The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 13th, 2021 at 6:15pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben, Gary Larson and Mayor Douglas Knuth. Others present were Jeff Markus, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson, Deputy Ryan Kruger, Randy Rowe, Timothy Kennedy and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:15pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – Southwest Minnesota Broadband, new committee members needed.

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

Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to approve the minutes from December 9th meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Larson, second by Habben to approve disbursements check #22204-22241 and payments made online to avoid late fees totaling $106,550.12 with Check #22242-22254 totaling $12,465.58 for invoices received after the December meeting and receipts from December totaling $214,227.11. January disbursements check #22255-22256 and online payments made totaling $6,525.14. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Larson, second by Habben to approve 2020 write-off of bad debts totaling $2,115.36, effective 12/31/2020. These are utility balances from rentals that have left the area without forwarding addresses. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Larson, second by Cunningham to approve January claims to be paid, checks#22257-22277 for a total of $45,375.38. All ayes: Carried.

Clerk Elaine administered the Oath of Office for the newly elected officials, Mayor - Timothy Kennedy and Councilmember – Randy Rowe.

Jeff Markus owns the property located at 442 Rohrer Street and there are some sewer issues. The pipe connecting the main to the property is disintegrating. He would like to know who is responsible for replacing this pipe. Tabled until more information is gathered.

Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the official newspaper – Tri County News, depository – United Prairie Bank, City Assessor – Nobles County Assessor, City Attorney – Mark Shepherd, Atty and City Auditor – Bradley Bergerson, CPA – Kim Eisfeld. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Randy Rowe to designate Ned A. Jones from Farmers Insurance Agency as the City’s Insurance agent and the City’s Financial Advisor on select accounts. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rehnelt to designate Kelly Meyer, United Prairie Financial Network as the City’s financial advisor on select accounts. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2021-01-13 – Resolution Accepting Donations Received for Park Equipment Project in November and December, 2020. Totaling $11,500. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Cunningham to accept the Resolution No. 2021-01-13, accepting the donations to the park equipment project. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2021-01-13(2) for Brehm Group Renewal of the Accident Coverage for the Council. Motion by Cunningham, second by Rowe to accept Resolution No. 2021-01-13(2). All ayes: Carried.

Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water will be increasing their price per 1,000 gallons by $.08 effective June 1, 2021 and payable on July 1, 2021. Current price is $2.74 and the new price per 1,000 gallons will be $2.82.

Motion by Rehnelt, second by Cunningham to approve the 2021 Fee Schedule with notes made to revisit the 3% increase annually that is on the price per 1,000 gallons of water charged by the City of Round Lake. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to keep the mileage reimbursement rate at $.58 per mile for 2021. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rehnelt to approve the 2021 CIP Program – Energy Star appliance rebates sheet for new ELECTRIC appliances. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to select Jennifer Rehnelt to be Acting Mayor in Mayor Kennedy’s absence. Rowe – aye, Rehnelt abstained from vote. Carried.

Mayor appointed heads of the departments as follows:

Department Head Position Held Department

Timothy Kennedy Mayor Supervisor of Personnel, Water, Sewer,

Electric, Gas, Investments, Board of Health

Paul Cunningham Councilmember City Parks, Assist Electric, Fire Department

Jennifer Rehnelt Councilmember Acting Mayor, Streets and Sidewalks, City Park,

Assist Water

Randy Rowe Councilmember Garbage Collection, Building Inspector, Assist

Sewer

Walon Habben Councilmember Cemetery, Weed Inspector, Assist Gas,

Investments

Junk cars are being reported to City Hall, do we want to do another round of letters addressing the nuisance ordinance? Motion by Rehnelt, second by Rowe to have Clerk Elaine put a note in the newsletter regarding junk cars in February, send out letters to the residents who are in violation of our nuisance ordinance in March and then give a list to the Nobles County Sheriff’s Department in April so they can visit those residents who have not corrected the violation by then. All ayes: Carried.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services – New committee members are Councilmember, Walon Habben as Round Lake’s main representative and Councilmember, Jennifer Rehnelt as the alternate Round Lake representative. Motion by Rowe, second by Cunningham to approve designations. Habben and Rehnelt abstained from vote and Mayor Kennedy voted aye: Carried.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 18th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

February Council meeting will be on Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 6:15pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.