The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 at 6:30pm at City Hall. Councilmembers in attendance were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben, Randy Rowe and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others in attendance were Emily Ahrenstorff, Susan Jones, Jocelynn Bauer, Bonnie Puck from Great Lakes Insurance for Farmers Insurance Agency, Deputy Melissa Einck from Nobles County Sheriff’s office, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – USDI bill for $575.00 for monthly support of gas department compliance requirements.

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

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham approved January 12th minutes with the updates of adding Paul Cunningham to the roster of attendees and additional wording that the meter cost is not included in the materials list when gas line is relocated, customers are not paying for their meter. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Rehnelt, second by Cunningham to approve paying the claims with the addition of the January USDI bill that was added for a total of $69,905.46. January Disbursements totaling $124,523.66 and January Receipts totaling $124,354.53. February Disbursements totaling $12,781.83 that were paid online prior to February meeting, for a total February Disbursements & claims grand total of $82,687.29. All ayes: Carried.

Emily Ahrenstorff from Farmers Insurance Agency announced to the Council that she and Jocelynn Bauer, along with Susan Jones, will be keeping the Farmers Insurance Agency open and will have the assistance of her co-workers at Great Lakes Insurance, to service policies held with the agency. She read the letter presented to the Council and the Mayor stating that they were upset by the decision of the Council to seek better representation for the insurance needs of the City. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Rowe to change the Agent of Record on the Commercial Package & Workers’ Compensation policies for the City of Round Lake back to Farmers Insurance Agency, with Emily Ahrenstorff as the agent. The Council had approved the switch from Farmers Insurance Agency to Josh Miller in October after the passing of Ned Jones. Clerk Elaine had needed service to these policies throughout the summer and was not getting a lot of response from Ned, which created the need to seek other avenues. All ayes: Carried.

Building permit – Randy & Lori Olson – deck on front of house. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve without fee, as it was basically a patio and wouldn’t normally need a permit. All ayes: Carried.

2022 Spring Clean-Up is scheduled for Monday, April 25th. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve this date and get it scheduled with Schaap Sanitation. All ayes: Carried.

Clerk Elaine worked with auditors during the month of January and they will be finishing up the 2021 audit soon.

The outstanding checks from November 2020 through September 2021 total $130.96 and Kim Eisfeld suggested adding the three checks back into the checking account balance, as it is unlikely that they will be cashed at this point. The total amount to be added back into the checking account balance is $130.96. The $100.00 check that was a refund of a utility deposit is considered unclaimed property and has been turned over to the State of Minnesota, as required by the MN Statute Chapter 345. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Cunningham to add the $130.96 back into the bank account balance. All ayes: Carried.

Updated quote for turnout gear from Alex Air Apparatus for the Fire Department is $56,608.00 for 16 sets of gear. All 16 fire fighters have been professionally measured and the gear is on order. No update on when they will arrive.

Clarke Mosquito Spraying – The price for 2022 service will be $468.65 per treatment for a total of $4,686.50 for the entire season. We are in a multi-year contract that will need to be renegotiated next year. The schedule for sprayings will come out in late March.

Bruce Bentele will be at Water/Waste Water School in March.

Derek Nelson will be going to a gas conference in Omaha, as they have cancelled the MN conference for the 3rd year in a row due to Covid. This conference will be in August.

Clerk Elaine Walker will be attending the Clerks’s conference in St Cloud at the end of March. It has been 2 years since they had an in-person conference. This year they will have important information about the reporting for the funds the City received for American Rescue Plan related to Covid-19 pandemic.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services will be updating their pricing and are working on an upgrade to the TV app. Good changes are coming.

Round Lake Board of Review will be on Friday, April 22nd, 2022 at 2:30pm at City Hall.

Daylight Savings Time starts on March 13th, clocks spring ahead one hour.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, March 9th at 6:30pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.