The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, September 13th, 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 Eugene Cleland for the fire department, Bruce Bentele, Derek Nelson, and Clerk Elaine Walker.

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

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda – None.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Habben to approve the agenda with no additions. All ayes: Carried.

Motion to approve the August 9th Regular Meeting and the August 31st Special Meeting by Habben, second by Rowe with the typo edit of changing fan to van. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Adams to approve receipts & disbursements including, August Disbursements of $136,128.60, August Receipts of $104, 494.74, Claims list for approval checks #23683-23716 for $62,188.21 and Disbursements of $15,583.57 check #23682 and payments made online to avoid late fees, for total disbursements of $77,771.78 for September. All ayes: Carried.

The washer was delivered to the fire department, the firemen will check it over and make sure everything is good. Monday night they will make room in the fire hall for the washer and dryer.

Joshua Heidebrink was hired as the new Public Works/Utility Employee full-time position and starts on September 18th, 2023.

Nobles County enacted two new ordinances relating to the new cannabis laws for Minnesota. Ordinance No. 202302 – Prohibiting the operation of cannabis businesses until January 1, 2025 and Ordinance No. 202303 – Regulating the use of cannabis and cannabis derived products in public spaces. They are both in full force and effect as of August 22, 2023 for all of Nobles County.

Council made a few changes to the proposed budget by removing the tree trimming, as that should be an electrical expense so not in the general fund budget. And increasing the amount designated to equipment, to replace the skid loader in 2024 to get it on a schedule when there are no other major equipment upgrades planned. Motion by Habben, second by Rowe to approve the 2024 budget with those changes. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Adams to approve signing Medica renewal paperwork for 2024, there will be a 9.5% increase in premiums at renewal. All ayes: Carried.

M. R. Paving & Excavating, Inc. will be finishing the sealcoating this week, rain delayed the process.

2024 Proposed Levy – The 2024 Property Tax Levy is due to Nobles County by September 30, 2023. Motion by Rowe, second by Cunningham to approve the proposed levy for 2024 . All ayes: Carried.

OSHA stopped in City Hall and inspected city properties in August, visiting with the fire department as well. They will be sending a report of the findings when completed.

Councilmember Rowe will be on-call, as backup for Josh, for emergencies on September 30 – Oct 1, 2023 in Derek’s absence.

Southwest Minnesota Broadband Services meeting was very short this month. They voted to approve a matching donation to Ben’s fundraiser to help with medical expenses, of $5,000.00.

Bruce’s final day will be September 29th, 2023. Retirement open house was a success today as a good portion of the community stopped in to say their goodbyes.

City Hall will be closed on October 9th for Columbus Day.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.