

Council Minutes

Regular Session

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

The Freeman City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 6:30 pm at City Hall in Freeman. Mayor Michael Walter called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Charles Gering, Blaine Saarie, Tabitha Schoenwald, Clifford Tjaden, Elizabeth Waltner and Steve Waltner. Also attending were Carol Eisenbeis, Police Chief Jonathan Slevin, LeAnn Kaufman and Duane Walters.

Minutes

S. Waltner moved to accept the minutes of the October 17, 2023 regular meeting as presented. E. Waltner seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Vouchers

Tjaden moved to approve the vouchers listed below. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: All votes aye.

PAYROLL – COUNCIL	6960.00	JAMBOREE, supplies	202.88
PAYROLL – FINANCE	2819.24	JH DIESEL, repair	1677.59
PAYROLL – MARKETING	3541.46	KLEINSASSER’S, repair	3625.96
PAYROLL – POLICE	9794.41	KNODEL CONTRACTORS, gravel	777.89
PAYROLL – PUBLIC SAFETY	134.08	KRIPPNER CUSTOM PUMPING, lagoon	1875.00
PAYROLL – STREETS	2086.31	LAWNS UNLIMITED, fertilizer	535.00
PAYROLL – SEWER	5618.89	LESLIE KEIERLEBER, cleaning	890.00
PAYROLL – REFUSE	4964.81	MATHESON, amb supplies	85.73
PAYROLL – RECYCLE	2199.69	M C & R POOLS, winterize pool	1280.04
PAYROLL – WATER	5788.51	MR G’S, repair	134.90
PAYROLL – AMBULANCE	2808.47	NAPA, repair	8.99
PAYROLL – PARK/POOL	1244.13	NORTHWESTERN ENERGY, electric & gas	7206.33
PAYROLL – GOLF COURSE	11810.54	PERFORMANCE FOOD SERVICE, resale	1380.81
PAYROLL – LIBRARY	7093.44	PITNEY BOWES, postage	300.00
PAYROLL – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	220.00	PITNEY BOWES, lease	165.54
MERCHANTS STATE BANK, 941 deposit	12342.04	PLUNKETT’S, pest control	99.53
ACH FEES, payroll & utilities	30.00	PRINTED IMPRESSIONS, advertising	130.00
APPEARA, rugs	116.76	RURAL MFG, repair	29.34
AVERA OCCUPATIONAL, DOT testing	108.50	SAARIE AUTO BODY, repair	1022.74
BANYON DATA SYSTEMS, annual support	3600.00	SANITATION PRODUCTS, repair	2279.11
BARNES & NOBLE, library books	105.53	SD DEPT OF HEALTH, testing	256.00
B-Y WATER, water purchase	6319.95	SD DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, license renew	88.00
B-Y WATER INTEREST	3168.00	SD DEPT OF REVENUE, sales tax	2759.92
C & B OPERATIONS, repair	2052.97	SDGA, membership	25.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICES, supplies	908.41	SDML, annual dues	1574.27
CHS, fuel	1899.23	SECOND CENTURY PRINTING, publishing	323.81
CITY OF FREEMAN, utilities	44.00	SIoux INTERNATIONAL, repair	436.35
CITY OF MITCHELL LANDFILL, garbage fees	3744.48	SOUTHEASTERN ELECTRIC, electric	2927.38
CMC EXCAVATION, repair	6494.09	SPECIALTY AUTOMOTIVE, repair	212.64
CORE & MAIN, annual support	16858.20	SQUARE, monthly subscription	35.00

DOUBLE H PAVING, asphalt	161078.92	STAN HOUSTON CO, rental	600.00
EDWARDS TREE SERVICE, tree trimming	1375.00	STERN OIL COMPANY, fuel	1344.70
FINK LAW OFFICE, legal	165.58	TOTAL STOP, fuel	2604.77
FIRST NET, police cell phone	107.06	TWISTED METAL GARAGE, repair	125.00
FREEMAN SHOPPING CENTER, resale	1150.41	VAN DIEST SUPPLY, mosquito spray	2041.88
GOLDEN WEST, telephone service	1316.67		
		VOUCHERS	262047.90
		SALARIES	67083.98
		TOTAL VOUCHERS & SALARIES	329131.88

Financial Report

Tjaden moved to approve the financial report as presented. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Banking Access

Saarie moved to approve the following banking access levels for the City of Freeman. E. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Mayor – signer, balance inquiry and statements

President – signer

Finance Officer – signer, balance inquiry, statements, internet banking access, initiate ACH files

Administrative Assistant – signer, initiate ACH files

Retirements

Gering moved to acknowledge the retirements of John Butkus effective November 1, 2023 and Carol Eisenbeis effective December 29, 2023. E. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

The council thanked John and Carol for their years of service.

Schoenwald moved to advertise for a development & marketing coordinator. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

E. Waltner moved to advertise for a greenskeeper for the golf course. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Copier Purchase

S. Waltner moved to purchase a new Toshiba copier in the amount of \$3798.45 for City Hall and include the maintenance agreement with A & B Business Solutions. Saarie seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Conference Request Form

Saarie moved to approve the conference request form as presented. Tjaden seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye. This new form will be added to the personnel handbook documents.

Sewer Rates

Edelman presented 2 requests to reduce sewer rates for October due to lawn watering. Saarie moved to adjust the sewer rate for Peg Waltner to \$16.00 and Priscilla Hofer to \$93.10 based on their winter average due to lawn watering in October. Schoenwald seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

1st Reading Ordinance 2023-07 – Water Rates

Council gave 1st reading to Ordinance 2023-07 to amend the water rates ordinance.

1st Reading Ordinance 2023-08 – Supplemental Budget

Council gave 1st reading to Ordinance 2023-08 to supplement the street, police, fire, golf, library, economic development, debt service departments and water fund.

Alcohol License Renewals

Saarie moved to approve the off-sale liquor license for Freeman Shopping Center, the on-sale/off-sale wine license for Dollar General, the on-sale liquor license for Hootz, the off-sale liquor license for Hootz, the off-sale liquor license for Casey's and the on-sale liquor license for Valley View Golf Course for 2024.

E. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Other Business

Tjaden: Asked about the definition of a front yard. He suggested that the fence ordinance be changed to allow a conditional use or variance.

Schoenwald: Asked about the sign project completion process. Walters stated that some signs could be consolidated once the State inspector says the project is complete. Asked the police chief to address the residents on his videos regarding the no U-turn signs on Main Street.

S. Waltner: Informed the group that the rubble site shed that was ordered is not available, so another shed will be ordered and delivered. He asked if power should be run to put heat and electricity in the shed.

E. Waltner: Advised that the library will be changing the hours starting in 2024 to 10 am to 5:30 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 am to 7 pm Thursday and 10 am to 1 pm Saturday. They will also reduce the drivers license renewals to once a month due to decreased appointments. She stated that the golf course is continuing to work to keep expenses down.

Saarie: Informed the council that the sidewalks that need repair from the Main Street project will not get fixed until next summer. Updated the group on the salt containment for the street department, cement blocks will be used this winter and a roof will need to be added next summer.

Walters: Updated the council on the lagoon repair process. Due to the colder temps, the remaining work will need to be completed next year.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Freeman City Council will take place on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

Executive Session

S. Waltner moved to go into Executive Session at 7:41 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) personnel and SDCL 1-25-2(4) contract negotiation. Saarie seconded the motion. All votes aye.

S. Waltner declared out of executive session at 8:05 pm.

Adjournment

Tjaden moved to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Saarie seconded motion. All votes aye.