

The City of Aurora Council met in Regular Session on Monday, December 4th, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Jones, Jon Geise, Nancy Price, David Schuttloffel and Josh Kukrall.

M/S Schuttloffel, Kukrall to approve the agenda. Carried

M/S Geise, Price to approve the November meeting minutes. Carried.

M/S Price, Kukrall to approve the November Financial Report. Carried.

M/S Schuttloffel, Price to approve payment of the December bills. Carried.

Additions to November bills: David Buchholtz \$2,832.50 – Fire Dept. Retirement, Delta Dental \$56.00 – Kneip dental insurance, Heartland Power \$57,301.19 – electric purchase, Lowe's \$525.99 – shop supplies, Runnings \$160.87 – shop supplies.

Ag First Farmer's Coop \$1,780.13 – diesel fuel, Bob Charging \$2,038.43 – wages, Brookings County Sheriff \$1,595.65 – contract law, Brookings Municipal Utilities \$7,108.02 – water supply, Century Business Products \$130.13 – printer fees, City of Aurora Utilities \$1,560.75 – electric, Collin Kneip \$3,777.16 – wages, Cook's Wastepaper \$10,330.60 – garbage collection, Core & Main \$2,650.00 – meter supplies, DANR \$50.00 – annual dues, DGR \$940.92 – engineering fees, Delta Dental \$56.00 – Dental insurance, EFTPS \$3,019.07 – withholdings, First Bank & Trust \$150,181.49 – substation loan payment, First Bank & Trust Visa \$276.23 – office and shop supplies, Havard Electric \$561.00 – fix street lights, Heartland \$1,255.29 – IRP loans payments, Heiman Fire Equipment \$291.66 – FD supply, ITC \$100.35 – fd phone/internet, North Western Energy \$189.05 – natural gas, Public Health Lab \$15.00 – water sample, Redmond Road Repair \$420.00 – welding for snow pusher, SD Building Officials Assc. \$50.00 – annual dues, SD Gov. Finance Officer Assc. \$40.00 – annual dues, SD Municipal Street Maintenance Assc. \$35.00 – annual dues, SD State Treasurer \$3,584.38 – taxes, SDFFA \$775.00 – fire fighter annual dues, SDML \$1,176.18 – municipal league annual dues, SD One Call \$8.96 – locates, Shannon Freng \$3,429.46 – wages, Wellmark \$537.50 – health insurance.

Discussion on a TIF started with Pat Tingle asking questions about the lagoons, the current capacity and if they will be able to handle more. He mentions being told they could handle a population of 1500. Price asks Collin about the records kept on the flow into the lagoons and Kneip comments that the flow has been decreasing since the recent sewer projects. A resident asks why the developer needs a TIF for the development now and did not need one with the last development. Jones explains that there is increase in costs on everything and this helps keep the lot costs down and how this would help bring in possible business. Cody Clifford states that he does not agree with a TIF and developers need to be able to pay for their own development. Pat Tingle asks about the financial impact and brings up the surcharges from the sewer projects and how high those will be if we don't allow more growth. Jones states that more roof tops is the only way to bring those surcharges down. Craig Ulrich asks about the benefits to the City if they are to give a TIF. Jones explains that sales tax revenue would likely follow the development having businesses. There were questions regarding the upkeep of the development and the costs to the city. Jones mentions a 10% shared revenue and how that will help with those costs. Andrew Underwood mentions the possibility of 214th st getting paved and more development will help get that done. Nancy Price shares the current surcharge amounts, loan payoff dates, remaining balance of loans, and utility revenue information. After much discussion, Schuttloffel motions to reconsider the TIF #1. Kurall seconds the motions. Geise – Nay, Kukrall – Yes, Price – Nay, Schuttloffel – Yes, Mayor Jones – Yes. 3-2 vote. Motion to reconsider carried.

M/S Schuttloffel, Geise to table the reconsideration of Resolution 23-13 – TIF. Geise – Yes, Kukrall – Nay, Price – Nay, Schuttloffel – Yes, Mayor Jones – Nay. 2-3 vote, Motion fails.

After reconsideration, Aurora City Council voted to approve Resolution 23-13 - TIF No. 1. Motion by Schuttloffel to approve Resolution 23-13, Second by Kukrall. Geise – No, Josh Kukrall – Yes, Price – No, Schuttloffel – Yes, Mayor Jones – Yes. 3-2 Vote. Motion carried.

M/S Geise, Price to approve 1st reading ordinance 344. Carried.

Charles Keuchenmeister was present to discuss trees on the boulevard or right-of-ways and who is responsible for them. Mayor Jones and Chuck Tiltrum responded to this and both explained the resident is responsible. Jones states that the City is willing to help if asked.

Jones goes over a few concept plans that ISG provided to the council for ideas on new city buildings.

M/S Geise, Price to change website to AvidHawk. Carried.

Pat Tingle – Aurora Events Committee – The Christmas Bingo will be Friday the 8th of December at Lemke's. There will be a toy donation and those will go to Project Joy, which has 900 kids on the list and 100 kids on the waiting list that are all in need of gifts. Regular bingo will start in January 4th, 2024. They will also be voting on a Band for Gala Days 2024 in January.

Andrew Underwood – Fundraising Committee – He states that he wants to work with council to get posters for the concept plans for buildings. They are looking for new “game” ideas for fundraising.

2024 Meeting dates with a Dec. 30th addition. M/S Kukrall, Geise to approve dates. Carried. Meeting dates will be posted on the website.

Fire Dept. – Mike Potthast – 5 EMS calls and 1 Fire call. The Fire Dept. got approved for a \$22,500 State Fire grant for equipment. They will be going to the county for use of ARPA funds for new well pump. Kids Christmas party will be at Ag 1st Feed Store on December 16th @ 1:00pm. They will be serving hotdogs. Reservations must be made. The Dept. submitted the new officers that were elected for the Fire Dept. at their last meeting in November.

Collin Kneip – Maintenance Report – Concrete barricades were put up around an electric box that was close to a driveway with a lot of semi traffic. Kennedy Dr. had sewer plug and Prussman's came to jet the sewer line. Inspections on temp debris site were done and all passed.

M/S Geise, Kurkrall to adjourn. Carried.