

The Aurora City Council met in regular session on Monday, January 05, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Aurora Maintenance Shop.

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

Roll Call: Kneip, Meyer, Price and Schuttloffel

Others present: Shannon Freng – Finance Officer, Shannon Stuefen – Maintenance Dept., Todd Smidt– Fire Chief., Scot Leddy – Banner Associates.

M/S Kneip, Price to approve agenda. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Price, Meyer to approve December meeting minutes. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Kneip, Schuttloffel to approve December Financial Report. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Meyer, Kneip to approve January bill listing. All in favor, Carried.

Aurora Auto Body \$530.00 – repairs to fire truck, Aurora Quick Stop \$466.13 – gas, Austreim Excavating \$3,192.96 – water valve replacement, Bright Arrow \$75.00 – text service, Brookings County Sheriff \$1,712.06 – contract, Brookings Register \$91.38 – publishing, Butler Machinery \$190.00 – repair to loader, Century Business Products \$138.61 – printer fees, City of Aurora Utilities \$1,957.12 – electric, Cook's Wastepaper \$5,434.00 – collections, Delta Dental \$66.70 – dental insurance, Dept. of Energy \$5,513.20 – electric, First Bank & Trust Visa \$893.21 – shop & FD supplies, First National Bank \$3,002.63 – lagoon payment, Halme \$87,677.20 – aeration project, Havard Electric \$224.40 – electric services, Heartland \$1,255.29- IRP loan, ITC \$432.40 – phones & internet, Joe Mersch \$452.64 – month wages, Keith Cyphert \$150.00 – rebate from heartland, Maguire Iron \$9,391.42 – water tower project, North Western Energy \$381.66 – natural gas, Office Peeps \$4.39 – office supplies, Prussman Contracting \$550.00 – sand streets, Public Health Laboratory \$40.00 – water sample, SD State Treasurer \$5,225.41 – tax, SDMEA \$565.00 – electric annual fees, Shannon Freng \$3,896.76 – month wages, Shannon Stuefen \$3,663.68 – month wages, SD Association of Rural Water \$590.00 – annual dues, SD One Call \$56.00 – locates, Southeast Firefighters \$100.00 – annual dues, Spilde Electric \$13,039.08 – electric service, Steven Britzman \$417.50 – legal fees, T&R Electric \$12,695.00 – transformer, Team Lab \$2,762.00 – lagoon supplies, SD Firefighters Association \$800.00 – annual dues, Wellmark \$744.55 – health insurance

Scot Leddy, with Banner Associates, gave a brief update on the current projects in Aurora. The aeration project at the lagoons is going well and they are currently working on the interior of the blower building. The water tower project is on hold until spring. He mentioned the chip sealing work on the roads that will take place in the summer months.

Jones announced the Election date being June 2nd, 2026. This election will be for one Alderman spot in both Ward I and Ward II and Mayor. Petitions can begin circulating on February 2nd, 2026 and deadline to file is March 24th, 2026.

M/S Price, Schuttloffel to designate the Brookings Register as the official newspaper. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Kneip, Meyer to designate First Bank & Trust as the official Bank. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Meyer, Kneip to designate Steven Britzman as City Attorney. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Meyer, Price to keep Council and Mayor meeting pay the same. All in Favor. Carried.

Mayor Jones and Price open and announce bids on the 2000 Haulmark enclosed trailer. There were two bids.

M/S to accept the bid from Todd Smidt for the 2000 haulmark trailer for \$900.00. Carried.

Fire Dept Report – Todd Smidt. 5 calls for December 2025. 58 total calls for 2025.

Maintenance Report – Shannon Stuefen - New lights are up in the shop and Christmas decorations on Broadway are down.

M/S Price, Meyer to enter into executive session for discussion on personnel. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Kneip, Schuttloffel to come out of executive. All in favor, Carried.

M/S Schuttloffel, Meyer to raise Joe Mersh wages to \$20.60/hour plus \$30 cell phone, Shannon Stuefen to \$30/hour, plus cell phone pay of \$60/month and 1 pair of boots a year up to \$150 and same health benefits, Shannon Freng at \$30.50/hour, cell phone pay of \$60/month and \$300 to health insurance per month. Carried.

M/S Kneip, Price to adjourn. All in favor. Carried.