

# MINUTES of: City of Carlos Regular Council Meeting City Hall/ Office, Carlos, MN

Thursday, May 9, 2024 7:00 PM

Meeting was available to be attended in person or over Zoom.

Mayor Todd Burgess called City of Carlos Regular Council meeting to order at 7:00pm

- **Pledge of Allegiance @ 7:00 pm**
- **Roll Call** was taken: Mayor Todd Burgess, Donna Eveslage, Ashley Wildman, and James Young were present. Ronna Berghoff was absent. In attendance: City Engineer Jared Voge, Fire Chief Colten Steidl & Fireman Jacob Steidl and Clerk Lori Johnson. Also in attendance were Amanda Dahmes, Bryan Balcome and Dean Lindstrom (Lion's President).
- **Meeting Minutes from April 11th were reviewed.** Ashley Wildman made a motion to approve April Minutes with a correction on the amount of the Savings account; Donna Eveslage seconded it. Motion passed.
- **Mayor requested Petitions from the Public:**  
**Dean Lindstrom (President of Lions)**: Reported that Cooler in the Event Center needs to be replaced. Current one is *very* old (been there as long as anyone can remember), noisy, etc. They have an estimate for replacement from Central Lakes Restaurant Supply of \$3,087.03. There is a possibility of selling the old one. Also there is a small 5 gallon water heater near rest rooms that needs to be replaced. Thinking possibly one of the "on-demand" ones would work well. Do not have an estimate for that. Mayor Todd Burgess said that when he looked into getting one for his house, there were some questions about it providing enough hot water for certain tasks; especially if you turn hot water on and off during a task. Dean said they would look more into details on that. Donna Eveslage made a motion to approve the new cooler up to \$4,000 (which should cover new cord required and delivery). Ashley Wildman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor requested Petitions from the Public:

## REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

### a.) City Treasurer Report by Lori Johnson

#### MAY TREASURER REPORT

April 30 Balance City Checking Account:	\$129,231.92
April 30 Balance Savings Account at First Western:	\$367,220.27
April 30 Balance MPFA Debt Service Fund:	\$52,375.31
April 30 Bal CD#1242780: Matures 9/18/24., 5.06%	\$200,027.40
April 30 Bal CD#1237634: Matures 12/21/24, 5.25%	\$103,403.42
April 30 Balance Bremer Savings Account	\$476,665.35
Total City of Carlos Assets as of April 30:	\$1,278,696.61

Receipts for April totaled: \$49,668.17 Disbursements for April: \$35,906.88

Claims #2588 - #2606 for month of May total: \$9,081.13

Donna Eveslage noted a correction, Clerk Lori said that Teresa had been in yesterday and they spoke about that, and the correction had been made. Donna also mentioned the balance of the Fire Department CD should be zeroed out – Lori said that she and Teresa had also spoken about that and Clerk needed to work with Fire Department to figure out exactly how that should be handled. Donna Eveslage made a motion to approve May Claims and checks written; Ashley Wildman seconded it. Motion passed.

5/9/24 JACKIE DOKKEN-PAYROLL 11698 \$382.29

### CLAIMS 2588 -2606 MAY 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Claim#</u>	<u>Check#</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5/9/24	Douglas Cty Sheriff	2588	11699	\$901.20
5/9/24	Alex Rubbish	2589	11700	\$223.77
5/9/24	D&D Mfg	2590	11701	\$235.00
5/9/24	Brothers Market	2591	11702	\$280.11
5/9/24	Jim & Judy's	2592	11703	\$220.23
5/9/24	Gopher State One Call	2593	11704	\$20.25

5/9/24	ACE	2594	11705	\$250.57
5/9/24	Thornton, Dolan, Bowen	2595	11706	\$160.00
5/9/24	Douglas Cty Assessor	2596	11707	\$2,320.00
5/9/24	Bolten & Menk	2597	11708	\$271.50
5/9/24	MRWA	2598	11709	\$420.00
5/9/24	RMB	2599	11710	\$20.00
5/9/24	Douglas Cty Landfill	2600	11711	\$409.50
5/9/24	Image Auto Sales	2601	11712	\$350.00
5/9/24	MN Fire Cert. Board	2602	11713	\$504.00
5/9/24	Maria Doucette	2603	11714	\$434.00
5/9/24	North Central International, LLC	2604	11715	\$1,335.50
5/9/24	I.U.O.E.	2605	11716	\$332.50
5/9/24	Pope Douglas Solid Waste	2606	11717	<u>\$393.00</u>
				\$9,081.13

**b.) Engineer Report, Jared Voge:**

- Have been going through all the records that they have to work with the ESRI for the Lead Service Line Inventory/GIS Project; he will work with Jeff Gunderson to obtain the information he is missing. Ultimately what the MDH wants is to identify the material on the street side of curb stop and what is in the home. Possibly might have to send out a mailing to all residents to request a picture from inside their home of the connection on their side.
- Clerk Lori noted that she had contacted the State of MN requesting more information on the Greater MN Housing Infrastructure Grant Program. Have not heard anything back yet.

