

MINUTES OF THE AKELEY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD AT AKELEY CITY HALL 6:00PM, JULY 10TH, 2024

The Akeley City Council met in a regular meeting Wednesday, July 10th, 2024. Mayor Brian Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Council members present: Brian Hitchcock, Dan Riggs, Dale Nelson, Billy Krotzer, and Bobbie Wosika

Council members absent:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Council and attending audience.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from June 17th, 2024, Regular Meeting
- Treasurer's Report for June
- Total disbursements including all automatic payments equaling \$162,412.57. Check numbers #22234 - #22310. Total receipts including all automatic deposits equaling \$143,087.44.
- Administration Finance Report for June
- June Permits Issued – 1
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

City Hall – Kristi Kath

- Jana Elavsky Lung did not attend. She had some questions but did not show up.
- Discussion on Hubbard County Variance Permit for parcel number 01.52.001000. It is in Akeley Township, but the council can choose to oppose it, or they can decide for no action.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to take no action, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Kristi discusses monies from HRA-SCDP Grant for the Jerry Joy property. She states that this is the final year for the payback, but his property was sold. The final amount due was \$3,880.00. Kristi states that she received those funds from the payout of the closing and checked into things with DEED. These funds are considered public funds. She suggests that the funds be given to the community projects bathroom fund.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve moving the \$3,880.00 to community project funds, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**
- Resolution 13-2024 is a resolution accepting the donation for community projects in the amount of \$40.00 from Peg Davies.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve resolution 13-2024, seconded by Dale Nelson, passed.**

Police Department – Jimmy Hansen

- Skylar Fynboh discussed concerns that he has about the Akeley Police Department. The council will look into his concerns and possible ways to improve the Police Department.
- Jimmy states that Paul Bunyan Days had one of the best years with people attending and with zero incidents.

Liquor Store - Lacey Hitchcock

- Lacey states that people have asked her if she is going to be selling THC drinks. She wants to know if the council would be okay with her bringing in THC drinks into off-sale. The council states that if it is legal to buy it that they would not be opposed to it. Kristi will have to look into the insurance side of it.

- The Muni needs a new garbage can outside. They are expensive but she would like to get a heavier duty one that won't blow away or be easy enough for someone to steal or break. She found one that will cost \$747.48. It is a steal slotted garbage can.
- **Motion by Bobbie Wosika to approve Lacey purchasing a new garbage can in the amount of \$747.48 from Local Industrial, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**

Parks - Billy Krotzer

- Dan Riggs discusses purchasing custom covers for the golf cart and Kubota at the campground to protect them during storms. It could cost up to \$1,500.00.
- **Motion by Dan Riggs to approve purchasing covers for the golf cart and Kubota not to exceed \$1,500.00 to come from the park funds, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.**

Water/Sewer/Maintenance Report-Reid Watson/Mike Hubner

- Discussion on the fine for water meter non-compliance and new water meters that were not installed. Thirty-one have not been installed yet with six of those who have not contacted City Hall. Three are apartment buildings, but they cannot legally be shut off. The properties that are not being cooperative and communicating will be fined if they do not get in contact with Kella.
- **Motion by Brian Hitchcock to fine the ones that have not or will not cooperate and to give the properties who are working with the city a month to get a new meter and will be revisited at the next council meeting, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.**
- Discussion on monies for water meters from CD. The invoice from DSG needs to be paid by July 25th, 2024. The amount remaining after applying the ARPA funds is \$41,720.97. The council has already approved for the rest of the funds to come from CD 10100678. This is just an FYI.

East Hubbard County Fire District –Dan Riggs/Bobbie Wosika

- Report on June minutes.

Old Business

- Zach Thoma from Moore Engineering discusses the trailhead project. Dave did a map and sketch for flooding behind the museum. County will need to approve pay application number three.
- Zach then discusses a grant for wastewater infrastructure upgrades. The grant covers up to 90% of construction, up to \$1.5 million. The city could be looking at a \$500,000.00 project at the ponds, which would be a \$50,000.00 match from the city not including design engineering.
- Mike discusses generators at the lift stations. The main lift station is a phase three and would need a permanent generator and the other lift stations are single phase and could have a portable generator that could be brought to each lift station.
- Kristi states that the city received \$100,000 from the Blandin Foundation. The grant that was applied for was for \$150,000.00 and the city was granted \$100,000.00. It must be used only for the bathroom project.
- Bobbie asks Reid to look into the overgrown trees at the stop sign at the intersection of Mill Street and Pleasant Ave NE.

New Business

Public Forum

- Chuck Andres asks who the city will allow to use the kiosks at the trailhead connection. It is dictated by the DNR but that no material that would be promoting businesses can be posted. It is more so for informational material or for notice of community events.

Motion by Billy Krotzer to close meeting for employee evaluations at 7:17pm, seconded by Dan Riggs, passed.

The meeting reopened at 8:23pm.

Motion by Dan Riggs to adjourn meeting at 8:24pm, seconded by Billy Krotzer, passed.

**Respectfully Submitted by,
Michaella Dunham Deputy Clerk**