The Garrison City Council met Monday December 4, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the city council room. Present: Shannon Jeffers, Bree Stumvoll, David Reinarts, and Brittney Gilbert. Absent: Mayor Stuart Merry, Otto Kinn and Billee Jo Iglehart. President Jeffers presided. Visitors: Pam & Mike Wilcox, Randy Hiatt, and Nick Behles. Others present: City Supervisor Greg Boucher, City Attorney James Wilson, and Chief Travis Tesch. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Visitors were present on Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation. A setback variance for Garrison Area Improvement Association was presented. The variance is to allow two manufactured homes to be placed on permanent foundation on a R1 single family zoned lot and a setback of fifteen feet to match neighbors on 6th Ave NE and 3rd St NE. The Commission recommended denying the variance.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Gilbert to approve Planning & Zoning Commission recommendation to deny the variance for Garrison Area Improvement Association. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

The second and final reading of Ordinance 9.0934 was reviewed. City Attorney Wilson added a provision set forth in Section 1 applies regardless of whether the solid double yellow centerlines are visible, obscured by snow, ice, or other conditions. The penalty section was changed to any person who violates Section 1 shall be guilty of an infraction and subject to a fine of $100 for each offense.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to approve second and final reading of Ordinance 9.0934 as revised by the city attorney. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Chief Tesch’s monthly report on calls for service and citations was reviewed. He has received four trauma kits from McLean County Emergency Services. The final parts for the new vehicle will be installed December 11.

City Supervisor Greg Boucher gave his monthly report. The new No Crossing Double Yellow Line signs have been installed, applied for a burn permit for city inert site and ready for snow removal and sanding of streets.

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

The municipal court report for November was presented and reviewed.

City Auditor Diane Affeldt report was presented. Affeldt attended city court, committee meetings, Airport Authority meeting and special meetings. Web site updates and monthly meeting notices were posted. FEMA funding for the generators is being processed. Planning & Zoning letters were sent on a variance. Ordered the 2025 pet tags and completed the ARPA funding report.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to approve bills submitted for payment. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Verizon Wireless Cell phones 496.91

RTC Networks Telephone 1,621.80

UNUM Life Ins. Insurance 21.45

One Call Concepts Fax calls 25.50

Circle Sanitation Service City garbage/landfill 586.00

Garrison Park Board State revenue 3,263.67

Vestis Auditorium service 1,673.53

ND League of Cities Dues 250.00

D & E Supply Supplies 1,072.15

NorDak North Publishing 435.35

RTC Networks Monthly fee 45.00

Version Connect PD vehicles 56.85

State of ND Information State email fee 117.10

St. Alexius Medical Medical submittal 150.38

Balco Uniform Clothing 195.15

KLJ Engineering Service 4,100.24

First District Health Testing 60.00

First District Health License renewal 540.00

MDU Service 458.12

McLean Electric Coop Power 1,799.96

ND Dept. of Health Testing 113.60

American Welding Chemicals 75.75

USA Blue Book Chemicals 549.40

Hawkins Chemicals 3,820.88

Braun Intertec Corp. Evaluation 4,380.00

Core & Main Meters, sensus 19,095.25

Burlington Electric Service 1,737.14

ND Sewage Pump Lift Repairs 3,171.18

CHS Garrison Spray 13.79

NSC Minerals Chloride 3,534.62

Fisher Sand & Gravel Sand 605.88

Michael Todd & Co. Signs 372.52

Napa Auto Parts Parts 264.04

Northwestern Equip. Parts 493.75

Powerplan OIB Blade repairs 25,744.57

Otter Tail Power Power 6,221.06

Elan Financial Convention, parts 585.80

Waste Management Garbage 8,188.81

Digital Office Centre Library 119.31

Gale/Cengage Learning Library 555.52

Penworthy Library 250.16

Micro Marketing Library 49.99

Lookout Books Library 578.92

Barnes & Noble Library 199.69

Farmers Union Oil Gas 1,451.91

S & J Hardware Supplies 1,156.71

Everspring Inn Lodging 198.00

US Postmaster Water bills 290.97

Burlington Electric Generator 26,738.72

Garrison Chamber Bonuses 3,200.00

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to approve final payment to Burlington Electric of $26,738.72 for the generators. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moore Engineering recommended substantial completion as of November 6, 2024. Substantial completion date sets the start of 1 year warranty period. Liquidated damages are reduced from $1500 per day to $1100 per day until final completion and acceptance. Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to deny Moore Engineering request for substantial completion. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to approve Moore Engineering pay request on the Raw Water Intake project for $12.528.75. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to approve Game of Chance for St. Paul Women. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to approve and ratify OhnstadTwichell engagement for legal services on Raw Water Intake project. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to approve closing savings account ARPA Funds and place the funds into the General Fund. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Mayor Merry’s monthly report. was reviewed. He visits the water treatment plant during the month. He attends Garrison Chamber of Commerce meetings and volunteers at Garrison Area Resource Center. He attended the Police, Fire, and Personnel Committee meeting and Water Board Meeting. Was part of the substantial completion walk through at the water treatment plant.e

Alderman Reinarts reported for Utilities & Street Committee and Water Board Committee. The committees met with engineers on the CMAR and Water Treatment Plant project. Garrison Rural Water provided a plan for the backflow preventor/booster station installation at the North Unit. The site discussed now is on Corey Behles’ land close to where the meter pit exists now. They will be visiting Behles at their next meeting. Garrison Rural Water is still thinking about installing one more reservoir in the Douglas Bay area.

Alderman Jeffers reported the Public Buildings Committee is working on the dishwasher at the city auditorium.

Alderperson Stumvoll reported for the Police, Fire Dept. & Personnel Committee. The committee is recommending the hiring of Jared Johnson for water plant/ distribution operator/city maintenance position at $21.00 per hour beginning December 13, 2024. Moved by Reinarts, seconded by Stumvoll to approve hiring Jared Johnson at $21.00 per hour beginning December 13, 2024. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to approve the following wages beginning January 1, 2025: Greg Boucher- $40.06 p/h; Bill Sabot - $25.00 p/h; Nancy Falcon - $23.50 p/h; Clayton Vetterman - $21.00 p/h; Connie Krebsbach- $14.50 p/h; Diane Affeldt - $36.00 p/h; Travis Tesch- $77,000 annual; Brighten Smith - $45,000 annual; Kaare Hallesy - $46,000 annual; part time officers - $28.00. No standby time will be allowed for police department. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to approve city employee bonuses in Garrison Bucks as follows: full time employees, $350 and part time employees, $150. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

The next item on the agenda is “Executive Session – Pursuant to 44-04-19.1 (2) & (9) NDCC – Attorney Consultation.” This item will be discussed in executive session. The legal authority for closing this portion of the meeting is NDCC Section 44-04-19.1 (2) & (09). The topic or purpose of this executive session is for attorney consultation on old landfill access road. At this time, a motion would be in order to discuss the next topic in executive session rather than in an open meeting. Is there such a motion? Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to enter executive session.  There was no discussion on the motion. Roll call vote; Jeffers, Aye; Stumvoll, Aye; Reinarts, Aye; Gilbert, Aye.

The executive session will be recorded, and all members of the governing body are reminded to limit their discussion during the executive session to the announced topic. Any collective decision, collective commitment, or other final action by the governing body must occur after it reconvenes in an open meeting, unless final action is specifically required by law to be taken during executive session. The prohibition on taking final action during the executive session does not apply to providing guidance or instructions to our attorney.  We will now ask the members of the public who are attending the meeting to leave the room. We anticipate adjourning the executive session and reconvening the open portion of the meeting as soon as possible.

The minutes will show that the executive session began at 7:50 PM CT and was attended by City Council Members Jeffers. Stumvoll, Reinarts, Gilbert, Attorney James Wilson, and City Auditor Diane Affeldt.

The minutes will show that the executive session was adjourned at 8:00 PM CT. The public has been invited to return to the meeting room and we are now back in open meeting.

Moved by Stumvoll, seconded by Reinarts to engage the appraisal by Corey Kost, Dakota Appraisal & Consulting, Ltd of Bismarck. Voting Yea: Stumvoll, Reinarts, and Gilbert. Nay: None.

Sales & Use Tax requests from Garrison Titans Baseball Boosters and City of Garrison were reviewed.

The next regular city council meeting will be Monday January 6, 2025, at 7:00 pm. The city council meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

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Diane Affeldt, City Auditor Shannon Jeffers, President