**City of Allison Regular Council Meeting**

**Monday, January 22nd, 2024**

Regular Meeting:

Mayor Henrichs opened the regular meeting of the Allison City Council at 5:15 p.m. The council members present were Bangasser, Galey, Henning, Heuer, Stirling. Also present: Trent Stirling, Coby Bangasser, Chris Graser, Dan and Aimee Deuell, City Engineer Zeb Stanbrough, Cassidy Courtney, City Engineer Jim Sweeney, Felicia Schrage, and Nicholas Vassios. Stirling made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Bangasser. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Open Forum:

City Engineer, Jim Sweeney, came and discussed the test scores that came back on the Lagoon project’s concrete with the Council. The test scores are looking good, and everything has been meeting the 28-day strength that is necessary. Another issue that has come up with the Lagoon Project is that Bacon Construction put mortar on when it was too cold. At this time, the engineer and Boomerang are looking into this and what will be done. It looks like the city will receive a discount due to this error and that Boomerang will be taking over the concrete job versus using a subcontractor.

 There were also two change orders that came through that Jim discussed with Council as they were not in time for the agenda. The first change order is in the amount of $3,701.97 and is for a valve replacement between the two lagoons. Jim commented that this was a fair price and did not see any issues with this. The second change order that came in was for a clean out for the Lagoon which would help get rid of blockage and allow for a jetter to get down the line for cleaning. The amount of this change order was $12,649.53. Since the change orders did not make it in time for the agenda, they will both be on the agenda at the next meeting for approval.

Public Works Director, Trent Stirling, presented a water loss report to the Council for review. The report indicates that there is a 2,000,000-gallon water loss. Trent stated that the report has been run after the fix that was done at Allan’s and that they check their meters monthly to help ensure that they are on track, and any issues that may arise would be caught right away. There have been a couple of main breaks which have contributed to the issue, however, there is still more water loss that is not accounted for. The Council talked about looking into new residential water meters that could be digitally read and updated to our software system to ensure that any leaks after the water meter are detected and that manual reading errors are at a minimum to see if this helps the issue. Pricing for the new water meters will be gathered, presented, and reviewed for consideration in the upcoming budget.

Deputy Clerk, Chris Graser, presented the water shut off list to the Council for review. There were seven shut offs reported that would be given to Public Works on Tuesday Morning (01/23/2024). She also gave an update regarding Allan’s bill and stated that they paid off their additional balance this month and are back on track.

Consent Agenda:

Motion by Stirling with a second by Bangasser to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approve Minutes from the meeting held on 01/08/2024.

Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

New Business:

The Council provided an update to Dan and Aimee Deuell regarding the lot that they are interested in, in the industrial park to ensure that everyone is on the same page. City Clerk, Alexis Wiegmann, is working with the City’s financial advisor to get TIF in the industrial Park which would include the lot that Deuell’s are interested in. One change that was requested is the amount of land as the city would like to keep about half an acre in the back part of the lot for access to water and electricity. Once Public Works goes out and flags this, the land will be able to be surveyed for an exact amount. Dan and Aimee Deuell are still wanting the lot and are looking to start building middle to late Summer which would include a 64x104 shop, 16ft lean tube off of the side of the shop, and an office addition.

The City Council continued their discussion regarding what can be offered to small businesses in Allison. They made the decision to budget $10,000 under economic development in the budget, that would start on July 1 of each year. $10,000 is what will be available each year for small businesses and will be considered first come first serve each fiscal year. The $10,000 would be an option that would allow small businesses to come in and request an amount up to the $10,000 and agreed on as a forgivable loan with stipulations in place, more is to be discussed with this soon. There will also be an application made up that those who are interested in this would need to fill out and come to a Council meeting to present their business plan. This is not completed at this time and is still in the works for the next budget year. The Council will continue to work with the City Attorney to draw up a contract that includes the terms and conditions that would need to be followed.

Motion by Heuer with a second by Galey to approve budgeting $10,000 under economic development in next year’s budget, and to have City Clerk, Alexis Wiegmann, work with the City Attorney, Bruce Toenjes, on a contract for economic development. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Public Works presented prices for wire welders to the Council. The welders that were looked into included brands such as Miller and Forney. The pricing for the wire welders ranged from $1,100 - $1,300. Going with the Forney brand would allow for interchangeable parts whereas Miller would not.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Galey to approve Public Works purchasing a Forney wire welder in the amount of $1,100 with a cart for an additional $150. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Public Works Director, Trent Stirling discussed with Council that a new tank will be needed for the water shed as the one that they have now is starting to crack and leak. The current tank that they have is gravity fed, and the new one that they are looking at would eliminate gravity fed as it would be ran by a pump. The new tank would be around $1,600 which includes the installation.

Motion by Heuer with a second by Striling to approve Public Works purchasing a new tank for the water shed. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The action to discuss how the City would like to handle the time frame of letters being sent in accordance with the ordinances was tabled.

Motion by Henning with a second by Stirling to approve Resolution #24-1.08 – Resolution to approve paying pay app #4 in the amount of $654,562.64. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Heuer to approve Resolution #24-1.09 – Resolution approving the final pay request from Blacktop Services for the 2023 Street Project in the amount of $29,785.15. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Old Business:

No action was discussed at this time.

Adjournment:

Motion by Bangasser with a second by Heuer to adjourn at 6:43 p.m. Ayes: All. Nays: None.

Motion carried.

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Scot Henrichs – Mayor

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Attest: Alexis Wiegmann – City Clerk