The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Monday, November 9, 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 Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – Hand Sanitizer stations.

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

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the minutes from the October 14th regular meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the bills and receipts as presented, including checks #22133-22163 and online payments made to avoid late fees, totaling $68,402.86 and receipts for October totaling $90,369.21. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2020-11-09 – Resolution Accepting Donations Received. Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to accept donations received in October for the 2020 Park Equipment Project $600.00 and the Round Lake Cemetery $126.97. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2020-11-09(2) – Resolution Authorizing Past Due Utilities Balances to be assessed to Property Tax Statements. Motion by Habben, second by Larson to approve sending two accounts to Nobles County Assessor to be put on 2020 taxes, payable in 2021. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2020-11-09(3) – Provide CARE (CRF) Funds Allocated to the City of Round Lake for Nobles County to Administer. Motion by Larson, second by Rehnelt to approve having Nobles County administer the CRF funds allocated to the City of Round Lake. All ayes: Carried.

Building Permit – Betty Christensen to have Orion Contracting & Remodeling build a privacy fence along the south and east boundaries of her property. Council approved application with the following stipulations: fence needs to be 8 feet tall until even with the house, then drop to 5 feet to the sidewalk, fence cannot go past the sidewalk; fence must be even with the garages already in the alley, more than the 5 feet stated in the City Code, to allow room for the utility easements in that alley. Motion by Habben, second by Larson to approve with stipulations. Clerk Elaine instructed to notify contractor of these requirements. All ayes: Carried.

Engagement agreement from Jacobson & Bergerson to supply auditing services for 2020. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve. All ayes: Carried.

Utility Safety & Design, Inc. (USDI) contract to provide natural gas services (manuals, inspection assistance and assistance reporting to the state) to the City of Round Lake Gas Department. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Habben to approve the agreement between the City of Round Lake and USDI, replacing services currently contracted with Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association (MMUA). All ayes: Carried.

Federated Rural Electric notified the City of a price increase coming January 1, 2021.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services (SMBS) will be paying off the loan they received from the City by the end of November, 2020. Contract allows for early payoff and it will save SMBS interest moving forward.

Motion by Larson, second by Rehnelt to pay the Round Lake Fire Relief Association the $5,000.00 contribution from the City for 2020. All ayes: Carried.

The high speeds on Main Street continue to be a problem by the park. Bruce looked into possible signs that alert drivers of their speed. TrafficLogix is a company that offers different options to consider. Discussion was tabled for now.

Remaining CARES Act Funds need to be spent by the November 15th deadline set by the State of Minnesota or returned to Nobles County to distribute for us. The following options to be considered, Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services - $4,950.79 to pay for extra hookup fees incurred to setup community up for distance learning and work-from-home necessity, Emergency Medical Products, Inc - $2,515.50 for Fire Department PPE that needs to be ordered, $5,000 additional to send to Nobles County and the Worthington EDA to distribute for our Small Business Grant Program administered on our behalf, Computer Lodge - $1,840.00 for Ipads, cases and setup for the Council to use for Zoom meetings in the future, any remaining funds to be sent to Nobles County for distribution to the Round Lake/Brewster School District 2907 on our behalf. Addition to the agenda – hand sanitizer stations for the City building and bathrooms at the park, $260.00 to One Office Solutions. Motion by Larson to approve as stated here. Motion died with no second.

Discussion to remove two households’ cost of installation from the Southwest Minnesota Broadband total for expense reimbursement, possibly not Covid-19 related, for a total of $1,973.14 going to SMBS and the remainder being added to the amount being sent to the school district. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt. Nays: Larson and Cunningham, Mayor Douglas Knuth nay for the tie-breaker. Motion died.

Motion by Larson to revert back to the original motion and not change the amount going to SMBS, leaving all other amounts as stated, second by Cunningham. Nays: Habben and Rehnelt, Mayor Douglas Knuth aye for the tie-breaker. Motion carried.

City Hall will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 in observance of Veterans’ Day.

A Special Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12th at 6:15pm at City Hall, to Canvass the Election Results from the General Election held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

City Hall will be closed on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th to observe the Thanksgiving Day holiday!

The next Council Meeting will be on Wednesday, December 9th. We will be doing employee reviews and starting at 5:30pm.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.