- c.) Public Works Report:** Jeff Gunderson not in attendance. Clerk reported that Jeff was farming and had been quite busy. The Clean -Up day resulted in the plow truck filled 2 times overflowing and a full dumpster, so that was very successful. He also said in the last month he had flushed all fire hydrants, done an annual maintenance thing to water tower, put up a lot of new flags. Jeff asked if I could relay the request to have the brush pile cleaned up and pushed to center again. Mayor Todd said he had been out to brush pile lately and he agreed it was a mess and suggested that a mailing to tell residents that they must respect rules or it would have to be shut down. Fire Chief Colton suggested more signage would help. Colton also said he would contact someone to get the pile pushed back. Donna Eveslage suggested that Clerk buy some signs to be put up. There was also more discussion about putting up motion activated game camera. Council decided for now, set up signs and discuss the cameras at a later time.

CLASEN & SCHIESSL, CPAs, LTD attended meeting via Zoom. They gave their Presentation of 2023 Audit Report. Jordan White and Susan Schiessl were the ones who worked on our Audit. Everyone agreed they did a great job. Their report did mention they would like to see a schedule for pay back of the inter-fund loan from the sewer fund to water fund. Clerk Lori said she would set something up to satisfy that criteria. Copy of the full Audit Report will be available of Carlos City webpage.

**d.) Carlos Clerk Report:**

- Meters read 5/1/24. The work we did with Chad and consulting with the Billing Software company paid off!! We only had 2 residents that we had to go manually take readings. We will continue to investigate those. Water bills were done and sent May 6th. Late Fees this month were \$435.46. On April 16th, 12 Shut Off letters were sent out. At this time there has been one water shut off. There are 3 accounts I was able to get signed up for auto-pay and those also promised to make payments mid-month to get caught up. The one account that was shut off we have not been able to reach, and the neighbors said there doesn't seem to be anyone living there. I will continue to monitor that situation. There is one resident that is in the process of seeking assistance from local charitable organizations. I will also continue to monitor this situation. (Lions' president Dean Lindstrom said the Lions may be able to help).
- Rose City Sign has repaired one of the stadium lights. They plan to do one more next Friday.
- Teresa came in yesterday with some questions on the reconciliation, primarily about CDs that were closed out and no longer have a balance. Her recommendation was that those entire lines be removed. It made sense to me, so that's what I did. We are going to try to get the Fire Department to open their own regular savings account, so their funds are separated from the general checking.

- I was required to file a report regarding our ARP funds. I was informed that we only have until the end of 2024 to use those funds or we will lose them. We have \$46,012.81 in the ARP account. There is also currently \$8,743 left in the MN Safety Grant – However I have not received the bill for the Firemen’s boots yet.
- There are 2 Invoices from XS Consulting that I object to, and I wanted to get Council’s opinion on. When I was getting things ready for when I would be gone on vacation, including the April meeting, I was trying to get the Zoom meeting scheduled for later rather than the day of meeting which is what I normally do. I went to Zoom website and could not find directions for how to do this, then I tried to call an 800 number to Zoom – and a computer looked up our account number and then said our account did not qualify for speaking to a live person. After that I called XS Consulting to ask for assistance. They did not know how to schedule the meeting, either. The technician called in 2 other technicians and together the three of them bumbled around all afternoon and never could figure it out. The Invoice I am absolutely protesting to was for that afternoon where no solution was found and they wasted my whole afternoon -# 32799 for \$547.50!!! The other Invoice I question is #32859 for \$258.22 which was from the day of the meeting that they sent someone out to help Jackie get the meeting set up. I do not think that should have taken 2 guys and an hour and 45 minutes including drive time at a rate of \$105 per hour PLUS mileage. This should have only taken one person less than 1 hour at the \$85/hour rate. Council agreed with me and said that I should contact Tom Fischer and protest these invoices. Council Person Ashley Wildman said she might be able to help me with the Zoom issues.
- I will be going with sisters to visit 97 year old Aunt in Idaho for her Birthday May 19<sup>th</sup>. I will be out of the office Tuesday May 21, back at work May 22.

