Official Minutes For

Avon, South Dakota – February 7, 2021

A regular meeting of the Avon City Council was held on the above date at the Avon City Building at 7:00 PM. The roll call was taken. Present were Mayor Petrik, Alderman Berndt, Alderman Dodge, Alderman Petrik, Alderman Tjeerdsma and Finance Officer Simmons. Also present were Eric Derickson (Stockwell Engineering), Mike Einrem, Twila Lukkes, Ilene Muller, Joe Paulsen, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Tjeerdsma, and Jarvis Winckler.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Petrik at 7:00 P.M.

All stood and said the pledge to the flag.

Motion by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Tjeerdsma to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Petrik and seconded by Alderman Dodge to approve the minutes of the January meetings. Motion carried.

The following claims were presented for payment:

811 – digging reports - $ 15.68

Ambill – ambulance billing - $ 280.00

Appeara – mats for Library - $ 234.06

Avon Lumber – supplies - $ 12.98

Barco Products – sign - $ 62.03

Best Propane – heat for shop - $ 463.05

BH Sheriff – process for water bills - $ 70.00

Boundtree – ambulance supplies - $ 315.74

Brosz Engineering – engineering services - $ 75,582.50

BY Water – bulk water - $ 4,139.70

C&B – tractor parts - $ 417.31

District III – 2022 dues - $ 1010.00

Farmers Coop – fuel - $ 316.11

Feimer Construction – water repair - $ 1744.90

Flower Shop – Velda Voigt - $ 65.00

Goldenwest – Library internet - $ 70.90

Innovative Office Supply – supplies - $ 104.93

IRS – tax payment - $ 28.09

Joe Paulsen – travel reimbursement - $ 14.00

Jurrens Electronics – supplies - $ 36.90

Kent Lehr – legal fees - $ 822.02

Library – grant reimbursement - $ 10,000.00

Myers’ Sanitation - garbage pickup - $ 3,946.00

Northwestern Energy – utilities – $ 2,426.90

One Office Solution – supplies - $ 737.06

Pechous Publications – publications/ads - $ 268.52

Petty Cash – reimbursement - $ 52.02

Power Source – lights - $ 457.39

Rons – supplies - $ 65.26

SD Public Lab – discharge - $ 103.00

SD Dept. of Revenue – garbage tax - $ 252.64

Slicktext – citywide texting 0 $ 539.00

Tyndall Ace – supplies - $ 157.33

U.S. Bank – DANR loan payment - $ 2795.80

USPS – postage - $ 258.00

Verizon – cell phones - $ 385.80

Motion by Alderman Petrik and seconded by Alderman Dodge to pay the foregoing claims. Motion carried.

The following receipts were presented:

Water $ 13,417.05

Water Late Fees 1,274.98

Water Surcharge 1,132.41

Sewer 5,052.85

Sewer Surcharge 920.67

Garbage 5,467.68

Garbage Tax 351.88

Meters 540.00

Ambulance 2,781.55

Dog Tag 229.38

Alcohol Reversion 1,071.97

Sales Tax 17,836.57

Bank Interest 1,275.00

Bridge Tax 3,394.72

Current Property Tax 2,072.56

Penalties/Interest 69.08

Motor Vehicle 479.36

Library Grant 10,000.00

Water Meter Deposit 100.00

Cable TV Franchise 843.50

Building Permit 10.00

Miscellaneous 2,135.72

Motion by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Tjeerdsma to approve the receipts. Motion carried.

**Committee reports** –

Alderman Berndt told the mayor that nothing had been done on the repair to the Sattler home. He said that the subject has come up many times and all that he is told is that the mayor will talk to Dennis Powers. The mayor told him that he would talk to Dennis again. Alderman Petrik suggested that the city pay for it and send the bill to Dennis.

Alderman Dodge had nothing to report.

Alderman Petrik brought up that we need to begin hiring summer help. Motion by Alderman Dodge and seconded by Alderman Berndt for advertising regarding summer help to begin. Motion carried. He also brought up crushing the concrete that we have from Main Street to put in the allies. Several cities already do this and it makes a very good base. The rest of the council told him to look into it.

Alderman Tjeerdsma told the council that Mary Hurd, on the library board, is pursuing another grant for this summer’s reading program. He also asked Joe if he had talked to anyone about dredging the lagoons. Joe told him that he had talked to SD Rural Water and they told him that it would be better to put a stirrer in the ponds and stir them up, that way the silt would release and flow out. Otherwise, numerous problems may occur.

Joe Paulsen, the Street Commissioner, told the council that the little tractor needed a water pump. It would cost between $ 400 – 500.00.

**Public Time** –

Eric from Stockwell Engineering gave a presentation about some of the things that his firm does. The mayor had asked someone from the firm to come to the meeting regarding the north end of Main Street that intersects with Highway 50. He made arrangements with Joe to meet here this week and take a look at the drainage issues on that section of Main Street. Alderman Berndt brought up the fact that Brosz Engineering had already done a study on those issues when they were working on some drainage issues south of town, he was pretty sure. The charges for these studies were covered by a grant. He asked if the FO would talk to Clint Powell from Brosz and make sure that we have the results of their efforts. Eric stated that if they took over, they would have to measure the slopes again and could not use the information that had already been paid for. FO Simmons said that she would get in contact with Clint.

Matt Tjeerdsma was here to discuss the lack of response that he was getting from Joel and to re-iterate that he believes keeping Joel on the payroll from the city is a waste of time. He told the council that he has repeatedly emailed him and he never gets a response back.

Mike Einrem had several issues to discuss. The first issue was the “No Overnight Parking” sign on the East side of Main Street by the park. He brough up the fact that no sign can be put up in the city without first being voted on in a council meeting. He had previously asked the FO to look into this to make sure that this was still the case. She did and it is. Next, he brought up that the sign had no posted hours that were considered overnight parking and no directional information, whether this pertained to the North, East, West, or South of the sign. He then told the council that you cannot put two signs on one post. He added that the sign was too small. The second issue brought up by Mike was a possible solution to the drainage issue by his house.

Jarvis Winckler was also here regarding the sign. His main issue was that someone had put a piece of paper on his windshield asking whether he could read. He told the council that this was not right to do this, especially considering that whoever put the sign on his windshield did not sign it. He explained that he had worked with the city for years and expected more from them than that. All they had to do was come and talk to him.

Ilene Muller was here to tell the council that the city minutes are never published when they are supposed to be. She felt that they were not published because they do not want the public to know what they are doing.

**Old Business** -

There had no old business to discuss.

**New Business -**

The subject of the Police Chief was brought up. The mayor stated that he would not get back to him. He will try him one more time and will ask another candidate.

The annual Avon Vet Clinic will take place on April 26th from 6:00 – 7:00 PM at the shop. Motion by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Petrik to accept this date and time. Motion carried.

In response to the “No Overnight Parking” sign on Main Street, it will be taken down and discussed further.

The contract for the Code Enforcer was tabled.

The FO brought up the fact that our Slicktext contract can be used for the Chamber of Commerce to remind members of the meetings and also for reminding the citizens of Avon when the Food Truck will be here. Motion by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Dodge to approve. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Tjeerdsma and seconded by Alderman Berndt to make Community Bank our official bank. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Tjeerdsma and seconded by Alderman Petrik to make The Avon Clarion our official newspaper. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Dodge and seconded by Alderman Petrik to make Kent Lehr our official attorney. Motion carried.

The council instructed the FO to put gravel out for bids.

Joe discussed how each city has their own BB Association where the coaches are responsible for dragging the field, putting out the bases, etc. He would like for the council to consider that idea.

The regular meeting was then closed so that the council could go into Executive Session. They went into session at 8:43 PM after a motion by Alderman Berndt that was seconded by Alderman Tjeerdsma. The motion carried. They came out at 9:46 PM.

Motion by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Petrik to accept FO Simmons’ resignation with regrets.

Motion by Alderman Tjeerdsma and seconded by Alderman Dodge to hire Dan Knoll at $ 15.75 per hour to be Joe’s assistant. Motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Tjeerdsma and seconded by Alderman Petrik to have FO Simmons work part time until a new FO is hired. Motion carried.

The next meeting is Monday, March 7th, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Berndt and seconded by Alderman Tjeerdsma. Motion carried.

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Mike Petrik

Mayor

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Twyla Simmons

City Finance Officer