

Minutes of the Cando City Council

The Cando City Council met Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Towner County Courthouse. Councilors Holien, Bjornstad, Halverson, Olson, Scott, and Klingenberg were present, with Mayor Bjornstad presiding.

Motion by Councilor Bjornstad and seconded by Councilor Klingenberg to approve the agenda. All voted aye and the motion passed. Motion by Councilor Olson and seconded by Councilor Scott to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Visitors/Delegations: Les Lemke came to council to address the snow removal. He noted that in the past, resident's driveways have been getting plugged and mentioned that he used to live in Bottineau and out there they have a high gate or otherwise known as a snow gate on their equipment. He mentioned that he had been in contact with Butler about a snow gate option. Mayor Bjornstad said that the only problem is it will not work on the machine we have. He said that the city looked into this before, and the old machine does not have the hydraulics that would be needed and the wing on it that also prevents having a snow gate on it. Lemke said that he was going to do some more research and would come back to council when he has more information.

Old Business: Brad Muscha from Moore Engineering, appeared virtually to give the council an update on the Project Scope for the Sewer Project from the last meeting. He told council after viewing the footage again from Pipe Detectives, they have updated Option #5, which was the alleyway by the school. Muscha said it looks like the line can be relined and there is one spot repair that would need to be completed, and that would be about \$150,000 savings versus digging an open trench. Option #7 had been talked about previously but was not in the packet. Option #8 was a new one that was presented to council. He told council that since it will be a late summer/early fall bid, with construction in 2024, they upped the cost estimates ten percent. He went on to say that they are seeing a few projects now with the prices coming in high, so they wanted to increase the costs, so they're not surprised by it.

Council talked about wages and insurance for 2023. Councilor Halverson did some research into different insurance options and talked about the information he found out. Council decided to leave the insurance as it is for now but said it would be good to have a meeting with the Blue Cross Blue Shield representative and the city employees to learn more about the information that Councilor Halverson found out. For the wages, Councilor Olson made a motion which was seconded by Councilor Bjornstad to give the hourly employees a \$1.00 an hour increase. All voted aye and the motion passed. It was noted that the new City Auditor, Kathy Rance, would be on probation for six months.

Council talked about the zoning for the two properties that were deeded back to the city. It was noted that signed permission from the neighbors would be needed if any structures were to be built on these properties in the future, along with following all the rules in place for setbacks, etc.

New Business: Council talked about the policy when it comes to unpaid water bills. Motion by Councilor Bjornstad and seconded by Councilor Klingenberg that after 45 days delinquent on a water bill, the City Auditor will instruct the Public Works Supervisor to hang a red tag on the property indicating that payment IN FULL is required within 15 calendar days or the water will be shut off. (Minimum rates will continue to accrue) If after 15 calendar days the bill is not paid IN FULL, the water will be shut off and remain off until the time full payment is received. (Minimum rates will continue to accrue) There will be a \$50 reinstatement fee after disconnection. The bill must be paid IN FULL before the water is restored. If the full amount is paid before disconnection, the resident will receive \$25 back as a credit to their account. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Motion by Councilor Holien and seconded by Councilor Olson to approve the Amendments to the 2022 budget as recommended by the City Auditor and to pay them out of the General Fund. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Councilor Bjornstad made a motion to approve the Gaming License for the Hockey Boosters. The motion was seconded by Councilor Holien. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Public Works Supervisor Scott Gable gave an update on what the Department is up to. Gable said they are continuing to clean the roads up and that he is working on a schedule to continue switching out the older water meters with new ones. When the topic of the maintenance agreement for the Lift Stations came up, council decided to table it to the next meeting, as they wanted more information about other companies that are closer. A motion was made by Councilor Olson and seconded by Councilor Holien to buy fiberglass insulation for the shop. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Open Committee: Councilor Scott talked about the snow that gets put on the corners.

Bills: Motion to pay bills, by Councilor Olson, and seconded by Councilor Scott. All Councilors voted aye and the motion passed.

At 8:50 p.m. the meeting was adjourned by motion.

Kathy Rance, Recorder

List of Bills for January 3, 2023			
Advanced Business Method	\$ 85.05	Mitch Roerick	\$ 68.97
AE2S	\$ 28,599.44	Salaries PP#26	\$ 9,240.63
BCBSND	\$ 1,544.51	ND Child Support	\$ 114.65
Cando Chamber	\$ 2,000.00	NS After Prom Party	\$ 2,500.00
Circle Sanitation	\$ 8,553.50	NE Regional Water	\$ 8,898.78
Decorated Wearables	\$ 181.44	Standard Insurance	\$ 24.20
Demco	\$ 273.37	TC Ambulance	\$ 7,950.00
Derrick Childs	\$ 120.00	Time Clock Plus	\$ 2,360.00
FICA/MED/FED	\$ 3,342.78	Verizon	\$ 82.39
ND Tax Commissioner	\$ 370.87	UFFDA	\$ 5,000.00
Lil Cats	\$ 5,000.00		
		Total:	\$ 86,310.58