

Regular Meeting

Echo City Council
Thursday, March 16th, 2023

The regular city council meeting of the City of Echo Minnesota was called to order by Mayor James Busack at 6:00 pm at the Community Center.

Present: Mayor James Busack, Councilman Mark Schettler, Councilman Darren Gjerset, Councilman Dan Larsen, Public Work Supervisor Bryan Nielsen, Fire Chief Matt Dunphy

Absent: Councilman Reid Hanson, Clerk Brian Pitzl

Citizens/Guests: Due to inclement weather, scheduled guests were unable to attend.

Approval of Minutes & Resolutions:

Motion to approve, February 16th, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes, was made by Councilman Larsen, seconded by Councilman Gjerset. Motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2023 – 500 Accepting Donations was made by Councilman Schettler, seconded by Councilman Larsen. Motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent.

Reports:

Matt Dunphy, Fire Department - Dues for ICS is \$100. A new pump for grass rig is here. Moorhead classes coming up for jaws of life is full, looking at other class options to attend. Looking at having Blue Fire visit to do some training with the Jaw of Life. House burn is a go for training, waiting for owners to remove certain items before burning. Looks like there are some good training opportunities with the burn. Blue Fire is willing to handle all the paperwork for the burn. Still a couple individuals working on getting training finished. Waiting to hear from a former firefighter on his health status for a return to the department. Looking into possible grants for new radios.

Chastity Kuehn, First Responders – N/A

Maintenance Supervisor Bryan Nielsen– A donation was given to the first responders from the Echo Lions club in the amount of \$500. Bryan is looking at getting a banner to hang on the fence at burn pile location along Highway 67 advertising for the town celebration. Motion by Councilman Larsen, seconded by Councilman Larsen to approve the purchase of the sign. Motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent. Last time Montevideo had a flood, the city lent them a pump to help control it. Brought up to council in advance to approve the use of the pump for Montevideo. Rural water has a program for disaster relief where rural water will help with the process of delivering equipment to cities for such events. There could be a minimal labor cost involved with some of the procedure. The council was concerned that if the pump is loaned out, then the city would be without it if needed. Motion to allow city to mutual aid to other cities to borrow and exchange equipment was made by Councilman Larsen, seconded by

Councilman Gjerset, pending a contract being signed. Motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent, Motion by Gjerset to purchase a 3” trash pump, hose and fittings, seconded by Councilman Schettler, motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent.

Mayor Busack –

Councilman Schettler –

Councilman Gjerset – A letter was sent to the Legislature to show support for the recovery of lost LGA money. The hearing was being held the same evening as the council meeting. Omega Railroad rates have been increasing.

Councilman Hanson – N/A

Councilman Larsen-

Clerk Pitzl – Absent but left a note stating that he will be on vacation from March 21st to March 30th. The city office will be closed for those days. Appeals & Equalization meeting is scheduled for April 12th at 6:30- pm at the Echo Community Center.

Old Business:

Aged balance report for past due water bills was discussed. Clerk was instructed to send out letters of disconnection to customers with water bills over 90 days past due.

New Business:

Consent Agenda:

Motion made by Councilman Gjerset, seconded by Councilman Schettler to approve the consent agenda consisting of Bills, Payroll, and Bank Information. Motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Councilman Larsen, and second by Councilman Schettler to adjourn regular meeting at 6:55, motion carried with Councilman Hanson absent.

Mayor James Busack

City Clerk- Brian Pitzl