

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Bird Island City Council
February 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM**

Council members present: Sander, Leach, Schneider, Lingl, Prokosch

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Sander at 7:00 PM.

A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to authorize payment of the claims and to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting. Passed unanimously.

- AARP Age-Friendly Membership** Megan Redman presented the Council with a certificate for joining The AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities.
- Law Enforcement** Deputy Jordan Larsen was unable to attend the meeting.
- Hazardous Buildings** Administrator Ahl will apply for a blight removal grant through the Renville County HRA/EDA to help with the cost to raze 1060 Highway Avenue. Electric and gas has been disconnected from the structure. The judge ruled to raze the building at 750 Ash Avenue and Ahl will be soliciting for bids for this location soon.
- Resolution 1-24 Election Judges** A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve Resolution 1-24, to approve the following people as Election Judges for 2024: Dawn Soukup, Tracey Ahl, Lisa Engelmann, Amy Weis, Carol Senkyr, Trisha Lingl, and Eugene Workman. Passed unanimously.
- Water Looping Project** Matt Miller, Bolton & Menk, Inc. was present to discuss the updated project costs for the looping project. Plans and specs will be completed and certified by the end of March. Ranchwood would be included as a bid alternate with the watermain looping project. Council discussed what parts of the project could be assessed per the City's current policy. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to approve Resolution 2-24 receiving report and calling hearing on improvement (2024-2025 Street & Utility Improvements) with a public hearing to be held at 6:30 PM on March 11, 2024 with Ranchwood as an alternate in the bidding process. Passed unanimously. Lead service line inventory information has been sent to the Department of Health. Bolton and Menk will hopefully have the work order by the end of the month. Phosphorus management plan update has been started with the help of Travis Selby at Bolton and Menk. Dave has a lot of stuff ready to go based on what has been done in prior years. Alternatives on how to get a water line from Cherry Avenue to splash pad site prior to the looping project being done. A separate permit application would have to be submitted to MDH to have that work done by others prior to the PFA project. The council was worried about jeopardizing the funding for the looping project. City Staff and Matt Miller will contact Kathie Barrett from the PFA to get clarification on if this could work and how it may affect our current PFA project. If the okay is received from Kathie to do the separate permits, Council would feel more comfortable about doing the multiple permits.
- Public Works Update** Woelfel reported the Chlorine leak has been found, repaired, and residuals are back to normal. Shop work on equipment is being done due to the warm weather. Tree trimming on boulevards is being planned. The Council reviewed bids to replace the white pickup truck and whether a snow plow option should be considered. A motion was made by Lingl to purchase the F150 for \$42,193. Motion failed for lack of a second. After more discussion a motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Leach to purchase a Ford F250 with extended cab including the option to be able to put a plow on it for \$47,748. All voted in favor except Lingl. Motion passed.

2024 Farm Contract	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to approve a five-year farm contract with the O'Halloran Brothers for the purpose of planting alfalfa on the land. Passed unanimously.
Fire Department	Chief John Thompson was present to discuss an unapproved purchase of 7 new sets of full turn-out gear. One set of turn-out gear is roughly \$4000. A rotation for gear replacement will be implemented for future purchases. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to pay for 4 sets of turn-out gear with the remaining 3 sets to be paid for by the Fire Relief Association. Passed unanimously. The delayed 2023 Fire State Aid was discussed. A late filing fee of \$50 will be donated by Chief Thompson.
Engineering RFP	Five Engineering Request for Proposals (RFP) were received and given to the Council in their meeting packets. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Prokosch to use the scoring sheet titled "City Engineer RFP Review Worksheet" to rate the RFPs to determine the best two-three proposals for an interview. Passed unanimously. The Council, Ahl, and Woelfel will score the proposals before the next regular meeting. Interviews will be conducted with the top two or three proposals.
One Day On-Sale Liquor License	A motion was made by Schneider and seconded by Leach to approve a 1 Day On-Sale Liquor License for the Bird Island Lions Club for April 21, 2024 Pool Tournament at Tricia's Pelican Pub. Passed unanimously.
LMCIT Liability Coverage	Each year before insurance renewal, the City needs to officially decide whether or not to waive the statutory tort liability limits. If not waived, a claimant could recover no more than \$500,000. A motion was made by Prokosch and seconded by Leach to waive the statutory tort limits. Passed unanimously.
Splash Island Adventure Park	A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Leach to approve a donation from the Splash Island Adventure Park in the amount of \$17,323.75 for work being done at the splash pad site. Passed unanimously
2023 Financial Statement	A copy of the 2023 Financial Statement was given to the council for review. The City Auditor will be at the March meeting to present her audited financial statement. A motion was made by Lingl and seconded by Schneider to approve the 2023 Financial Statement presented, contingent upon Auditor approval. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.
Tracey Ahl, City Administrator