The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, September 9th, 2020 at 6:15pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben, Gary Larson and Mayor Douglas Knuth. Others present were Cindy and Martin Waage, Jerry Fiola and Art Frame from the Nobles County Historical Society, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – Change due date on Small Business Grant application and Joint Powers Agreement with Nobles County and Worthington EDA.

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

Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to approve the minutes from the August 12th regular meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve bills and receipts as presented including check #22058-22092 and payments made online to avoid late fees totaling $84,654.42. August receipts totaling $77,546.80. Clerk Elaine explained check #22078 as service charge on the fire truck loan for 2018, 2019 and 2020, moving forward this fee will be invoiced by Federated Rural Electric each March. All ayes: Carried.

Martin & Cindy Waage disputed being charged the late fee when they put their payment in the door Sunday evening after Clerk Elaine had done the late notices for the billing that was due on the 15th (Saturday). Clerk Elaine was trying to have the late notices out on time as she was taking vacation the week after. Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to adjust the late fee off the account. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben to change wording on the bill to say “if 15th falls on a weekend or holiday, payment is due by end of business the last business day prior to the 15th”. Motion failed for lack of a second. No action will be taken. Clerk Elaine was instructed to update procedure to read “due by the 15th and the next business day upon arrival to work, any payments in the door will not receive a late fee”.

Nobles County Historical Society presentation by Jerry Fiola and Art Frame. The society is always looking for donations of items from Round Lake and the surrounding communities and would welcome anything people want to donate. Monetary donations are currently being used to update the Armory building that was recently made available to the society.

Employee health insurance premiums will stay the same for the 2021 renewal period. Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to sign the renewal confirmation and return to Blue Cross Blue Shield to continue the coverage. All ayes: Carried.

2021 Proposed Budget – Motion by Larson, second by Rehnelt to approve final budget figures and Levy to be sent to Nobles County Auditor/Treasurer. All ayes: Carried.

CARES Act funds discussion – The City of Round Lake will use $7,000 of the money they received for the purchase of a LUCAS machine that will do the compressions on a person for CPR allowing the first responder to distance themselves from the person in need. Nobles County plan to match this amount, either from a grant they are applying for or their CARES Act funds, to help smaller communities get the equipment needed to perform important lifesaving procedures safely. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Larson to approve using $7,000 of the CARES Act funds for this purpose. All ayes: Carried.

The November 3rd General Election will require more judges than usual, due to COVID-19 cleaning requirements. Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to approve hiring additional judges and using $450 of the CARES Act funds to pay the extra wages. All ayes: Carried.

Any remaining CARES Act funds will be sent to the Worthington Economic Development Agency to distribute, for the City of Round Lake, to the Small Business Assistance Grant Program applicants. Application period is from September 15th to September 30th at 4:00pm. Due date for application was changed from October 15th to September 30th. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the application and dates for the Small Business Assistance Grant Program. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2020-09-09 – City have Nobles County Distribute CARES Act funds – Revised. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve with new information. All ayes: Carried.

Bruce Bentele will have an engineer look at the fire hall, as the contractors that have been contacted don’t have a plan on how to stabilize it.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Update – report shows that customers have been gained in all areas, TV, internet and phone.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve signing the Joint Powers Agreement with Worthington Economic Development Agency to allow for the distribution of the CARES Act funds for the City of Round Lake. All ayes: Carried.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, October 12th for Columbus Day.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, October 14th, 2020 at 6:15pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.