The Round Lake City Council met on Wednesday, June 10th, 2020 at 6:15pm at the Round Lake Senior Center located at 206 Main Street, to allow for social distancing. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben and Mayor Douglas Knuth, councilmember Gary Larson was absent. Others present were Melanie and Eugene Cleland, Derek Nelson, Bruce Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda: Pig decomp pile north of town, allies within city limits, brush dump, cars and yards that need attention, trees that are dead out at the pond, 2 bills that came after meeting preparation that need to be paid and fire department grants.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the agenda and the additions to the agenda. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rehnelt to approve the Minutes from May 13th regular council meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the Bills and Receipts as presented – including check #21907-21967 and online payments made, to avoid late charges, totaling $79,360.53. Receipts for May totaling $64,986.95. Tri County News bill for $313.56, Bruce Bentele bill for rental of 4-wheeler for $1,050.00 were added for approval as additions to the agenda. \*additional bills were found after meeting that needed to be paid, Runnings for $706.14, Schwalbach Ace for $15.96, Clarke for $420.00 and Nienkerk Companies for $274.00 that also need to be approved for payment before the next meeting. After Clerk Elaine informed Mayor Knuth, an email with this Claims list for approval went out to the Council and they approved individually via emails back to Clerk Elaine. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve lifting the waiving of the late fees and start charging late fees again on June 16th, 2020. Disconnections will continue to be on hold for now. Covid-19 executive orders from Governor Walz require utility companies to hold off on disconnects at this time. All ayes: Carried.

Building permit – John Kruse – addition to existing garage. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Cunningham to approve building permit as presented. All ayes: Carried.

Building permit – Paul Cunningham – addition to existing garage. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Habben to approve building permit as presented. Cunningham abstained from vote. Carried.

Eugene & Melanie Cleland brought information to the Council about the Round Lake Fire Department Motorcycle Ride planned as a fundraiser for the department on July 11th. Signup will start at 9:30am with ride out at 11:00am. There will be multiple stops at area fire stations and a dice game to accumulate points and at the end of the day, prizes will be awarded to the highest point holders. Clerk Elaine will include the flyer in the July billing. They will have a waiver for the participants to sign and will serve a BBQ meal at the Round Lake Fire Hall to finish off the day. The proceeds from this fundraiser will be used to purchase new turnout gear.

The City has been renting Bruce’s 4-wheeler to use for spraying the properties owned by the City. He recently sold his 4-wheeler and we need to decide what to do to replace this item. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve purchase of a 4-wheeler with a $7,000 budget limit, Bruce and Derek have permission to look for used/new 4-wheeler and make that purchase. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Habben to approve purchasing the spray tank that is owned by Bruce, to be used for spraying with the new 4-wheeler. Purchase price is $100. All ayes: Carried.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband has stopped waiving the late fee as of their last meeting. FCC grant needs a feasibility study that would cost around $25-30,000. This is under discussion, but quite costly.

Clerk Elaine contacted Karin Anderson, who writes grant applications for organizations and the Council was presented with her fee schedule. The Round Lake Fire Department is looking to write a grant application for turn-out gear, a rescue van and possibly a grass rig. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve working with Karin Anderson, on those grant applications with the fee of $1,700. Some grants reimburse the fees for the writes, so Karin will help us find the grant that fits our situation the best. All ayes: Carried. Eugene Cleland was asked to have the grant committee contact Clerk Elaine for more details on this process.

The pig composting pile outside of town to the north will stop accepting pigs soon. The processing plants are taking more for production and the county has received complaints about the smell.

Councilmember Habben requested gravel be added to the allies in town. Bruce will look into the price for this, possibly combining it with the cleanout of the brush dump. There is a cost to the hauling of the debris left after burning the brush, to the landfill. It would be ideal to have the gravel trucks bring gravel in and haul the debris away.

Councilmember Rehnelt suggested contacting the Nobles County Sheriff’s Department regarding the junk cars around town. City ordinances are in place for the junk vehicles and the yards that need attention. Letters can be sent out to the residents who are violating those ordinances.

Councilmember Cunningham brought up the number of dead trees out at the ponds. There are numerous that were damaged in the ice storm years ago, but they are located between the hill and the healthy trees by the field. Bruce and Derek will look into getting quotes for this type of removal and research options for the disposal of the dead trees.

The next City Council meeting will be Wednesday, July 8th at 6:15pm.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to adjourn. All ayes: Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50pm.