

Minutes of the Cando City Council

The following is subject to the City Council's review and revision

The Cando City Council met Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 7:15 pm at the Towner County Courthouse. Councilors Holien, Halverson, Klingenberg, Scott, Bjornstad, and Olson were present, with Mayor Bjornstad presiding.

Motion by Councilor Bjornstad was seconded by Councilor Olson to approve the agenda. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Motion by Councilor Olson was seconded by Councilor Holien to approve the minutes from previous meeting. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Visitors and Delegations: Sally Hunt and Jo Staus from the Audi and Arts Council were present to discuss maintenance issues in the Audi. One large issue is the chair lift. It isn't working, and the company doesn't exist anymore. Mark Brehm looked at it and thinks it might just need new batteries. Normal maintenance isn't being taken care of in a timely manner. The Public Works Committee Head and City Rep on Audi/Arts Council Board will assist in delegating work orders appropriately. Doug Howard was present to discuss snow removal at the bowling alley. The south side of the building ends up catching snow when the City cleans the street, blocking any walkway or parking by the bowling alley. Council agreed the City would be responsible for removing this snow to keep that area by the bowling alley clear of snow.

Old Business: The sewer project committee recommended to continue using Moore Engineering for services related to the upcoming sewer project. A Letter of Intent was signed to accept the USACE funding. The derelict properties were discussed. Motion by Councilor Olson was seconded by Councilor Klingenberg to give the owners of 220 4th Ave until August 15 to have a contractor or inspector analyze the repair needs and report back to the Council. All voted aye, motion passed. The owner of 701 5th St has not picked up his registered letter pertaining to demolition of the property. Council approved serving him papers by the Towner County Sheriff's Office. The owner of 1021 6th Ave does not agree there is a mold issue, and has agreed to close the windows so there is not a safety risk. For the time being, no further action will be taken by the Council. There has been complaints of rodent activity on and near 301 14th St. A letter will be sent requesting the owner to remedy it. More information from the public health department has been requested on how to proceed. The current insurance coverage for the Audi, City Hall, and Fire Hall was discussed. Motion by Councilor Olson was seconded by Councilor Bjornstad to increase the NDIRF coverage to actual replacement costs for the Audi, City Hall, and Fire Hall at an added cost of \$1821. All voted aye, and motion passed. The requested variance to the forestry ordinance for 118 3rd Ave was discussed. Council agreed to allow 1 tree closer to the driveway, not the original 2 requested. Discussion was had on the trees purchased by the City Forester and the care required to care for them. Homeowners requesting trees from the shade tree committee may need to take on some of the care and watering after they have been planted. Discussion was had on the request to vacate the north end of 5th Ave. Planning and Zoning will meet to discuss. The other property issues on 1st street were mentioned, with the assumption that the out of town property owner is encroaching on others' property. A building permit issued to Thomas Gratton was discussed, as a resident is questioning the lot measurement. Building Inspector Childs will re measure.

New Business: The Community Development Grant recipients for Quarter 2 were acknowledged. An error was found within the payroll system that was miscalculating an employee's vacation. Bruce Ford's vacation is accruing as if he had continued full time employment from 2013 until now. Council approved the change to the accrual to reflect total years of service, honoring 6 years of service, although it is not consecutive years. Discussion was had on what is considered full time for public works. Council determined Scott Gable and Bruce Ford are classified as full time at 40 hours. If they do not make the 40 hour requirement, they must take vacation hours to make 40 hours paid. More discussion was had pertaining to overtime, comp time, work hours, workforce needs, and how all of that relates to the budget. The budget committee will need to look into if the budget will allow for 3 full time employees in public works. Legacy's quote for summer fill propane was discussed with more info at the next meeting.

Public Works update was given by Supervisor Gable. Tree work and street cold patching is being completed. Trees need to be trimmed around stop signs and corners. Street and crack sealing will need to be done soon. Residents should be reminded to not blow grass into the street as it clogs the storm sewer system. General Committee will be added to the Agenda moving forward. The fireworks at the campground was discussed. Council determined the fireworks were considered a public event, and should have been brought to Council for approval.

Bills: Bills will be approved at the next meeting, as a few errors were noticed.

At 9:00 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by motion.

Amanda Hoover, City Auditor