

UNAPPROVED MINUTES of the CITY OF MILO COUNCIL MEETING
CITY HALL, 100 MAIN ST, MILO, IOWA - MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2020

Milo City Council was called to order by Mayor Hall at 7:00 p.m. Council answering roll call: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Kinser and Moulds were absent. Mayor Hall then led Council, city staff and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Mason to approve the agenda. Second by Uttley. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved. Motion by Uttley to approve the consent agenda to include all council meeting minutes of February 17, 2020 and accounts payable from February 18 – March 3, 2020 in the amount of \$22,879.09. Second by Mason. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved.

Motion by Uttley to open the public hearing regarding amending the Milo Water Service Rate Ordinance. Second by Mason. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved. Mayor Hall called for public comment. Sarah Hansen responded asking for explanation of the rate increase of \$9.00 per month and if there is a long-term plan for rate increases. Mayor Hall responded that the City has absorbed water rate increases from Warren Water for the last 4 years between .15 to .75 per year and that the utility is proprietary in nature and must have income to pay expenses. Hansen asked about future increases. Mayor Hall replied that the City is at the mercy of Warren Water District. Councilman Graham stated that this is enough of an increase that in the next few years we shouldn't have to increase rates. Councilman Uttley stated that Council did review other communities' water rates and that Milo is still cheaper even with the current rate increase. Discussion followed. Motion by Graham to close the public meeting regarding amending the Milo Water Service Rate Ordinance. Second by Uttley. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved.

Regarding old business, Nancy Buss was present; however, she had no new information to report. Councilman Uttley asked that the HIRTA donation request be tabled so he can attempt to contact them again. Mayor Hall asked that they be invited to a future meeting.

Doug Hembry, Operations Engineer, had nothing different to report from two weeks ago.

Council addressed items under new business. Motion by Graham to approve the parcel split request located outside the Milo city limits at 17580 G58 Hwy, Milo, Iowa. Second by Mason. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved. Next, Mayor Hall completed the First Reading of Ordinance 2020-01 Amending Chapter 92: Water Service Rates. Motion by Graham to waive the Second and Third Readings of Ordinance 2020-01 Amending Chapter 92: Water Service Rates. Second by Mason. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved. Next, Terry Davis presented information for 602 4th Street stating that the home has been sold and asked for approval for a parcel split to create two separate lots and a building permit application for a shed home to be converted from the shed that is currently being built on the second lot. Council reviewed the information and discussed. Motion by Graham to approve the parcel split request for 602 4th Street Milo, Iowa as shown in the survey and to approve the building permit to alter the original shed building permit into a home building permit. Second by Uttley. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved. Then, Terry Davis asked Council about re-zoning a section of the 600 block of R-1 single family to R-2 multi-family and shared information about plans for the parcel. Council discussed. Davis asked that Council change the code requiring a petition be signed. Councilman Graham asked about notification by letter; however, this is not allowed in the Milo Zoning Code. Mayor Hall stated that action will not be taken tonight and that she will contact the City Attorney for guidance regarding the petition requirement and changing the zoning ordinance. Davis directed the discussion for comparison purposes to the home occupied business located along Belmont that offers outdoor storage. Davis said he was not notified of the potential business. Mayor stated that was because it did not require notification because it was a home occupied business which Council approved because Council saw a need for it in the community. Mayor Hall said that Council followed the code but took liberty in interpreting the use of the home occupation that there is zero use within the home it is all outside and the only thing used for the business is the fence around the outside storage lot. Davis argued that the shipping containers are sheds/garages and part of the business. Discussion followed.

