The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, June 14th, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, James Adams, Walon Habben, Randy Rowe and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others present were, Deputy Mike Schei, Eugene Cleland and Chief Kevin Turner, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson and Clerk Elaine Walker.

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

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – Resolution No. 2023-06-14 and Resolution No. 2023-06-14(2)– Accepting donations on behalf of the Fire Department and keypads on Senior Center now that the paperwork has been finalized and it’s a City owned property. Investment Committee report of investments to be made.

Motion by Rowe, second by Adams to approve the agenda and the additions to the agenda. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the May 10th Regular Meeting minutes. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rowe to approve paying the bills and receipts as presented including May Disbursements $152,310.66, May Receipts totaling $187,633.96, Claims List for Approval checks #23562-23591 for $46,615.89 and June Disbursements of $7,569.90 paid online to avoid late fees, for total of $54,185.79. All ayes: Carried.

Deputy Mike Schei discussed the Junk Cars ordinance with the Council. The Sheriff’s Department will approach drivers only if they are operating the vehicle that is unlicensed; they will not actively go on private property to remind residents that it is required by the ordinance to have all vehicles on their property licensed in Minnesota according to the laws in place.

Chief Kevin Turner and Firefighter Eugene Cleland updated the Council on the Rescue Van needing to be replaced, sooner rather than later. They have formed a committee to look for a good used one and wanted to know the price range approved by the Council. After some discussion, they were given permission to look in the $50,000.00 range, depending on the amenities maybe as high as $60,000.00. Clerk Elaine Walker informed them that the email she received recently informed the City that they had been awarded the grant they had applied for to purchase turnout gear washer and dryer with a 10% match required from the City. Chief Turner will order the equipment and get the invoice to Clerk Elaine when it has been purchased.

Building Permit #2023-4 – Dennis Bucholz – addition to garage. Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the addition, as presented on the application. All ayes: Carried.

Building Permit #2023-5 – Kourtney Pederson – fence around part of the backyard. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve as presented on the application. All ayes: Carried.

Building Permit #2023-6 – Elcira Geronimo Lopez – Decks on front and side of house. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve as presented on the application. All ayes: Carried.

Derek presented the quote for the Gas Public Awareness program for the Fall Mailing, $585.00 and it will go out to all who are required to receive the Round Lake Gas Department Public Awareness program. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the Fall Mailing to get an idea of what and how it will work for future mailings. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-06-14 – Accepting donations on behalf of the Round Lake Fire Department received at the Open House. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to accept the donations collected at the Round Lake Fire Department Open House totaling $3,030.00. All ayes: Carried.

Resolution No. 2023-06-14(2) – Accepting donations received in the mail at City Hall for the Round Lake Fire Department. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to accept the donation received by mail of $250.00 on behalf of the Round Lake Fire Department. All ayes: Carried.

Bruce presented the quotes he gathered for the roadwork projects on Amy Ave, the park area, part of 3rd Ave and Margaret Street. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to accept the bid by Fuller Paving in the amount of $21,680.00 to pave a portion of Amy Ave. All ayes: Carried.

Bruce was instructed to gather more quotes for the other projects, as they were quite high and there may be a more reasonable option.

City Council had given Derek approval to research increasing the natural gas firm capacity from 285 mcf to 335 mcf into Round Lake from Northern Natural Gas. If we increased the capacity the total contribution in aid of construction for the City of Round Lake would be a cost of $716,359, above our monthly gas charges. The recommendation is to not accept the estimate. Derek informed the Council that any new large gas users or expansion of existing users would require discussion and approval from City Council, due to the extreme cost for construction to the branch line that feeds Round Lake.

Nobles County will be having a Cannabis Legalization information meeting on July 6th, 2023 and members of the Council may be attending. Clerk Elaine and Mayor Timothy Kennedy plan to attend as well.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services is looking into options for the telephone offering, current system is having some issues.

The investment committee met and after discussing the options with Kelly Meyer, decided to invest $175,000 in a 4-month CD and $175,000 in a 6-month CD as those are the best rate right now. This money is coming from the Electric fund in the City’s general checking account.

The Senior Center has been transferred to the City and added as a location on our insurance. The Fire Department will be moving records and other fire department information over to that building and want to have it secure, as some of it is confidential. Council told Bruce and Derek to install keypad locks on both doors.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, June 19th in observance of Juneteenth.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19pm.