

Minutes of the Cando City Council

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

The Cando City Council met Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00pm at the Towner County Courthouse, with Mayor Bjornstad presiding. Councilors Shock, Bjornstad, and Parker were present., with Councilor Gibbens participating over video call. Councilor Holien and Olson were absent.

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

Motion by Councilor Parker was seconded by Councilor Bjornstad to approve the minutes from previous meeting, all voted aye. Motion passed.

Visitors and Delegations: Cody Chilson and Greg Palmer from Dakota Natural Gas presented information on potentially bring natural gas to Cando. Several area business representatives, as well as Representative Greg Westlind were present and asked a variety of questions. A commitment will be needed in the near future from potential large users to continue the preliminary work on this project.

Old Business: The hockey arena roof was discussed, with Randy Thompson and Tony Spatola, representing the park board, requesting funding. The estimate detailed a full roof. Council discussed partial replacement. The Park Board has a grant they are applying for, and do not want to utilize that grant opportunity for the rink, since they do not own that building. If the contractor will do the worst part of the roof this year, and divide up the rest of the roof over a couple of years, the City could fund it. The Park will seek out the partial repair estimate and report back to the council. Aaron Peyerl and Reed Westlind from the Cando Fire Department were present to discuss fire department needs and request more City money assistance. The Auditor detailed the money levied on their behalf at the City level is only for electricity and insurance, and is maxed on the allowed levy. Peyerl expressed concern that the City hasn't help fund equipment for 30 years when the last truck was purchased, and the Rural Fire Department is assisting in many ways. A different truck will be needed in the near future. Discussion was had on City assistance in the form of connecting them with grant writers and engineering services. Potentially adding a fee to the water bill to help fund services like fire would have to go to a vote of the residents in June. This will be an ongoing effort with more discussions needed. The Public Works Committee met and prioritized a list of projects eligible for the ARPA funds. Motion by Councilor Bjornstad was seconded by Councilor Parker to pursue ARPA Funds for the sewer by the school as priority 1, storm sewers along Hwy 281 as priority 2, and upgraded meter reading system as priority 3. All voted aye, and motion passed. As other funding options are made available, other projects could be added, such as hydrant repair and replacement. Motion by Councilor Shock was seconded by Councilor Bjornstad to approve the bid for lift station inspections to Dakota Pump and Control. All voted aye, motion passed. Brad Muscha from Moore Engineering gave a brief update on the hospital project over the phone. The plats will be available soon for review and will have a request for annexing into the City soon. A brief status update was given on the Corday Benefit event scheduled for July 2022.

New Business: A Public Works update was given by Scott Gable. Wheels on the tri-axle truck needs to be replaced. Snow removal is going well, and hydrants are being cleared for easy access. The sander truck needs some repairs as well. Work schedule was discussed, and a committee meeting will be scheduled soon to discuss in detail.

Financial Report: The Financial Report for December 2021 was acknowledged with no concerns noted.

Bills: Motion by Councilor Shock was seconded by Councilor Parker to pay the bills. All voted aye, motion passed.

At 9:50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by motion.

Amanda Hoover
City Auditor