

Minutes of the Cando City Council

The Cando City Council met on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Towner County Courthouse. Councilors Bjornstad, Halverson and Scott were present, with Mayor Bjornstad presiding. Councilor Olson and Miller were absent, but Councilor Miller did call in for the decision of the City Auditor position. Councilor Klingenberg came in later.

A motion was made by Councilor Bjornstad and seconded by Councilor Scott to approve the agenda. All voted aye and the motion passed. Motion by Councilor Halverson and seconded by Councilor Scott to approve the minutes as written. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Visitors/Delegations: A resident came to the council to talk about their meter and the cost of their water bill for December. After a discussion, the council decided to put on the old meter face back on the meter to see if it was causing an issue or if there is something else going on. A delegation from the Audi Theatre appeared before the council to discuss the financials and future of the theatre. For the past couple years, it has been running a deficit, and with the current costs of bringing in a movie versus the audience turnout being on the low side, it could maybe last one more year, but that would be it. The council recommended the delegation write up an article to inform the community what is going on and see what the public response is.

Old Business: Brad Muscha from Moore Engineering appeared before council via Teams. He gave the council a brief update on the sewer project before moving on to the Drinking Water State Revolving Program (DWSRF) Loan Forgiveness Program list that Cando is on. Muscha just had a few questions for the council to answer for the report that will need to be submitted before the February 19 deadline. While working on the DWSRF report, Brad told council that he found out that the City might qualify for another loan forgiveness program for a lead line service project. He said they were working on getting more information about that. After discussing the response from the City Attorney regarding implementing a Junk Ordinance, a motion was made by Councilor Halverson and seconded by Councilor Bjornstad to adopt the Junk Ordinance from Devils Lake and amend Chapter 12 of the City Ordinance to reflect the adoption. All voted aye and the motion passed. A motion was made from Councilor Halverson and seconded by Councilor Scott to accept the bid of \$5,500 for 932 3rd Ave, with a signed contract indicating the items that must be completed by March 1, 2025. All voted aye and the motion passed. It was noted that if the bidder will not sign the contract, then the property would go to the next bidder. The council acknowledged that the conditions in the sales agreement for 320 7th have been met and instructed the Auditor to send the title to the City Attorney, so they could make up a quick claim deed. A motion was made by Councilor Bjornstad and seconded by Councilor Scott to pay an employee four hours at regular pay for Christmas and four hours at regular pay New Years. All voted aye and the motion passed. At the last meeting, a hiring committee consisting of Councilors Scott, Miller, Klingenberg and the Auditor was formed to complete the interviews for the City Auditor position. After interviewing four candidates, Councilors Scott, Miller and the Auditor (Councilor Klingenberg was unable to be present at the interviews) gave their recommendation for the position of the City Auditor. The council talked about the recommendation from the committee and then decided. A motion was made by Councilor Scott and seconded by Councilor Miller to hire Ian Knutson as the City Auditor. Voting yes in favor of this motion were Councilors Klingenberg, Scott, Miller and Bjornstad. Councilor Halverson abstained from the vote and Councilor Olson was absent. The motion was passed. A motion was made by Councilor Klingenberg and seconded by Councilor Scott to pay the former Auditor an hourly rate of \$22.05 to assist with the training and transition of the new City Auditor.

New Business: The rates from Circle Sanitation have gone up, so a motion was made by Councilor Halverson and seconded by Councilor Klingenberg to raise the residential rate up \$1 and pass on the commercial rates that Circle charges the businesses. All voted aye and the motion passed. A motion to move the city's insurance back to First State Insurance for the next three years was made by Councilor Klingenberg and seconded by Councilor Bjornstad. All voted aye and the motion passed. The Ambulance Board had inquired about the possibility of having a City Representative on their board. With the council wanting a little more information, they decided to table it to the next meeting. CC Steel sent the council a quote for providing service on three lift station pumps. The city has five lift station pumps, so they went back to CC Steel and asked if they could please provide a quote for the five lift station pumps. Council then had a discussion on the possibility of renting machinery in the future to demolish houses in town that need to be taken down.

Open Committee: Councilor Klingenberg inquired about an update on the chairlift repair that is being down at the Audi Theatre. Councilor Bjornstad mentioned that the school might be looking into other heating possibilities for the future, and Councilor Halverson had some questions about the old water wells at the water plant.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Councilor Klingenberg and seconded by Councilor Scott. All voted aye and the motion was passed.

At 9:04 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Kathy Rance, Recorder

Bills for Approval for February 6, 2024								
Salaries PP#2	\$	12,174.79	Time Clock Plus	\$	33.00	ND WSI	\$	4,975.33
FICA/MED/FED	\$	2,994.12	One Call Concepts	\$	1.30	Northern Plains	\$	5,446.07
Northeast Regional Water	\$	8,372.07	TC Auditor/Treasurer	\$	18,059.50	BCBS	\$	4,974.59
Hendrickson Electric	\$	247.70	Lane Pederson	\$	1,300.00	Salaries PP#3	\$	6,365.05
Advanced Business Methods	\$	88.81	Legacy	\$	3,131.27			
Verizon	\$	125.06	Moore Engineering	\$	2,793.12			
Visa	\$	673.12	Ironhide Equipment	\$	739.20			
Circle Sanitation	\$	16,261.30	Capital Guardian	\$	339.19			
Digital Office Center	\$	79.56	Bank of ND	\$	16,100.00			
Standard Insurance	\$	33.60	Cando Home&Hardware	\$	158.07			
Cando Lumber	\$	1,222.15	Cando Grocery	\$	45.35			
Staus Family Enterprises, LLC	\$	424.34	Home of Economy	\$	229.00			
			Total:	\$	107,386.66			