

The Estelline City Council met on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at the Estelline City Office. Those present included Mayor Ross Brandsrud, Ryan Miller, Cheryl Squires, Josh Cokens, Mike Gunderson, Julie Rieckman, Jason Hanssen, Zeb Gilbertson, Dean Skoglund, Marisa Skoglund, and Lesley Matthys. Absent: Mike Ward.

Mayor Brandsrud called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Motion to adopt the agenda was made by J. Cokens , second by R. Miller. With all voting aye, motion carried.

Open Public Session pursuant to SCL 1-25-1:  
No one was present.

The minutes of the March 6<sup>th</sup>, March 18<sup>th</sup> Equalization and special meeting were presented for approval. Motion by J. Rieckman, second by C. Squires to approve the meeting minutes as presented. With all voting aye, motion carried.

The Financial/Super Saver statements for the City and Estelline Nursing & Care Center were approved with a motion by M. Gunderson, second by J. Rieckman. With all voting aye, motion carried. The monthly bills for the City and Estelline Nursing & Care Center were reviewed. Motion was made by J. Cokens, second by R. Miller to approve all bills presented. With all voting aye, motion carried.

City Bills approved included:

#### AMBULANCE

ITC, telephone \$92.60; AT & T, cell phone \$46.03; First Net, wireless \$40.04; PCC, billing fees \$206.33; Estelline Community Oil, fuel \$218.79; Petty Cash, replenish fund \$53.23; Matt Willis, EMT cert. reimbursement \$24.00; Pam Willis, EMT cert. reimbursement \$24.00;

#### PUBLICATIONS

Estelline Journal, minutes/notices \$141.77; Upframe Creative, website hosting \$375.00;

#### LEGAL

Foley & Foley Law Office, legal fees \$260.00;

#### POLICE

Hamlin County, contract law \$4,008.33;

#### MAYOR & COUNCIL

Ross Brandsrud, council fee/governing board \$475.00; Cheryl Squires, council fee/governing board \$150.00; Ryan Miller, council fee/governing board \$150.00; Mike Ward, council fee/governing board \$150.00; Josh Cokens, council fee/governing board \$175.00; Mike Gunderson, council fee/governing board \$150.00; Julie Rieckman, council fee/governing board \$150.00;

#### ELECTRIC

WAPA, power \$6,764.80; Heartland, power \$8,379.99; East River, transmission \$3,164.48; ITC, load mgmt. internet \$97.80; Eframson Electric, service/labor \$1,170.35; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$2,752.13;

#### FIRE

Light & Power, utilities \$114.22; Estelline Community Oil, LP/fuel \$667.78;

#### BUILDING

ITC, telephone \$115.14; Light & Power, utilities \$1,006.27; LeRoy Warborg, maint. \$67.50; Nitteberg Construction, crushed gravel \$56.70; Bauman Electric, materials/labor \$465.77;

#### FINANCE OFFICE

ITC, telephone \$158.88; Light & Power, utilities \$284.95; Wages \$4,149.92; Lesley Matthys, mileage reimbursement \$42.33;

#### SOLID WASTE

Cook's Wastepaper, garbage collection \$5,317.27; SD Dept of Revenue, sales tax \$292.96;

#### SEWER

Light & Power, utilities \$204.17; NW Energy, utilities \$12.36; Wages \$3,181.76; City of Clear Lake, vac trailer usage \$517.50; Ditch Witch, vac trailer \$37,801.99;

#### STREET

Light & Power, utilities \$481.13; Estelline Community Oil, fuel/supplies \$535.97; Lowes, supplies \$720.96; IMEG, professional services \$22,500.00;

#### LANDFILL

AT& T, cell phone \$46.03; Nitteberg Construction, tree removal and labor \$6,273.00;

#### SIGN

Light & Power, utilities \$23.48; AT & T, wireless \$49.47;

## PARK

Light & Power, utilities \$4.79; Stein Sign Display, remaining 50% \$4,573.00;

## WATER

Light & Power, utilities \$559.51; Wages \$3,379.70; SD Public Health Lab, samples \$28.00;

## MISC.

Equipment Super Savers, equipment savings acct. \$4,983.34; Wellmark Blue Cross, health insurance \$791.24; Delta Dental, insurance \$162.10; American Family, insurance \$187.59; SD Retirement, retirement \$1,708.14; Avesis, vision ins. \$11.88; Wards Store, supplies \$33.58; Hamlin County Treasurer, property taxes for Malli in 2023 \$381.82; Mary Lou Malli, reimbursement of professional fees and mileage \$140.00; SD Retirement Plan, special pay plan \$9,862.72; Office Peeps, copier/supplies \$178.66; American Legion, flags \$112.47;

ENCC Payables: \$186,568.03

ENCC Payroll: \$164,634.51

Mayor Brandsrud reported the elevator is planning to build in the coming months.

