

Council Minutes
Regular Session
Tuesday, February 20, 2024

The Freeman City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm at City Hall in Freeman. Council president Blaine Saarie called the meeting to order and the following members were present: Charles Gering, Blaine Saarie, Elizabeth Waltner and Steve Waltner. Also attending were Finance Officer Lisa Edelman, Jay Slevin, Duane Walters, Josh Andersen and Jesse Tschetter.

Minutes

S. Waltner moved to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2024 regular meeting as presented. Gering seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Vouchers

E. Waltner moved to approve the vouchers listed below. S. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

A & B BUSINES, copy fees	26.56	OFFICE ALLY, monthly subscription	35.00
AFLAC, employee insurance	529.94	RDO EQUIPMENT, repair	490.83
BRADEN STORMS, water dep refund	138.20	SPECIALTY AUTOMOTIVE, maintenance	92.51
CAMERON FITZGERALD, water dep refund	4.66	SD DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, license renew	159.00
CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, copy fees	83.97	SD RETIREMENT	5339.92
CODY FRANSEN, consulting	112.50	TOTAL STOP, fuel	2155.90
FREEMAN LUMBER, supplies	394.82	US BANK TRUST, lagoon loan	16668.22
KANSAS PAYMENT CENTER, garnishment	338.76	WELLMARK, health insurance	14289.98
		VOUCHER TOTAL	40860.77

Fire Department Annual Report

Fire Chief Josh Andersen presented the fire department annual report to the council. He informed the council that there are 33 fire fighters on the roster. He asked the city council to be thinking about a replacement for the city truck. E. Waltner moved to accept the fire department roster for insurance purposes. S. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Ambulance Annual Report

The ambulance annual report was presented to the council. Ambulance Chief Matt Rigo was not able to attend the meeting due to an ambulance call. E. Waltner moved to accept the ambulance department roster for insurance purposes. S. Waltner seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Annual Audit

S. Waltner moved to hire Schoenfish & Co. to do the annual audit not to exceed \$11,500.00. E. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Advertise for Seasonal Staff

S. Waltner moved to advertise for pool manager, pool workers, clubhouse workers and seasonal workers for the 2024 summer. E. Waltner seconded the motion. All votes aye.

Travel Request

Jesse Tschetter presented a request to attend the South Dakota turfgrass seminar March 4-6, 2024. He informed the group that the registration would be free since he was a student within the last year. S. Waltner moved to approve the travel request for Jesse Tschetter to attend the SD turfgrass seminar March 4-6, 2024 in Sioux Falls using a city vehicle. E. Waltner seconded the motion. Roll call: all votes aye.

Other Business

Gering: Informed the group that Cummins Sales will be doing annual maintenance at the lagoon.

S. Waltner: Stated that the community center has no WIFI due to a controller not working. They are looking into options to get it fixed.

Saarie: Updated the council on the police certification beginning in March. He would like to see the police truck stored in a garage during the training. Asked about applying for a grant for a bike/walking path along Cedar Street.

Walters: Updated the council on the community center heating issues. A technician from Tessier's was in Freeman and fixed the furnaces. They also looked at the heat in the fitness center and stated that the furnace is doing exactly what it is supposed to do, but gave some options to help circulate the heat better. Informed the group that Rupp and Broders both passed their wastewater collection I exam.

Slevin: Informed the council that Hutchinson County will no longer be transporting arrests for the City of Freeman.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Freeman City Council will take place on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Executive Session

S. Waltner moved to go into Executive Session at 7:12 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) personnel and SDCL 1-25-2(4) contract negotiation. E. Waltner seconded the motion. All votes aye.

S. Waltner declared out of executive session at 8:09 pm.

Adjournment

Gering moved to adjourn at 8:11 pm. Saarie seconded motion. All votes aye.

Lisa Edelman, Finance Officer

Blaine Saarie, President