The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 11th, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Walon Habben, Randy Rowe, James Adams, Paul Cunningham and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others in attendance were American Legion Commander Glenn Miller, Adjutant Larry Yeske, Deputy Dillon Nelson, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda: Late fees for January.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rowe to approve agenda and the addition. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Rehnelt, second by Rowe to approve the Minutes from December 14th, 2022 meeting and Variance Request Public Hearing. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve 2022 Disbursements check #23279-23338 and payments made online to avoid late fees totaling $381,309.10 for invoices received after the December meeting and receipts from December totaling $328,329.32. Including January online payments made totaling $14,672.72. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-01-11 – Motion to write-off 2022 debts totaling $927.00, effective 12/31/2022. These are utility balances left by residents that have left the area without a forwarding address. Motion by Rowe, second by Rehnelt to approve. All ayes: Carried.

Deputy Dillon Nelson was present and informed the Council there wasn’t anything that the department was needing at this time. Council replied the same from the City.

Newly elected officials, Walon Habben being re-elected and James Adams recited the Oath of Office to begin the 4 year term of Councilmember.

Round Lake American Legion Post 461, represented by Glenn Miller and Larry Yeske addressed the Council about the legion area at the cemetery. They would like to install more holders for flags to be placed out where they now have the benches and along the fence to the south. Discussion was had about placement and how many could be put in that area. Bruce is working on getting a couple of shorter trees to plant along the west side of the memorial area and will keep in touch with the Legion as to where they can put the new holders. The plan is to have it in place for Memorial Day, weather permitting. The Council approved 10 new holders for now. Motion by Rowe, second by Adams to allow 10 new holders placed in Cemetery where Bruce and Derek approve them to be located. All ayes: Carried.

Schaap Sanitation will be increasing their fees 7.1% effective as of the date of their letter. February billing will reflect this increase for all garbage fees.

Motion by Rowe, second by Habben to approve paying all claims for January including check #23339-23354 totaling $45,083.06. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the following: Official Newspaper – Tri County News, Depository – United Prairie Bank, City Auditor – Katie M. Jacobson, CPA – Kim Eisfeld, City Assessor – Nobles County Assessor, and City Attorney – Mark Shepherd, Atty. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to designate Josh Miller from United Prairie Insurance Agency as the City’s Insurance agent for property/casualty, worker’s compensation and liability insurance and Mike Felcyn from United Prairie Insurance Agency for the medical, vision, ST/LT disability and dental policies. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Rowe, second by Adams to designate Kelly Meyer from United Prairie Financial Network as the City’s Financial Advisor on select accounts and Terry McEachern from NPN, Inc. as the advisor for select CDs until their maturity. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-01-11(2) – for Brehm Group Renewal of the Accident Coverage for the Council. Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the renewal. All ayes: Carried.

Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water board approved a $.21 increase per thousand gallons effective June 1, 2023 and payable July 1, 2023.

Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the fee schedule with the increase to the gas rates as 1.3 cents/CCF. All ayes: Carried.

2023 reimbursement rate for mileage is 65.5 cents per mile. Motion by Habben, second Adams to approve the 2023 rate for mileage reimbursement to 65.5 cents per mile. All ayes: Carried.

2023 CIP Program – Energy Star appliance rebates sheet for new ELECTRIC appliances. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the 2023 CIP Program. All ayes: Carried.

Mayor appointed councilmembers to be head of City departments. Sheet available at City Hall for department heads. Motion by Habben, second by Adams to accept assigned departments. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Adams, second by Cunningham to approve the list of Officers voted on for the Round Lake Fire Department for 2023. All ayes: Carried.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services meeting was a short one due to the bad weather.

With the bad winter storm over the weekend, mailing the billing was delayed until Thursday, as there was no mail or delivery person on Monday because of the New Year holiday and the storm made travel non-existent on Tuesday or Wednesday. Clerk Elaine asked for permission to waive the late fee in January, Council decided to allow 5 extra days instead. Late notices will go out on January 20th, 2023. Motion by Rowe, second by Adams to approve the 5 day extension. All ayes: Carried.

As Jennifer Rehnelt was the alternate representative for the Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services board, a vote was taken to appoint Councilmember Rowe as the new alternate representative. Motion by Adams, second by Cunningham and Habben voted aye. Rowe abstained from the vote. Carried.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16th for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

The February council meeting will be on Wednesday, February 8th at 6:30pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.