The Round Lake City Council met in a virtual meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, April 15th, 2020 at 6:15pm. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben, Gary Larson and Mayor Douglas Knuth. Others present were Diane Larson, Logan Ellenbecker, Scott Ellenbecker – L&M Partners, LLC, Karen Cavett – SEH, Lynn Soulek, Derek Nelson, Bruce Bentele and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:18pm, after some connectivity issues.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda: Drawing from Diane Larson.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve agenda and additions to the agenda. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to approve the minutes from March 11th regular council meeting. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Rehnelt, Habben and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the bills including check #21833-21870 and online payments made to avoid late charges, totaling $92,093.05 and receipts for March totaling $95,690.08. Councilmember Habben asked how often we pay our Property/ Casualty Insurance premium, Clerk Elaine responded it is an annual policy. Councilmember Larson asked about annual service done to Bruce’s pickup, cost was for fuel filter, everything else was done under warranty. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Building permit – L&M Partners, LLC, dba: RL Pit Stop – addition to the existing building. During discussion, Scott Ellenbecker mentioned that the original application for a 50’x60’ addition has been changed to be a 50’x75’ addition and they will make changes to update the application before the final vote to approve or deny. The purpose of the addition is to bring the wine production, that is currently being done at the winery, into Round Lake. The location of the addition is over the City gas main, would interfere with the overhead high voltage electrical service and multiple other utilities that are located in the utility corridor present on the property. The request was tabled when it became apparent there was much needed research in order to continue discussion on whether to approve or deny the application. The expertise of engineers will be required to determine the steps necessary to move forward. Diane Larson provided a drawing of the location, that Keith Tordsen made when he was in school back in 1961. The City provided a map of the location that was provided by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, showing the plat map of this portion of Round Lake, dated 1953. A motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt was made for Derek and Bruce to contact the City’s engineers and engage their services to layout the best method to accommodate the building permit request. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried. Building permit was tabled.

Building permit extension: Tony Wood, needs more time to complete the building of the garage that was approved on building permit #1-2019. Concrete work was completed in 2019, he’s ready to build garage now. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

City of Round Lake Proclamation and Declaration of Local Emergency by the Mayor, Douglas Knuth and Resolution 2020-04-15: Round Lake City Council consent to Continued Local Emergency pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Chapter 12, regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus). Motion by Cunningham, second by Larson to approve the continuation of the Local Emergency proclaimed by the Mayor, Douglas Knuth. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Habben & Rehnelt. No nays. Knuth abstained. Motion carried.

In light of the “Stay at Home” order by Governor Walz, Council voted to waive the late fee for April, for utility payments that were due by April 15th. Motion by Larson, second by Habben to approve waiving the late fee. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Rehnelt and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Schaap Spring Cleanup was scheduled for May 12th for both curbside and electronics pick up. Gary from Schaap Sanitation thought it might be wise to postpone this cleanup until September or October. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to postpone until September. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Dennis Bucholz called to report stuck water softener, used 43,000 gallons of water before it was noticed. Give permission to Clerk Elaine to adjust for cost only of excess water. Motion by Larson, second by Habben. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Rehnelt and Knuth. No nays. Motion carried.

Clarke Mosquito Management, Inc. – 2020 Professional Services outline of Round Lake Management Program was discussed. Motion by Larson, second by Rehnelt to agree to the 3 year pricing model. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Habben and Knuth. No Nays. Motion carried.

Bruce updated the Council that the bridge on Railroad Ave had a large hole in the road and was repaired with new culvert. One more load of gravel will complete the repairs. Repairs were approved by the street committee prior to being done.

Derek received a quote for Anthony Everette, Vice-President Engineering of USDI, to work up a model for relocating the gas main. The quote is for $990.00 to create the plan of how best to relocate the gas main, if that is what the Council decides is best for the community.

Councilmember Habben mentioned that Deputy Ryan Kruger is an outstanding officer and should be recognized for the kindness he showed his boys. He took a few minutes to engage with them while in town, reinforcing their desire to be in law enforcement in the future. Thank you, Deputy Kruger for being such a great example.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services meeting was a short one with limited people in attendance to encourage social distancing. They have had 30+ new customers recently. They have a special for free internet for two months to new customers.

Round Lake’s Board of Review will be a virtual meeting on Tuesday, April 21st at 10:30am. Notice was posted at the post office, the bulletin board by Ned’s office and at the Round Lake Pit Stop for the public to see.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, May 13th at 6:15pm. There will be details posted at City Hall if it has to be a virtual meeting again.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to adjourn. Roll call vote performed, ayes: Cunningham, Larson and Knuth. No Nays. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm