The Garrison City Council met Monday October 2, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the city council room. Present: Bree Diffely, David Reinarts, David Jeffery, Curt Olson, and Billee Jo Iglehart. Absent: Mayor Stuart Merry and Shannon Jeffers. Vice President Diffely presided. Others present: City Supervisor Greg Boucher. Guest present: Gerald Bousson. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Iglehart to approve the city council minutes as presented. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

Chief Tesch’s monthly report on calls for service and citations issued was reviewed.

City Supervisor Greg Boucher gave his monthly report. The area around the new sewer manholes will be concrete. Would like to advertise for sale the grasshopper mower. He received price quotes on new sewer lift pumps for the lift station from ND Sewage Pump. One pump installed is approximately $32,000. Greg was directed to order two pumps.

The 2024 Budget hearing was held at 7:05 pm. No one was present on the budget. City council agreed to move $3,000 from Chief of Police salary budget to the city auditor salary budget and lower the Police Department Permanent salary budget item to $70,000.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Jeffrey to approve the city auditor’s monthly financial report. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

The municipal court report for September was presented and reviewed.

City Auditor Diane Affeldt report was presented. Affeldt attended city court, committee meetings and the water board meeting. The 2024 preliminary budget was published. Web site updates and monthly meeting notices were posted. Contacted CHS to spray cemetery and landfill property. Attended MFOA and NDLC Conference. Trailer Park rental fee increases, and winter preparation letters are prepared to be mailed with utility bills this month.

Moved by Iglehart, seconded by Olson to approve bills submitted for payment. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

US Postmaster Postage 198.00

Verizon Wireless Cell phones 413.75

RTC Networks Telephone 1,161.67

UNUM Life Ins. Insurance 19.85

Circle Sanitation Service City garbage/landfill 621.00

Garrison Park Board State revenue 3,161.44

One Call Concepts Fax calls 24.70

Digital Office Toner 122.49

ARAMARK Supplies 312.34

Garrison Lumber Supplies 5.52

Viking Screen Print Door prize 15.00

Stu Merry Mileage 113.31

David Reinarts Mileage 113.31

Billee Jo Iglehart Mileage 113.31

Bree Diffely Mileage 98.25

Curt Oson Mileage & meal 145.14

Diane Affeldt Mileage 113.31

ND League of Cities Conference 1,635.00

RTC Networks Monthly fee 42.67

Verizon Connect Service 56.85

State of ND Information State email fee 64.80

McLean Co. Sheriff Jail time 726.08

Western Agency Airport tractor 16.00

Moore Engineering Cemetery survey 3,407.50

First District Health Testing 60.00

MDU Service 221.74

McLean Electric Coop Power 2,174.00

ND Dept. of Health Testing 263.65

Nygard Construction Curbstops/landfill 3,795.00

American Welding & Gas Chemicals 65.89

Hawkins Inc. Chemicals 15,115.94

Pigeon Products Repairs 242.78

DK 2 Wolf Water plant computer 428.00

ND Sewage Pump Lift station 2,662.96

MARC Chemicals 1,286.87

Craig Smith Health insurance 69.00

Napa Auto Parts Parts 881.53

Northern Plains Part 11.27

Powerplan OIB Sweeper parts 1,257.34

JB Repair Battery 63.00

Otter Tail Power Power 5,864.71

Waste Management Garbage 7,717.31

Gale/Cengage Learning Library 149.19

Barnes & Noble Library 146.11

Micro Marketing Library 183.44

MaLynda Kramber Library 200.00

Burlington Electric Trailer Park 970.00

Wilson Law Firm Attorney 2,146.00

Holiday Inn Bismarck Lodging 732.60

S & J Hardware Supplies 343.21

Rice Lake West Payment #11 79,232.04

Moore Engineering Engineering 13,840.80

US Postmaster Water bills 253.72

City of Garrison Transfer 336,330.33

Moved by Olson, seconded by Iglehart to approve beer and/or liquor license transfer for Hometown Tavern to city auditorium October 14, 2023 from 4pm to 1am and November 3, 2023 from 4pm to 1am. Voting Yea: Diffely, Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Iglehart to approve pay application to Moore Engineering for $25,304.19 Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

Moved by Jeffrey, seconded by Olson to approve game of chance applications for Garrison HS Galactix Dance Team. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Iglehart to approve the 2024 Budget as amended. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

Moved by Olson, seconded by Iglehart to approve Certification of 2023 Special Assessments for utilities and mowing. Voting Yea: Reinarts, Jeffrey, Olson and Iglehart. Nay: None.

No city attorney report. The city auditor was directed to request the city attorney’s presence at the next Water Board meeting and city council meeting.

Mayor Merry’s monthly report. was reviewed. He took part in the Water Board meeting, attended NDLC Conference, received a call on city crews trimming trees. The Main Street sidewalks were referred to the Streets & Utilities Committee.

Alderman Olson reported for Cemetery, Trailer Park, Public Buildings & Landfill Committee. A committee met to review the new cemetery addition. Their revisions will be sent back to Moore Engineering. Olson asked city supervisor Greg Boucher to make sure the vault doors are in working condition at the cemetery. The committee authorized Thompson Funeral Home to store coffins during the winter when burial is not possible. Visitor Gerald Bousson spoke to the city council on the vault building. He indicated the vault needs to be approved by the health department for storage of coffins. He also stated private business should not be storing items in a city building. Discussion was held on the use of the building.

The committee discussed the subleasing of mobile homes in the trailer park. There was no changing the lease to allow subleasing. The committee received a favorable report from ND State Health on the city inert site. There is nothing new to report on the trap shooting club using the city inert site.

Alderman Reinarts reported for the Streets & Utilities Committee and Wate Board Committee. The contractor has a new person in charge at the water treatment plant. A letter was received from Garrison Rural Water on some issues relating to water loss over the 4th of July holiday where they feel it is tied to on-going construction at the water plant. This matter will be discussed at the next Water Board meeting.

Alderperson Diffely reported for Police, Personnel & Fire Dept. Committee. Diffely attended the elected official workshop during the NDLC Conference where she learned about conflict resolutions in the work place.

A Sales & Use Tax request from GARC was reviewed. The council members would like a better breakdown of current finances and a better explanation of why they are requesting funds.

The snow ordinance will be reviewed.

The next regular city council meeting will be Monday November 6, 2023, at 7:00 pm. The city council meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

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Diane Affeldt, City Auditor Bree Diffely, Vice President