Jason Hanssen reported ENCC has had steady enrollment and staffing. Flooring project is roughly half way done. MDS Department of Health report said no significant changes from prior year.

Cheryl Squires reported that there was no new news from Economic Development in March.

Zeb Gilbertson reported that maintenance has their vac trailer from Ditch Witch arrive. The shed for the rural water building arrived and is being finished. Quotes from Efraimson Electric for \$11,622.47 and Ron's Electric for \$3,488.64 were presented to council on pricing to rewire/update electrical for the main level of the city library. More information was requested at this time.

## Old Business:

A City Wide Clean Up will be held in the upcoming month. The landfill will be open for one free weekend. Date has not been determined.

A motion was made by J. Cokens, second by M. Gunderson to approve ENCC purchase of a new lawnmower from Watertown Lawn & Garden & Small Engine Repair for \$7,800.00. With all voting aye, motion carried.

## New Business:

A motion was made by J. Rieckman, second by J. Cokens for ENCC purchase of a new portable oxygen concentrator. With all voting aye, motion carried.

Dean Skoglund presented the upcoming annual insurance premiums for the 2024/2025 years. A motion was made by J. Cokens, second by C. Squires to approve the insurance renewals. With all voting aye, motion carried.

## Building permits were presented as follows:

Jarrold Fredericks – build new 30x50 garage

Graceann McGuire – fence in backyard

The building permit for Jarrold Fredericks has been tabled until a variance has been applied for.

A motion was made by R. Miller, second by J. Cokens to approve the building permit for Graceann McGuire. With all voting aye, motion carried.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance 2024-02 – Franchise Ordinance was held. NorthWestern Energy separated into two companies. Service to South Dakota is now provided by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy. A motion to adopt was made by J. Cokens, second by R. Miller. With all voting aye, motion carried.

Service rates were presented to council from Muth Electric Inc. for the 2024 year. Council also requested Muth update our electrical mapping and equipment labeling. A motion was made by J. Cokens, second by J. Rieckman to approve of the city working with Muth Electric for our high voltage electrical/emergency needs. With all voting aye, motion carried.

Cook's Wastepaper & Recycling along with the Brookings Landfill are asking for a 4% increase effective with the April, 2024 billing. The new rate would be \$12.94 for residential collection. Motion was made by R. Miller, second by M. Gunderson. With all voting aye, motion carried.

A motion to approve the payment for the purchase price of the Malli property, and all additional costs associated with the transaction including, but not limited to the title insurance premium, title search fee and all other closing costs was made by R. Miller, second by J. Cokens. With all voting aye, motion carried.

The hearing on Application for Sale of Malt Beverage License 2024-2025 was held for the following:

\***Dale Vohlken, Dales Service**, Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage

\***VM Industries LLC, Country Corner**, Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage

\* **The Legendary Red Carpet, LLC.**, Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage

Motion by J. Cokens, second by J. Rieckman to approve. With all voting aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by M. Gunderson, second by J. Rieckman to move into Executive Session as per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) at 7:20 PM for Wage Review. With all voting aye, motion carried. Mayor Bransrud declared out of Executive Session at 7:53 PM.

Motion by J. Cokens, second by M. Gunderson to approve the wage review as presented. With all voting aye, motion carried.

ENCC

Wages Presented for Approval:

Lyndsey Archer, Dietary \$16.49

Julie Kuno, LPN \$27.01

Parker Loban, CNA \$20.54

Abby Tekrony, Dietary Aide \$16.76

Elizabeth Will, Dietary Aide \$16.76

NEW HIRES

Healthier Sundberg, CNA \$20.28

Twyla Prouty, CNA \$20.02

Lillyan Konop, Dining Assist. \$16.22

Taylor Mischke, NA \$16.22

Tessah Overgaard, CNA \$21.28

Megan Knutson, CNA \$19.76

Mitchell Linneman, Dietary Aide \$16.22

With there being no further business, motion to adjourn at 7:55 PM was made by C. Squires, second by J. Rieckman. With all voting aye, motion carried.

---

Ross Bransrud, Mayor

---

Lesley Matthys, Finance Officer