \$615.37; Jennifer Rembe (Water wages) \$233.64; Richard Miller (Mayor Salary/Maint) \$203.61.

Public Input – None.

Departmental Reports: Fire dept – none. Library – Christmas for kids Sat the 17th, visit from Santa. Streets – Garbage containers and vehicles need to be away from the street for snow removal. Water/Sewer – none. Maint /Equip – none.

Tom Madden with SEH discusses planning for 2nd well. For his reporting, wants to know what the council thinks the town will look like in 20 years. Will there be growth? Will population decline? 5% growth would be about 35 extra people, the water usage would change, should make sure we have the capacity within reason. The City can always decide to go with larger capacity, however would have to pay the difference from City funds. For instance, if we were to go with a larger pump than what is specified in the State approved plan, it would probably only be a difference of a couple thousand dollars. State will only pay for what you “need”. There are also rules that must be followed. If we go with a bigger pump in the new well, would also have to put a larger pump in the old well, the back-up must have the same capacity as the one you are using. Pump has to meet 24-hour demand based on the Water Use Report to the DNR. Water rate Ordinance should have Commercial/Industrial rates and the more water that is used should cost more (not less) to favor conservation and support the system. Diggins from NIACOG will help us to work on that Ordinance. Council agrees to go with a 5% growth on reports, younger families are moving into homes previously occupied by one or two older residents. Madden also discusses the Planning and Design Loan, must have an Engineer, Bond Counsel, and Financial Advisor. Suggests Dorsey and Whitney for Bond Counsel and Spear Financial for Financial Advisor. He has those listed on the SRF Loan application; however, the Council can certainly hire someone else. Will need to officially hire those in the next month or two. Results of the flow test – only 2 hydrants meet specifications = not good, but good for the report. Pipe going up to the water tower is too small. Some water mains are only 1 ½”. Suggests the first phase might be to change the riser pipe and the smaller mains, may improve overall capacity of the system. Recommends breaking the project down into 3-4 phases that are each 7-800K. Can decide to wait 4-5 years to move on to

the next phase if so desired, would just need to sit down and decide and keep the report updated. Not required to do all the phases or any of them for that matter, but would be approved by the DNR for 10-12 years to continue the work. Phases can be re-arranged, etc. Insufficient water pressure can be a health concern, which helps get funding through CDBG. If we get a disadvantaged community status (based on median household income), other doors may open for funding. Sometimes there are random selections for “free” dollars and forgivable loans. Not guaranteed, but a potential. Madden’s goal is to come back to the January meeting with a report and some phases with numbers. Question was asked about “looping” some mains, Madden states that is certainly going to be part of the plan, reiterates that State may approve a minimum 4” line, but council can decide to go with 6” and the only cost difference would be the material cost. Would not be substantial. Would like to be put on the Agenda each month going forward. Diggins will probably be at the next meeting. Rembe makes a motion to have the Mayor sign the Planning and Design Loan application, 2nd by McNutt. Approved. Mayor signed, Madden left copy for City. Discussed process on Engineer procurement, will have to get proposals from other engineers, and the City can certainly decide to hire someone else if they so choose.

Sealed bids for 206 Delaware and 338 3rd Street lots – received one bid from Mike Howey offering \$500 each – wants both lots. Motion by Myers to approve, 2nd by McNutt. Approved.

Tornado Siren – new one will be automatically set-off from a County dispatch, council wonders if there will be a way to manually set it off?

Motion by McNutt to adjourn, 2nd by Myers. Approved unanimously.

Next regular meeting of the Council: January 9, 2023, 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Aimee J Frohling

(Mayor)