

The Regular Meeting of the Lake Bronson City Council was held on Monday, October 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Members present were: Mayor Rector, Shablow, Carlson, Kjelland, attending thru phone conference Strom. Absent: Clerk Lund, and Maintenance Russel. Public present: D. Brown

The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed: Council member Carlson wanted the wording changed on the Small Cities Assist. It was changed to state that the monies in the amount of 7,658.00 was intended for Safety. So it was felt by the Council to donate all of this money to the Lake Bronson Fire Department, for them to purchase new safety equipment. After the corrections were discussed, the minutes were approved on a motion by Carlson, and seconded by Shablow, with all members in favor.

Present was Dianne Hayes from Northwest Community Action. Hayes was here in regards to the corrections needed for the Small Cities Development Program for one of the recipients. The contract for deed between Ryan Rector and Kristian VanDusen for the purchase a property with a house was presented to the council. At this time, Mayor Rector removed himself from the meeting since it would be deemed a conflict of interest for him to be present, so the council could discuss the grant funds. It was agreed at this time that Ryan Rector will be set up as a vendor for his property that is being sold on Contract for Deed. It was made clear that if the individuals break the contract, Ryan Rector will then be responsible for paying back the funds. This was approved on a motion by Shablow, and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

Citizens concerns:

Kjelland stated that she had some concerns from residents that had approached her. One of them being the dog park gates. The council informed Kjelland that at this time, the dog park is no longer functional, and is being assessed, as the Council is planning on doing another project on that property. This was approved on a motion by Kjelland, and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

Mayor Rector presented the Council with some information concerning a private property in the city limits. The owner contacted him and has stated that they are allowing the City to take control of the property and can clean it up. After some discussion on the property, Shablow made a motion to have Mayor Rector contact Anderson Construction to get a bid on what it would cost the city to tear down and remove the debris. This was approved on a motion by Shablow, and seconded by Kjelland, with all members in favor.

New Business:

The culvert by the DAC has still not been fixed. Maintenance was to take care of this after the last meeting. Mayor Rector said he would talk to maintenance to get it done as he has been busy doing beets. Also, he has to assess the separation of the school gym from the main school. If it cannot be taken care of this fall, it will be tabled until Spring.

The culvert on 4th Avenue is going to cost the city \$1,290.00 plus the cost of the new culvert. This problem has been going on for some time, so a motion was made by Carlson, and seconded by Shablow to get it replaced and fixed correctly. Anderson Construction will be doing the work.

Draining Fire hydrants was discussed. Mayor Rector asked Strom if this had been done since it was stated at the last meeting that Strom would instruct the maintenance on how to do it. Strom stated that

he would show him how this Friday. It was stated that this needs to be taken care of as soon as possible as the weather is getting colder. Two fire hydrants still need to be repaired, and the Fire Chief stated that these would be fixed this week. The City Clerk will need to put up a notice prior to the flushing to notify the residents.

The annual donation to the Kittson County Museum was discussed. Kjelland made a motion to donate \$500.00 as we have done in past years. This was seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

The Interim Financial Report was reviewed and discussed. With there being no changes, this was approved on a motion by Shablow and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

At this time, Mayor Rector asked Strom when he would be back to coming in for the Council Meetings since this is his third call-in in a row, and we can only allow this so many times a year. He stated that he should be back next month.

Maintenance Report:

There wasn't a report since maintenance was not present. Shablow stated that the picnic tables need to get put into storage as soon as possible. Mayor Rector said he would inform him.

Council Roundtable:

Kjelland stated that she has some ideas that she would like to discuss with the council. She is concerned with the lack of retail space on main street, and with the open lots on main it would be nice to bring something in. Different ideas were discussed, and Kjelland said she would do some research as to forming committees and advisory boards to promote bringing in retail options, and beautification on main street. Mayor Rector stated that he would like to see some more fruit trees brought in and planted on some of these lots as well. Shablow stated that at the same time, some of the shrubs up at the Village Square need to be removed and replaced and the landscaping needs a little face lift. Shablow also suggested that maybe Carlson could look into grant funding for some of these projects.

Claims:

The City claims were reviewed and approved on a motion by Shablow and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

The Fire Department Claims were reviewed and approved on a motion by Shablow and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Kjelland and seconded by Carlson with all members in favor.

Pattijo Shablow