**e.) Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Colten Steidl**

CARLOS FIRE DEPT. CALL LOG MARCH 2024						
	<u>City of Carlos</u>	<u>Belle River</u>	<u>Carlos Township</u>	<u>Alex Township</u>	<u>Mutual Aid</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
<b>MEDICAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>FIRE RESCUE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

- Councilperson Ashley Wildman asked Fire Chief Colten if they always run the sirens when they have a call. Colten. He answered that they always have lights flashing, but the siren depends on circumstances: if road does not have any traffic or pedestrians, they might not run the siren.
- Clerk asked how soon we would get the bill for the new Fire Boots. Colten said they would actually be ordered within the next week and we should have an invoice by the next meeting. The cost should be around \$5,000 and should be taken out of the MN Safety Grant.

**f.) Ball Park Committee Report:** Field is starting to be used for games.

**g.) Sheriff Department Log:** Looks good.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. NEW FIRE HALL UPDATE:** Mayor Todd reported that he had tried to contact Attorney Klecker this morning and was not able to reach him. Jerry from Belle River township who was in attendance suggested that they make an appointment to talk to Klecker to get his attention. Everyone agreed that was a good idea.
- B. UPDATE “NUISANCE PROPERTIES”** Committee Member Donna Eveslage reported: she has nothing to report at this time; all letters that were sent out seem to be being complied with.
- C. NEW BUILDING INSPECTOR:** Since the Rum River Company responded back that they are not available to serve our city because it is out of their jurisdiction, Clerk was wondering if she should go ahead and send a request through LMC. Mayor and Council agreed that would be a good idea now. Council person James Young said he knew of a possibility of a Building Inspector in the Sauk Centre area. Mayor Todd said that sounded good and to get that info to Clerk so she can contact them.

**D. CLAIM FOR VEHICLE REPAIR:** Council discussed that going forward we should make it a policy to ALWAYS get a police report, no matter how minor it seems. They said we should look into Insurance to find out what our deductible is and whether it would be worth it send in the claim. If not, we should just pay it.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**A. DISCUSS and APPROVE SPECTRUM FIBER FOR OFFICE:** Clerk reported that we have the Spectrum installed at the Fire Hall, Water Treatment Building and the Event Center. There were some issues at first with getting the telephone number at the Event Center transported to Spectrum, but they seem to have that worked out now. Our current price of phone with Century Link is \$155 per month and would be \$19.99 with Spectrum. We now have Internet through Gardonville for free as an added perk for letting them put up their equipment on our water tower. The price for Internet through Spectrum would be \$49.99 as a promotion for the first year and after that the normal rate is \$79.99 per month, and additionally there is a \$7.99 charge for Wi-Fi that would remain the same. They are also offering free Installation as a promotion. The Spectrum Internet speed is 300Mbps compared to Gardonville's 12Mbps. There was also a promotion for a mobile phone service for a year for free. Only stipulation would be that his phone would have to be upgraded, which they said they could provide for us for \$4 per month. Donna Eveslage made a motion to go ahead and update our Internet and Phone Service to Spectrum; James Young seconded it. Motion carried.

## **MISCELLANEOUS:**

- There was a question about a message from someone trying to decide if she should move into Carlos, depending on our Ordinances regarding her pet duck. Clerk said she had sent her a message back stating our Ordinances pertaining to chickens and other farm animals- not allowed in Carlos. Clerk had told her if she wanted to pursue it further (because this was a pet) she should come to meeting and approach the Council. Did not hear from her again. Council agreed that ducks would be considered farm animals and would not be allowed.
- Donna Eveslage said she had gotten a message from Deputy Clerk Jackie Dokken: wondering if there is any Ordinance with criteria for becoming an elected official regarding that they must abide by all City Ordinances, and if they do not they would be not be eligible to run for Council or Mayor. Clerk stated that MN Secretary of State has certain rules posted on their website (cannot be a felon, have to be of certain age, etc.), but the Carlos Ordinances have nothing posted as to these requirements. Donna Eveslage said she would forward this message to all Council and we could discuss it next meeting in Old Business.

## **REMINDERS of UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Carlos Dayz in July

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ashley Wildman made a motion to close the meeting to discuss Union Contract; Donna Eveslage seconded it. Motion passed. Meeting was closed at 8:22pm



Lori D. Johnson, City of Carlos Clerk/Treasurer