**Leonard City Council**

The Leonard City Council met Monday April 7, 2025. Council members present: Mayor Sheila Brown, Gilbert Schumacher, Ben Shepherd, Arlin Vanderwerff, Caroline Kraning and City Auditor Trina Nudell. A couple of community members were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. March meeting minutes read and approved. (Arlin, Gilbert) Cass County Sheriff’s Report included calls for service and number of times officers were in the area patrolling. Deputy Mortinson has now begun his new job, so Sergeant Travis McNamara will be our community point of contact until Deputy Mortinson’s replacement is found. Deputy McNamara passed on the following information to everyone:

* Law Enforcement wants to remind and encourage citizens to report suspicious activity in their area. Although something may look odd at the time, and possibly trivial to the someone, Law Enforcement encourages citizens to call as something small could potentially develop into stopping a crime before it happens.
* Law Enforcement also wants to remind residents to lock their vehicles and residences(s) to include their curtilage (garages/out buildings/storage areas) This helps deter targets of opportunity for possible criminal activity.

Old business included the city shop insulation and heating project. Council members had tried to get more bids, but individuals weren’t responding to requests/phone calls. Arlin made a motion to accept the Leonard Lumber Yard bid discussed at the last meeting and move forward with the project. Second by Caroline. The next phase of the project will be to research and make decisions on heating and lighting and will be discussed further at future meetings.

Clean up week was discussed next. Dates will be May 8-25 and bins will be rotated in and out, including the bin that’s part of our contract with Fat Man Trash.

Sheila also mentioned a funding opportunity through the Kindred Area Community Foundation. There’s an online application that the auditor can fill out through Parks & Recreation.

CHS asked permission to use half of our pile of gravel to deal with the incident that occurred, so Ben made a motion (seconded by Gilbert) to order a semi load of class 5 gravel to replace what was used and to have some additional inventory on hand for summer. CHS will be billed for the gravel they used.

Next was more discussion about re-paving the road from the highway, past the convenience store and the fire department to near the railroad tracks. The biggest obstacle is the drainage issue, so a plan for water drainage will have to be created.

Next, Sheila talked about National Flood Insurance. Sheila will sign up for free and then anyone in town can get flood insurance if they choose.

The following bills were approved to be paid: Cass County Reporter $71.31, Farmer’s Union Insurance General Liability $1,388, Fat Man Trash $1,908.76, Leonard Convenience $377.15, One Call Concepts $0.85, Bill $427.12 & Bruce $57.72. Council Stipend Payments for Q1 were as follows: Sheila $277.05, Ben $138.52, Gilbert $138.52, Caroline $138.52 & Arlin $138.52

Next regular meeting will be Monday May 5, 2025,at 7 pm.

Trina Nudell, City Auditor