Joe Weinman and Julie Parker of Weinman Insurance presented information regarding Iowa Community Assurance Pool (ICAP) and Iowa Municipal Worker's Compensation Insurance (IMWCA) which are the City of Milo's casualty, liability and worker compensation insurances. Weinman shared the member services guide for ICAP and noted that it was formed in 1986 and rates have not gone up since then; however, as exposures increase the premium increases but the original rate does not. Because ICAP is a pool of government entities,

they provide a dividend (discount) to Milo every year. Key items that ICAP provides for free: resource e-library, cyber security hub, seminars and meetings quarterly, ICAP annual \$1,000 grant, 300 minutes annually of free legal advice, loss control inspections/recommendations and much more. IMWCA also provides online university for public entities including many fire/ems training tools as well as loss control inspections/recommendations. Mayor Hall asked about EMC insurance and what it might offer. Weinman shared that ICAP and EMC are the two main insurance companies that write insurance for cities. There are a few others, but those are the main two. Weinman also represents EMC insurance and after talking to other agents, government entities, and EMC, he has discovered that EMC is in the process of raising rates within the next few years. They are not a pool of insureds but offer single policy coverage for one entity at a time. ICAP has broader coverage because it is a pooling of government-based entities. Councilman Uttley asked about the recent issues between the Secretary of State, Rob Sand and ICAP. Weinman shared that ICAP has addressed the issues and are being transparent in their responses. Weinman provided a handout of the ICAP position regarding the Secretary of State inquiries. Weinman went on to say that all information is on the ICAP website. Weinman stated that the ICAP Board of Directors is made up of lay people from the public entities that ICAP serves who are elected to serve on the Board. Mayor Hall asked if Milo is adequately covered. Weinman stated that yes Milo is adequately insured and that insurance reviews are done annually or more often if needed. Weinman also shared that he is an ICAP certified agent which is an extra layer of education for the agent to understand the broad insurance needs of a government entity. Mayor Hall asked the City Clerk if there was anything to add to the presentation. City Clerk stated Milo is not looking to change insurances and is very satisfied with Weinman Insurance as our agent. She then shared that Julie Parker of Weinman Insurance send an annual review which Doug Hembry and the City Clerk review for the entire city. The City Clerk also performs a payroll audit for the IMWCA insurances. The City Clerk went on to say that all interactions with Weinman Insurance have been positive with quick responses to any questions or concerns. The city clerk recommended staying with Weinman Insurance as agent for the City of Milo. Discussion followed. Motion by Graham to approve Weinman Insurance as agent for the city casualty, liability and worker's compensation insurances for the City of Milo, Iowa unless the City Clerk deems it necessary to review agents. Second by Mason. Ayes: Graham, Uttley and Mason. Nays: none. Absent: Kinser and Moulds. Motion approved.

TriplePoint Environmental presented information regarding the NitrOx System which is being considered for the wastewater update. Brady O'Leary stated that the NitrOx System pairs well with the current lagoon system and utilizes a two-chamber system and small plastic discs to allow for something for the bacteria to adhere to. This system uses an electric immersion heater to ensure the "bugs" stay warm enough to eat the bacteria. Discussion followed. Mayor Hall asked O'Leary to compare NitrOx to the SAGR system. He said that the media type is different but has similar processing. O'Leary said that the SAGR system may have clogging issues. O'Leary said that NitrOx is 30% less expensive to purchase but more expensive to maintain. The footprint of the NitrOx System is smaller than the SAGR System. Discussion followed.

For public comments, Terry Davis shared that group and individual efforts for the Dan Nash Playground have raised \$10,459 from the Milo Lion's Club Soup Supper and Variety Show; and the Facebook donations have reached \$6,150. Terry also shared that he received another \$575 cash today! Mayor Hall commented that this is a testament to the uniqueness of Milo. Exactly why living in a small town is so wonderful! Thanks to everyone who participated, donated and made this possible!

Mayor Hall shared that 2 grants have been written on behalf of Hometown Pride for a new digital reader board for the west end of Milo and another grant has been written on behalf of the Milo Lion's Club for the Dan Nash Playground at Centennial Park. Motion by Graham to adjourn at 8:44 p.m. Second by Mason. Ayes: all present. Motion approved.

By Order of the Milo City Council