

December 18, 2023

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Acting Mayor C. Strom called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. City Council members present: M. Kjelland, P. Shablow, T. Carlson. City employees present: S. Lund, R. Russell. Public present: D. Hartssock L. Braget.

The Pledge to the American flag was given.

Approval of Minutes: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the Lake Bronson Regular City Council Meeting minutes from November 20, 2023 as amended. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

Approval of Minutes: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the Lake Bronson Special City Council Meeting minutes from December 12, 2023 as amended. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

Citizen Concerns: L. Braget said there has to be a reason why council members are resigning and employees quitting? Shablow said we have some new ideas in place to make some changes. The village square was brought up and asked if the improvement committee could help with updates and repairs.

Old Business: The council reviewed the credits to accounts that were talked about at the November 20th meeting.

New Business: Accepting mayor's resignation, sign resolution, appoints new mayor. Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to accept Mayor Ryan Rector's resignation. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.** The mayoral position was tabled.

2024 Final Budget: The 2024 budget was reviewed by the council and Shablow made a motion, Kjelland seconded, to approve plan B for the 2024 budget for \$183,125.22. **M/S/P – Shablow/Kjelland/Kjelland.**

A. Norberg stopped into the meeting. She said she was behind on her water bill and ask the council if she could put money down on her water bill and pay the rest within 2 weeks. The council said that would be fine.

Resolution approving the 2024 tax levy: Shablow made a motion, Kjelland seconded, to approve the 2024 tax levy. **M/S/P – Shablow/Kjelland/Kjelland.**

Old Certifying Assessment Charges on properties: Carlson made a motion, Shablow seconded, to approve certifying old assessments. **M/S/P – Carlson/ Shablow/Kjelland.**

2023 Fire Department secretary's wages Shablow made a motion, Kjelland seconded, to pay the 2023 fire department secretary's wages of \$500.00. **M/S/P – Shablow/Kjelland/Kjelland.**

2014 Pumper Fire Truck payment approval (\$8,825.26): Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the truck payment. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

2024 City Council meeting dates: The council reviewed the schedule and added one more meeting date for budget review. Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the 2024 city council meeting dates as changed. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

2023 USDA Water Bond Payment: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the 2023 yearly water bond payment for \$38,556.26. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

2024 Wastewater contract and 2024 Water contracts with Robert Anderson: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve both the wastewater and water contracts with Robert Anderson. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

2024-2025 Brush Pile Contract: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the rental; agreement with Bruce Blomquist for the brush pile for 2024-2025. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

Raise sewer Rates from \$12.50 to \$13.50 on Budget in Aug 8, 2023 for residential: Carlson made a motion, Shablow seconded, to approve the residential sewer increase to cover the bills for that account. **M/S/P – Carlson/Shablow/Kjelland.**

Employee policy update MN §181.9412 Earned sick & safe time: Shablow made a motion, Kjelland seconded, to approve the addition to the employee policy for the new State law for ESST. **M/S/P – Shablow/Kjelland/Kjelland.**

Maintenance Boots: Russell said he will put money down in them tomorrow.

Employee health insurance **is going up from \$719.04 to \$788.52 for 2024.**

Safety training: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve an extra safety meeting for employees per year. At the cost of about \$130.00 per meeting: **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

Building permit: Kjelland made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the building permit for the AT&T tower west of town. **M/S/P – Kjelland/Carlson/Shablow.**

Tractor window Quote: The clerk said the window is on order and the City's insurance has a \$250.00 deductible and they will send the City a check for \$1,068.20.

Maintenance Report: Russell said R. Anderson had showed him how to take a wastewater sample. Russell said he has been moving snow, he go the big generator working. Strom said to have R. Anderson show him what to do to hook up the generator to the lift station. Russell will also contact Ottertail to have the unit checked out. Russell said the battery in the generator needs to be replaced. Strom said he will check prices. Russell said the tractor had blown a fuse and the lights were not working, so he replaced the fuse.

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Council Roundtable: Dave Hartsock was invited to join the council as mayor. Hartsock said he would think about it and get back to the clerk by Jan 1st 2024 with his decision. Kjelland spoke to a person to find out information for grants for the city. Carlson, made a motion, Kjelland seconded to close the gym for the winter months and reopen it in the spring. **M/S/P – Carlson/Kjelland/Shablow.** Russell was told to empty the water tank at the school and unplug the line from the tank and blow out lines. Carlson talked to Russell about removing the scrap metal from the city shop. The clerk suggested putting it in the bus shed. Strom said the gas barrel needs to be replaced with a metal storage container in the summer. The clerk said we also need a spill pan under it. Strom will look at prices. Employees sick and vacation time was discussed and will be brought to the next council meeting.

City Bills/Claims to be Audited: Shablow made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the city claims. **M/S/P – Shablow/Carlson/Kjelland.**

Fire Department Bills/Claims to be Audited: Kjelland made a motion, Carlson seconded, to approve the Fire Department claims. **M/S/P – Kjelland/Carlson/Shablow.**

Adjournment: Shablow made a motion, Kjelland seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 p.m. **M/S/P – Shablow/Kjelland/Carlson.**

The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting will be on Tuesday January 16, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

Sandra Lund, City Clerk